

Date :	13 February 2003
Time :	9.00am - 11.35pm
Venue :	Shotton Paper, Deeside Industrial Estate
Title :	European Structural Funds Quarterly Report

SUMMARY

1. This paper reports on the latest available position of the Structural Funds Programmes in Wales. The Programme Monitoring Committees (PMCs) for the Programmes met as follows:

- Objective 1 met on 13 December in Clydach Vale;
- Objective 2 met on 11 November in Barry;
- Objective 3 met on 11 December in Cardiff;
- LEADER+ met on 2 October in Builth Wells;
- EQUAL Wales Management Committee met on 27 September in Newtown;
- URBAN II met on 20 January in West Wrexham;
- Ireland/Wales INTERREG met on 11 October in New Ross, Co Wexford.

Reports from the Chairs of the PMCs are annexed to this paper.

RECOMMENDATION

2. That the Economic Development Committee notes the Report on progress of the Programmes and Community Initiatives.

OBJECTIVE 1

3. As at the end of December 2002, £426.97 million of Objective 1 Structural Funds has been committed to 759 projects, worth £973.3 million investment in West Wales and the Valleys.

Progress on Priorities**Priority 1: Expanding and Developing the SME Base**

4. Commitments on ERDF continue to be made at a steady pace. A bidding round for Financial Support projects has closed and WEFO is currently appraising 12 bids requesting ERDF grant of £16 million. The Financial Support Measure is expected to be fully committed by the end of 2003. The delivery of the Entrepreneurship Action Plan for Wales continues to be supported by the Objective 1 Programme with the award of a £6.4 million ERDF grant for the WDA Business Birth-rate Strategy.

5. Demand for funding under Measure 1.5 remains very high. To help meet the demand the PMC agreed to vire £7m from Measure 1.3 to 1.5, thereby bringing the allocation into line with that anticipated in the SPD. WEFO is undertaking an exercise to prioritise sites and premises projects to ensure the most effective use of remaining funds.

Priority 2: Developing Innovation and the Knowledge Based Economy

7. Significant progress continues to be made in the Innovation, Research and Development Measure (2.3) with particular support being given to the Technium concept. Four Techniums have already received Objective 1 support and two further Technium projects are under appraisal by WEFO.

8. Two projects are under consideration by WEFO in ICT infrastructure (Measure 2.1) and a significant project is under preparation by the Assembly which if approved will commit most of the resources in the Measure. There has been a slow start to the clean energy sector developments (Measure 2.5) with work continuing on identifying priorities.

9. ESF (Measure 2.4) continues to attract steady interest and there is strong potential to support new capital investment projects directly in innovation and technology, providing specific training for the associated new jobs.

Priority 3: Community economic regeneration

10. Community regeneration is a long-term process with considerable development work required within communities and community groups to bring forward the projects that will succeed. This to a large extent explains the relatively slow rate of commitment in this Priority.

11. However, WEFO and the Community Assets Strategy Partnership (CASP) are actively seeking to address other issues that may be affecting the take-up of funding, including the availability of and ease of access to match-funding; further sources of Assembly funding, which may potentially be used as match, are coming on stream. Good progress is being made by the WCVA in developing a key fund in the social economy measure (Measure 3.4), which should facilitate access by social enterprises to the funding. The WCVA has also begun an extensive programme of training for voluntary sector organisations throughout the Objective 1 region.

12. A workshop on Priority 3 has been arranged for partnerships in February, to look at potential barriers to projects coming forward as well as disseminating good ideas and best practice.

Priority 4: Developing People

13. Demand under this Priority continues to be strong, particularly in Measures 4.1 (Preventative and Active Employment), 4.2 (Social Inclusion) and 4.4 (Improving the Learning System). It is anticipated that this high level of interest will continue. The Human Resources Assets Strategy Partnership (HRASP) are aware of the pressures within the Priority and have commissioned mapping work to identify gaps and help to re-prioritise activity to be supported where necessary.

