

European and External Affairs Committee

Minutes EUR2 06-05

Meeting date: 7 July 2005

Meeting time: 9.30 -12.00

Meeting venue: Bryn Howel Hotel, Llangollen

Attendance

Sandy Mewies (Chair)	Delyn
Nick Bourne	Mid and West Wales
Jeff Cuthbert	Caerphilly
Mike German	South Wales East
Christine Gwyther	Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire
Ieuan Wyn Jones	Ynys Môn
Rhodri Glyn Thomas	Carmarthen East and Dinefwr

Officials

Gary Davies	Head of European and External Affairs Division
Jackie Brown	European and External Affairs Division

Others

		Agenda item(s)
Gwyn Williams	Chief Executive - International Eisteddfod	3
Alan Found	Chair of the Llangollen Partnership	3

Sir David Green	Director General of the British Council	4
Dr Kevin Higgins	Director of the British Council	4

Committee Service

Chris Reading	Clerk
Sarah Bartlett	Deputy Clerk

Item 1: Introduction, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

1.1 Apologies had been received Jonathan Evans MEP, Glenys Kinnock MEP, Eluned Morgan MEP, Rhodri Morgan AM, Jonathan Morgan AM, Rosemary Butler AM, Janet Davies AM, Andy Klom and Rose D'Sa

1.2 There were no declarations of interest.

Item 2: Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

Paper: EUR2 05-05 - Minutes of meeting held on 16 June

Paper: EUR2 06-05 - Action Outstanding

2.1 The Minutes of the meeting held on 16 May were agreed as a true record.

2.2 It was noted that a couple of action points were still outstanding, the Clerk agreed to chase these up.

Item 3: International Eisteddfod

3.1 The Committee welcomed the presentation

Item 4: First Minister's Report

Paper: EUR2 06-05 (p1)

Action

- Officials agreed to circulate to Committee Members the White Paper "Prospects for the EU 2005".

- Officials agreed to provide a note to Committee Members after the JMC meeting on 19th July
- Officials agreed to provide a note to the Committee of the meeting of the College of Commissioners.
- The Chair agreed that the Community Strategic Guidelines 2007-2013 for cohesion policy would be tracked by the Committee
- Officials agreed to circulate to Committee Members a note from Des Clifford on the EU Budget, the difference between ceilings and appropriations.
- The Chair agreed to circulate to Committee Members the note provided by the DTI on EU funding from the Committee Meeting in February 2004.
- Jeff Cuthbert agreed to circulate to Committee Members the sub regional papers.
- Officials agreed to look at the possibility of a round-table discussion with Committee Members to be included in the programme for the visit on 29 Sept of Regional Policy Commissioner Danuta Hubner.

Item 5: British Council Media Project

Paper: EUR2 06-05 (p2)

Actions

- The Chair agreed to circulate to the journalist's information on the partnership with Silesia.
- The Clerk agreed to e-mail the remit of the Committee to Dr Howard Barell.

Item 6: State Aid Road Map

Paper: EUR2 06-05 (p3)
EUR2 06-05 (p4)

Actions

- The Chair agreed that Members comments on the State Aid Road Map should be sent to the Clerk by the end of August.
- Officials agreed to provide a note to the Committee on whether the current review of the State

Aid regime would have an impact on state aid rules as they applied to air services.

- Officials agreed to provide a note to the Committee on the implications of changes in the State Aid regime for assistance to credit unions.

Committee Service