<u>£163 million economic package for</u> <u>Northern Ireland</u>

Mid South West and Causeway Coast and Glens in Northern Ireland are to benefit from a £163 million share of UK Government funds to support local growth.

In July, the Prime Minister announced Northern Ireland would benefit from a share of a new £300 million UK Growth Deals fund, designed to support economic growth, create jobs or invest in local projects.

Confirming that Northern Ireland is to receive over half of this funding, Rt Hon Julian Smith MP, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said:

Today's announcement will help level up support for growth, helping to create jobs and boost local economies. It will boost the support we give to towns and cities in Northern Ireland and ensure no corner of the country is left behind. Every part of Northern Ireland now benefits from Growth or City Deal funding thanks to the UK Government.

We need to get Brexit done and get Stormont back up and running so we can continue to invest in communities across Northern Ireland.

The funding will be allocated to Mid South West Northern Ireland and Causeway Coast and Glens allowing them to benefit from the UK's overall economic growth. It will mean that every corner of Northern Ireland is now backed by a UK Government Growth or City Deal.

The latest announcement builds on £400 million already invested in both Belfast and Derry-Londonderry.