

## COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

Date: Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2000  
Time: 13.15pm  
Venue: Committee Room 1, National Assembly Building  
Title: Sources of EU Information

### **Purpose**

1. To inform Committee members of the different sources of information about the European Union in Wales and on the Internet.

### **Recommendation**

2. The Committee is invited to note the contents of the paper

### **Information Providers in Wales**

3. There are a number of useful organisations throughout Wales that can provide information on European Union issues. The main EU information providers are listed below:

i. **Name : European Commission Representation in Wales**

**Address :** 4 Cathedral Road, Cardiff, CF11 9SG

**Contact :** Ms Catherine Eva

**Tel :** 02920 371631

**Fax :** 02920 395489

**Email :** catherine.eva@cec.be.int

**Web-site :** <http://www.cec.org.uk>

*Role : The Representation reports directly to the Commission on political, economic and social developments in Wales. The European Commission supports a network of information providers in Wales, which enables the public to have access to EU information at a local level.*

ii. **Name : Wales European Information Centre, Cardiff**

**Address :** University of Wales, Cardiff, Guest Building, PO Box 430, CF11 3XT

**Contact :** Mr Brian Wilcox

**Tel :** 02920 229525

**Fax :** 02920 229740

**Email :** wilcoxb@weic.demon.co.uk

**Web-site :** <http://www.waleseic.org.uk>

**Name : Wales European Information Centre, Mold**

**Address :** County Hall, Mold, CH7 6NW

**Contact :** Eirian Harrison

**Tel :** 01352 704748

**Fax :** 01352 753662

**Email :** tryfan@weicnw.demon.co.uk

*Role : These European Information Centres provide the business community with up-to-date information and expert advice on EU related matters*

iii. **Name : European Documentation Centre, Cardiff**

**Address :** University of Wales, Cardiff, PO Box 430, Cardiff, CF11 3XT

**Contact :** Ian Thomson

**Tel :** 02920 874262

**Fax :** 02920 229740

**Email :** Thomsoni@cardiff.ac.uk

**Web-site :** <http://www.europeanaccess.co.uk>

**Name :** European Documentation Centre, Aberystwyth

**Address :** Hugh Owen Library, Penglais Campus, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 3DZ

**Contact :** Lillian Stevenson

**Tel :** 01970 621514

**Fax :** 01970 622404

**Email :** Lis@aber.ac.uk

**Web-site :** <http://www.inf.aber.ac.uk/services/libraryresources/edc.html>

*Role : The two European Documentation Centres (EDCs) in Wales are supported by the European Commission and the host university. They receive the complete range of official EU documentation and have privileged access to EU databases. EDCs concentrate on serving students and academics, although they are accessible to the general public.*

iv. **Name :** CARREFOUR, Carmarthen

**Address :** West Wales European Centre, Dewi Building, Trinity College, Carmarthen, SA31 3EP

**Contact :** Neville Davies

**Tel :** 01267 224859

**Fax :** 01267 234279

**Email :** Europe@trinity-cm.ac.uk

**Web-site :** [www.trinity-cm.ac.uk/europe](http://www.trinity-cm.ac.uk/europe)

**Name :** CARREFOUR, Llangefni

**Address :** European Centre, Llangefni, Isle of Anglesey, LL77 7TW

**Contact :** Roberta Ingman Griffith

**Tel :** 01248 752493

**Fax :** 01248 752412

**Email :** Robertagriffith@ynysmon.gov.uk

**Web-site :** www.ynysmon.gov.uk

***Role :** The European Commission provides support for a network of information centres for rural areas (CARREFOURS). Their aim is to provide information on EU policies and measures affecting rural society, promote awareness of rural development and encourage dialogue, partnership and co-operation between members of rural society and regions on common problems.*

v. **Name :** Innovation Relay Centre Wales

**Address :** Welsh Development Agency, Principality House, The Friary, Cardiff, CF10 3FE

**Contact :** Anthony Armitage

**Tel :** 02920 828739

**Fax :** 02920 828775

**Email :** Anthony.armitage@wda.co.uk

**Web-site :** <http://wda.co.uk/business/relay>

***Role :** This centre promotes the EU's Research and Technological Development programmes by offering specialist advice to local industry in the identification of partners through the Community Research and Development Information Service (CORDIS) and of opportunities for participation in Research and Development programmes. It provides a wide range of services to contractors involved in Research and Development to help them protect, exploit and disseminate the results of their work.*

#### vi. Name : European Public Information Centres

**Role :** *European Public Information Centres (EPICs) are a network of public libraries who provide the general public with access to European Union information. This ensures that information concerning the established policies and programmes of the EU is more easily available to users in their locality, where it has greatest impact. Members of the EPIC receive information and material published by EU institutions in printed and electronic form. Each County Council in Wales has an EPIC.*

#### 4. INTERNET

There are a number of useful web-sites on the Internet that provide information about the issues, people and policies of the European Union and the wider Europe. The most useful sites are listed below:

Name	Address	Information
Europa	<a href="http://www.europa.eu.int">www.europa.eu.int</a>	This is the main server for the European Union's institutions and through this most European information can be accessed
Eur-lex	<a href="http://www.europa.eu.int/eur-lex">www.europa.eu.int/eur-lex</a>	This is part of the Europa web-site that gives texts to European Union law, including the Official Journal
European Access Plus	<a href="http://www.europeanaccess.co.uk">www.europeanaccess.co.uk</a>	This is a search engine designed to trace European information
Wales European Centre	Members have recently been provided with the web-site, user name and password	This site is concerned with promoting the interests of Wales in Europe by strengthening access to the European institutions and providing information that is relevant to Wales
Foreign and Commonwealth Office	<a href="http://www.fco.gov.uk">www.fco.gov.uk</a>	This gives the UK government's latest position on most European policies

Scottish Parliament European Committee	<a href="http://www.scottish.parliament.uk">www.scottish.parliament.uk</a>	The site of the Scottish Parliament's European Committee
INFOREGIO	<a href="http://www.inforegio.cec.eu.int">www.inforegio.cec.eu.int</a>	This site was created by the European Commission and provides specific information on the activities of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), the Cohesion Fund and the Instrument for Structural Policies for Pre-Accession (ISPA)
EUROREGIONs Web-site	<a href="http://www.EUROREGIONS.tripod.com/index-3.html">www.EUROREGIONS.tripod.com/index-3.html</a>	This site gives a regular update of European policy as it impacts on Wales, with news updates, Brussels/Wales links and opinions
CORDIS (Community Research and Development Information Service)	<a href="http://www.cordis.lu">www.cordis.lu</a>	This site provide information on EU supported Research and Development activities, including programmes, projects, results, publications and partners.

## **Financial Implications and Compliance**

5. This report is presented to the Committee for information and discussion. There are no issues about regularity or propriety, or any financial implications for the Assembly.

## **Cross-cutting Themes**

6. This report emphasises the importance of working with a wide range of European organisations in Wales, the UK and Europe

## **Contact**

7. European Affairs Division