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| Agenda Item | 4 |
| Report No | |

Proposed response to the Scottish Parliament European and External Relations Committee on the implications for the area of the UK leaving the European Union

Report by Officer Group

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| Summary: This report proposes making a HIEP response to the Scottish Parliament’s European and External Relations Committee investigation of the implications for Scotland of leaving the EU and invites Board input to and approval of the draft response circulated. | |
| 1. | Background |
| 1.1 | Following the referendum decision for the United Kingdom to leave the European Union the Scottish Parliament’s European and External Relations Committee has begun investigating the implications for Scotland of leaving the EU. As part of this a call for views was published on 1 August 2016 where the Committee has called on businesses, organisations and individuals from across Scotland to assist in providing evidence on the impact of the vote. |
| 1.2 | A deadline of 5 th September 2016 was set for responses but an extension was sought from Scottish Government officials to allow a formal response to be considered at a HIEP Board meeting. An extension was granted to allow discussion at today’s meeting on the understanding that any response would be submitted immediately thereafter. |
| 2. | HIEP Officers consideration |
| 2.1 | HIEP Officers discussed the invitation to submit views at their meeting on 4 th August 2016 and while accepting that some partners would be making their own response considered that a further response from HIEP that summarised issues common to most or all partners would be useful. It was therefore agreed that officers should draft a response for consideration by the HIEP Board with a view to this being submitted following the Board meeting on 7 th September. |
| 3 | Recommendations |
| 3.1 | The Board is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider the attached draft response and offer guidance on any changes required; • Agree to the submission of a response that incorporates any proposed changes. |

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Date: 29th August 2016.