

## **COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN AFFAIRS**

**Date**                    **4 April 2001**

**Time**                    **9.00am**

**Venue**                    **Committee Room 3, National Assembly Building**

**Title: Annual Work Programme of the European Commission**

### **Purpose**

To provide the committee with an overview of Commission work proposals for the year ahead.

### **Recommendation**

That the Committee notes the proposals and considers how to follow-up the engagement of subject committees with European issues.

### **Background**

The Wales European Centre, in consultation with its partners, has drawn up a draft lobbying strategy in response to publication of the Commission's Annual Work Programme. This highlights, in summary form, the initiatives that are likely to be highest priority for Wales. The WEC lobbying strategy is a flexible document subject to constant review throughout the year in the light of changing priorities.

In addition, the Commission Work Programme has been sent to all divisions of the Assembly with a request that they examine its content to identify which measures they should respond to and bring to the attention of their subject committees.

The European Affairs Committee may wish to consider how to follow up at political level – through interacting with other committees - the agenda set out by the Commission Work Programme.

### **Compliance**

Standing Order 15, in particular sections 15.2 and 15.3, gives the Committee the function of monitoring the 'general impact and consequences for Wales of policies pursued by institutions of the European Union' and drawing 'particular issues to the attention of relevant subject committees'.

There are no issues of regularity and propriety. The Assembly Compliance Office has been consulted about the compliance aspects of this submission and is content.

### **Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications arising. Financial Planning Division has seen and is content with the financial aspects of this submission.

### **Cross-cutting Themes**

The proposals cover a wide range of policy areas falling within the competence of the National Assembly for Wales.

### **Contact Point**

European Affairs Division