

COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

Date: Thursday 8th 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, Aberyswyth

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

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	www.europa.eu.int	This is the main server for the European Union's institutions and through this most European information can be accessed
Eur-lex	www.europa.eu.int/eur-lex	This is part of the Europa web-site that gives texts to European Union law, including the Official Journal
European Access Plus	www.europeanaccess.co.uk	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	www.fco.gov.uk	This gives the UK government's latest position on most European policies
Scottish Parliament European Committee	www.scottish.parliament.uk	The site of the Scottish Parliament's European Committee

INFOREGIO	www.inforegio.cec.eu.int	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	www.EUROREGIONS.tripod.com/index-3.html	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)	www.cordis.lu	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