

Education and Lifelong Learning Committee

Date: Wednesday 28 April 2004

Time: 9.15 am to 12.30 pm

Venue: Committee Rooms 3 & 4, National Assembly Building

European Union Documents: February 2004 – April 2004

Purpose

1. To consider recent European Union (EU) documents related to the ELL portfolio deposited in the UK Parliament.

Background

2. Scrutinising EU documents deposited in the UK Parliament is a new regular item for the Committee, following agreement by the Panel of Chairs of a system for more proactive scrutiny of European legislation by subject committees.
3. At its meeting on 25 February 2004, the Committee agreed to consider EU deposited documents at alternate meetings. This information is provided by the Members' Research Service.

Deposited Documents

4. Details of seven all EU documents deposited in the UK Parliament between 19 February 2004 and 13 April 2004, considered to be of interest, are attached.
5. Members may wish to seek information from the Minister on the likely impact of these proposals in Wales and whether the Assembly Government has scope to influence the proposals. The Committee may wish to identify for future scrutiny those items where there is scope for influence, with a view to making representations to the Assembly Government, UK Government and/or European Commission.

Recommendation

6. The Committee is invited to consider the attached documents and seek further information from the Minister about the implications of the proposals for Wales. Where there is scope to influence, the Committee may wish to identify items for future scrutiny.

Peter Black AM

Committee Chair

Contact: Chris Reading, Committee Clerk

EU Deposited Documents

For Education and Lifelong Learning Committee to Note for Information

19 February – 13 April 2004

Title	Commentary
<p data-bbox="34 842 722 968">Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the statistics relating to vocational training in enterprises</p> <p data-bbox="34 1024 289 1060">EU Ref: 6741/04</p> <p data-bbox="34 1119 711 1205">http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/com/pdf/2004/com2004_0095en01.pdf</p>	<p data-bbox="820 842 1560 1188">The proposal identifies the need for statistics on vocational training. In order to monitor lifelong learning as a process and assessing progress towards the implementation of related policies, appropriate and comparable statistical measures need to be developed and produced. The proposal covers the domains for which data should be collected.</p> <p data-bbox="820 1247 1360 1283">Adoption by Commission 17/2/2004</p> <p data-bbox="820 1341 1341 1377">Transmission to Council 17/2/2004</p> <p data-bbox="820 1436 1268 1472">Transmission to EP 17/2/2004</p>

COM(2004) 158 final - Report from the Commission entitled "Interim evaluation of the Youth Programme 2000-2006 (covering the period 2000-2003)"

EU Ref: 7213/04

http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/com/rpt/2004/com2004_0158en01.pdf

The Youth Community action programme was established by Decision No 1031/2000/EC of the European Parliament and the Council on 13 April 2000. The general aims of the programme are derived from the legal basis for the programme, i. e. Article 149 of the Treaty on education, training and youth and specifically paragraph 2, which provides that action by the Community shall be aimed at encouraging the development of youth exchanges and exchanges of socio-educational instructors.

Adoption by Commission 08/03/2004

Transmission to Council 08/03/2004

Transmission to EP 08/03/2004

COM(2004) 153 final - Interim evaluation report on the results achieved and on the qualitative and quantitative aspects of the implementation of the second phase of the Community action programme in the field of education "Socrates"

EU Ref: 7211/04

http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/com/cnc/2004/com2004_0153en01.pdf

Socrates is currently in its second phase, the first having begun in 1995. It consists of a series of actions which offer teachers and learners the opportunity to experience scientific, educational and social situations which are different from those they know in their own country or region.

Adoption by Commission 8/03/2004

Transmission to Council 8/03/2004

Transmission to EP 8/03/2004

Supplement 8/03/2004

COM(2004) 152 final - Interim report on the implementation of the second phase of the Leonardo da Vinci Programme (2000-2006)

EU Ref: 7210/04

http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/com/rpt/2004/com2004_0152en01.pdf

Leonardo da Vinci is now in its second phase (2000-2006) and builds on the experiences of the first phase (1995-1999). The general and specific objectives, specified in Article 2 of the Decision, are:

- to promote employability and facilitate vocational integration and reintegration;
- to increase and develop adaptability, particularly in order to consolidate technological and organisational change;
- to improve competitiveness and entrepreneurship, also in view of new employment possibilities;

and

- to improve the skills and competences of people, especially young people in initial vocational training at all levels;
- improve the quality of, and access to, continuing vocational training and the lifelong acquisition of skills and competences;
- promote and reinforce the contribution of vocational training to the process of innovation

The purpose of this communication is

- to provide a better understanding of what has been achieved in the period 2000-2003, how it has been done, and to what extent the initial objectives are being met;
- to identify ways to improve the implementation of the programme in the period 2004-2006;

	<p>- to contribute to the development of the Commission's proposal for a new generation of education and training programmes (2007-2013).</p> <p>Adoption by Commission 08/03/2004</p> <p>Transmission to Council 08/03/2004</p> <p>Transmission to EP 08/03/2004</p>
<p>COM(2004) 156 final - Communication from the Commission: The new generation of Community education and training programmes after 2006</p> <p>EU Ref: 7351/04</p> <p>http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/com/cnc/2004/com2004_0156en01.pdf</p>	<p>The Communication sets out the guidelines for future programmes intended to replace the current Community programmes Socrates, Leonardo da Vinci, Tempus, Youth, Culture 2000 and Media Plus from 2007.</p> <p>Adoption by Commission 9/03/2004</p> <p>Transmission to Council 10/03/2004</p> <p>Transmission to EP 10/03/2004</p>
<p>COM(2004) 133 final - Annual Policy Strategy for 2005</p> <p>EU Ref: 6870/04</p> <p>http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/com/cnc/2004/com2004_0133en01.pdf</p>	<p>The Annual Policy Strategy constitutes the first stage of the Commission's annual policy cycle. For 2005, the following objectives will be pursued:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - establish the policy priorities for 2005; - identify the initiatives which will help to realise these priorities; - adopt the budgetary framework and guidelines, so that the priority initiatives receive the necessary resources, and for the purpose of financial programming. <p>The Annual Policy Strategy defines the framework and guidelines for the budgetary and legislative cycle. Following adoption of the strategy, the cycle moves on to the preparation of the preliminary draft budget and the inter-institutional dialogue.</p>

Communications from the commission to the council, The European Parliament, The European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions regarding the report on the implementation of the Commission's Action plan for Skills and mobility COM (2002)72 final

EU Ref: 6216/04

http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/com/cnc/2002/com2002_0072en01.pdf

The Commission's Action Plan for Skills and Mobility of February 2002 had the objective of helping to create a favourable environment for more open and easily accessible European labour markets by 2005. The annual assessment of the implementation process took the form in 2003 of a contribution to the Commission's report to the spring European Council.

However, at a mid-term point in the implementation it is appropriate to provide a specific assessment on the occasion of the 2004 spring European Council of the state of play regarding each of the 25 priority areas for action, and the measures put forward to support them.

The present Communication on European Employment Mobility provides a policy context, describing the challenges regarding skills and mobility affecting the acceding countries, and the down-beat economic environment over the past couple of years which has imposed its own constraints on developing more mobility between jobs and between countries. The main purposes of the Communication are to:

- a) Describe the progress made in implementing specific elements on the Action Plan;
- b) Analyse the contribution made to the European

Employment Strategy and the Education and Training 2010 programme; and

- c) Identify areas where progress has been made, where it has been slow, and where further action could be beneficial.