Priority 5: Rural Development and the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources

14. Steady progress is being made in this Priority. The level of commitments reported to the last PMC meeting appeared to be relatively lower than for most other Priorities. But significant commitments that are in the pipeline will change this picture completely. Indeed, the Rural Assets Strategy Partnership (RASP) have requested that the anticipated strain on the funds available within this Priority should be addressed during the Mid-Term Evaluation. Also, the realism of some of the SPD output targets for Priority 5 will be raised with Programme evaluators during the Evaluation. An issue currently being considered is the relatively low take-up of the spatially targeted funds in Measures 5.4 and 5.6 by the Valleys communities. Action has been taken to generate greater interest including a workshop to share best practice. The position will continue to be monitored and further action will be taken as required.

Priority 6: Strategic Infrastructure Development

15. Following the development of strategies and prioritisation of projects, infrastructure applications are now being submitted to WEFO, particularly in regard to the transport and strategic sites and premises Measures (6.1 and 6.3). Take-up of funding in these Measures is expected to rise significantly in 2003. Implementation of the sub-regional strategies agreed for Measure 6.3 (Strategic Employment Sites) is progressing well. A similar strategic approach identifying priorities is under way for the energy Measure (6.2). This has not held up the Programme in that applications can still be submitted to WEFO.

16. Progress in terms of applications for the Environmental Infrastructure Measure (6.4) has been disappointing, particularly as WEFO received a large number of expressions of interest. Work is under way to identify the reasons why full applications are not forthcoming.

De-commitment

17. All the de-commitment targets for 2002 were reached, as the table below shows.

Fig 1 – Objective 1 progress against N+2

Fund	N+2 Target 2002 (£m) ¹	Advance (£m)	Payments on Certified Expenditure to end December 2002 (£m) ²	Total eligible against N+2 Target (£m)	N+2 Target 2003 (cumulative) (£m)
ERDF	105.71	47.62	72.83	120.46	209.50
ESF	55.98	25.26	53.45	78.71	111.07
EAGGF	12.36	5.49	9.02	14.51	24.50

¹ The Commission's target is established in Euros, the figures quoted are based on an exchange rate of £1 : €1.62

² Only grant payments supported by certified expenditure (i.e. no advance payments) can be declared to the EC for draw-down purposes

Programme Outputs

18. An initial analysis of outputs, at Priority level, is included at Appendix 3.

OBJECTIVE 2 & TRANSITIONAL PROGRAMME

19. A total of 70 projects have now been approved (44 in Objective 2 and 26 in the Transitional Programme), with grant of £9.68 million towards total project value of £24.1 million.

20. Approved projects since the previous report include a new community development in Ely, Cardiff, sponsored by the Salvation Army (grant of £275,000 towards a project cost of £601,000) and the REACH project in Powys (grant of £232,000 towards project costs of £515,000). This project, co-ordinated by the Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations, will contribute to the development of a range of social economic activity involving recycling groups, social enterprises and voluntary sector provision.

Progress on Priorities

Priority 1 - Developing Sustainable & Competitive SMEs

21. Priority 1 delivers support for SMEs across the Objective 2 and transitional areas with projects supported by Local and the Regional Partnerships. A good start has been made, particularly with a number of regional projects coming forward including Finance Wales. Relatively low intervention rates and state aid limitations continue to make the development and delivery of projects a challenge.

22. At the November PMC a decision was taken to move the financial indicative allocation of funds for the SME Sites and Premises measure to a central/regional 'pot' in order to focus on the Measure to quickly bring forward projects which could achieve an early spend.

Priority 2 – Sustainable Rural Development

23. Steady progress is being made in Priority 2. One complicating factor is the number and variety of schemes available in rural areas, some of which are easier to access than Objective 2.

Priority 3 – Urban Community Regeneration

24. Good progress is being made but as with all community regeneration schemes progress is slower than in other areas of the Programme with activity often following on from capacity building.

