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Liverpool City Council

Dear Sirs

Targeted review of the General Block Exemption Regulation (State aid): extension to ports and airports

Liverpool City Council (LCC) welcomes the opportunity to contribute to this first public consultation on the review and extension to ports and airports within the General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER).

LCC supports and endorses the extension of GBER to ports and airports. Both ports and airports play an important role in boosting growth and job creation. Through adopting a simplified administrative procedure, future investments and implementation can be taken forward more efficiently.

LCC notes that the inclusion in the GBER will not change the substantive conditions on when State Aid can be granted but will pro-actively reduce regulatory costs (and provide more legal certainty) within Member States. LCC supports this approach.

LCC supports the proposal of applying aid intensity levels across the various interventions particularly relating to Investment aid for maritime ports. LCC also supports the increased aid intensities for investments located in assisted areas. LCC welcomes the further opportunity to contribute to the development of aid intensities within the second round public consultation.

LCC notes and supports the objective of increasing GBER notification thresholds to Culture.

LCC would like to offer its endorsement of the principles around the extension of GBER and the positive impact that any such extension will have on contributing to continued economic growth and job creation.

Yours Sincerely

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