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<b>Lead topic:</b> EU/North South Programmes	<b>Sub-topic: Technical Assistance &amp; running costs of the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB) (Subheads A6 and A7)</b>	<b>Contact:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gearoid O’Keeffe Ext. 5004</li><li>• Siobhan O’Higgins Ext. 5722</li></ul>
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#### **FAST FACTS**

- DPER act in conjunction with the Northern Ireland Department of Finance as the joint sponsor department to the SEUPB. The SEUPB, a North South Implementation Body, established under the Good Friday Agreement, is the managing authority for the two cross border EU funded programmes.
- Subheads A6 details the Technical Assistance for the two cross-border programmes PEACE and INTERREG, while subhead A7 is Ireland’s contribution to the running costs of the Special EU Programmes Body.
- During 2015 work on closure of the 2007-2013 Programmes progressed and the new 2014-2020 PEACE & Interreg Programmes were formally adopted by the Commission.
- Expenditure under A6 can be variable as it is dependent on levels of project approvals and project expenditure during the year. Projects can be funded in sterling or euro, so there can be further variance due to exchange rate fluctuations. Expenditure under this subhead is substantially reimbursed by the EU Commission. For the 2007-2013 Programmes the reimbursement rate was at 75% for INTERREG and 54% for PEACE; while for the 2014-2020 Programmes it is 85% for both programmes.
- In 2015, €1.87m of the A6 allocation of €2.5m was spent, the variance caused by expenditure below target across a range of projects and weakening of the euro against sterling.
- In 2015, the A7 expenditure of €1.249m exceeded the budget of €1.164m, a variance caused by the weakening of the euro relative to sterling.
- In 2017, the 2007-2013 PEACE III and INTERREG IV programmes reached successful closure.
- It is intended that the first claim to the Commission for the 2014-2020 PEACE IV and INTERREG VA programmes will be submitted by the SEUPB at the end of June 2017.