Priority 4 – Technical Assistance

25. All Local Partnership have now received technical assistance to support their secretariats.

De-commitment

26. De-commitment targets apply to Objective 2 for the first time in 2003. The table below shows progress to date:

Fig 2 – Objective 2 progress against N+2

Fund	N+2 Target 2002 (£m)	Advance (£m)	Payments on Certified Expenditure to end December 2002 (£m)	Total eligible against N+2 Target (£m)	N+2 Target 2003 (£m)
ERDF	N/A	3.53	0.54	4.08	14.24
ERDF (Transitional)	N/A	1.72	0.17	1.89	13.09

OBJECTIVE 3

27. As at 31 December 2002, 345 projects had received offers of £33.77 million in grant, representing 44% of the total budget for Objective 3 Funds, with total investment supported of £86.2 million in East Wales.

Progress on Priorities

28. Priority 1 (Developing Active Labour Market Policies to Prevent and Combat Long-term Unemployment): Progressing well with 73% of the indicative allocation to end 2002 committed and 72 projects approved.

29. Priority 2 (Equal Opportunities for All and Promoting Social Inclusion): Progressing well with 95% of the indicative allocation to the end of 2002 committed and 86 projects approved.

30. Priority 3 (Lifelong Learning): Progressing well with 87% of the indicative allocation to the end of 2002 committed and 55 projects approved.

31. Priority 4 (Promoting Business Competitiveness): Progressing well with 95% of the indicative allocation to the end of 2002 committed and 80 projects approved.

32. Priority 5 (Promoting Gender Equality in the Labour Market): Slower progress being made with 51% of the indicative allocation to the end of 2002 committed and 25

projects approved. It is expected that by year-end the forecast commitment for the year will be achieved.

De-commitment

33. This Programme met its N+2 target for 2002. Details are provided below.

Fig 3 – Objective 3 progress against N+2

Fund	N+2 Target 2002 (£m)	Advance (£m)	Payments on Certified Expenditure to end December 2002 (£m)	Total eligible against N+2 Target (£m)	N+2 Target 2003 (cumulative) (£m)
ESF	13.43	5.64	10.60	16.24	26.14

Programme Outputs

34. Indicative outputs are at Appendix 8.

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

LEADER+

35. The PMC met on 2 October 2002 and the next meeting will be held on 20 March 2003.

36. The seven LEADER+ Local Action Groups are progressing with the implementation of their business plans (supported by EAGGF grant aid totaling £3.4m), delivering projects specific to their areas. WEFO invited the groups to submit bids for a rolling Programme for Action 2 projects (projects between 2 or more groups) on 25 November 2002. The Groups are currently exploring project proposals for Action 2.

37. Events have taken place involving the LEADER+ Local Action Groups and the UK LEADER+ Network to exchange ideas and promote best practice. The WDA's LEADER+ team is providing support to the Welsh Groups as outlined in the Domestic Agreement between the WDA and the Assembly.

EQUAL

38. The three Welsh Development Partnerships are continuing their activities under Action 2, the implementation phase of the EQUAL programme.

39. All Development Partnerships which are operating in Wales (both Welsh partnerships and Great Britain partnerships which have partners in Wales) are being consulted on proposals for mainstreaming the lessons learnt from the programme under Action 3 (dissemination and mainstreaming).

40. WEFO is continuing to promote the second call for the EQUAL programme, due in mid 2004. An Awareness Raising Event will be held in Llandrindod Wells on 26 March 2003. Further seminars and workshops are being scheduled during summer 2003.

41. The EQUAL Wales Management Committee will next meet on 24 February 2003.

URBAN II

42. The Urban II Community Initiative in West Wrexham (ERDF £6.5m, total value £13m) is making good progress. Partnership working, between the five communities of West Wrexham and other local representatives of the public, private and voluntary sectors, is developing well.

43. Five projects have so far been approved; these include, in the Entrepreneurship and Business Development Priority, a business grant scheme for new and existing SMEs, and, in the Participation Priority, a project to develop and implement a dual action plan for an Urban II and Communities First area. A number of further projects are being appraised, which will bring the total commitment to about £1.8m ERDF.

