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Supplementary Fiscal Notification to the Commission

Dear Chris

The UK entered the excessive deficit procedure(EDP) of the EU in January 2006. As the June 20 public sector finances data implies the UK has a 2006/07 Treaty deficit below 3 per cent of GDP, the Treasury is keen to bring the EDP to an end.

Following discussions with the Commission, they have noted that '*an additional notification by end-June/beginning July would be a necessary condition to make possible the abrogation of the EDP during the ECOFIN meeting on 9 October*'. Waiting for the next fiscal notification, due on 1 October, would delay the ending of the EDP to the end of the year.

In order to expedite the UK's procedure, I would like to formally request the ONS to provide the appropriate outturn deficit and debt ratios by 9 July. This timetable allows inclusion of the GDP data consistent with the National Accounts release on 29 June and the latest FISIM estimates published on 3 July. The data required are tables 1 and 7 of your Government deficit and debt under the Maastricht Treaty' release and tables 3a, 3b and 3d as required in the biannual fiscal notification.

Yours sincerely

Jon Riley
Public Sector Finances

cc Colin Mowl (ONS)

Fenella Maitland-Smith (ONS) Martin Kellaway (ONS)

Graham Parker (HMT)