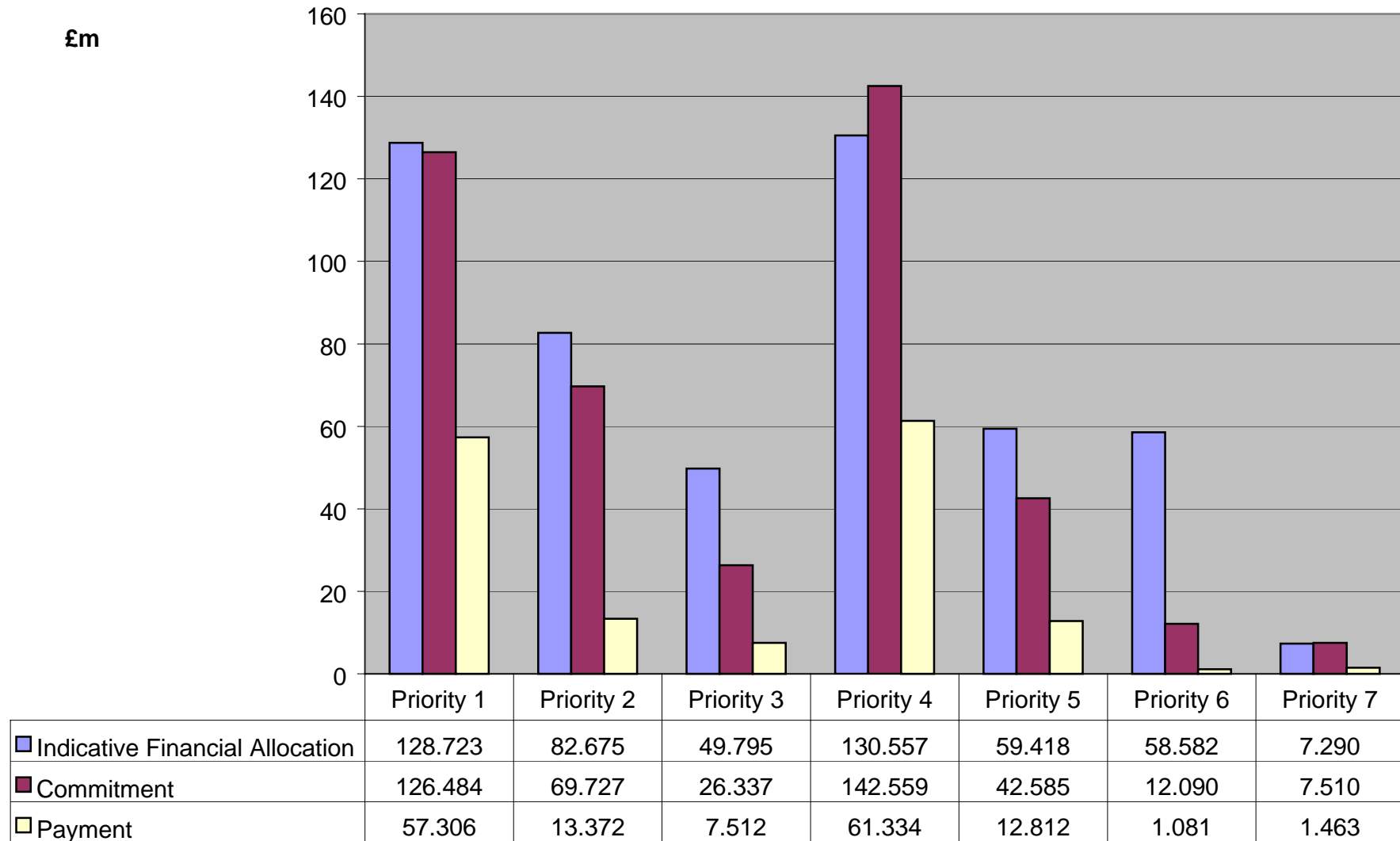
INTERREG IIIA

44. The £40 million Ireland/Wales INTERREG Programme, which supports joint Irish/Welsh projects, is continuing to progress well. To date 15 diverse projects have been approved under the Programme, including projects to improve fabric awareness and sourcing in clothing and textile SMEs, to share experience with credit unions and to research oyster mortality in the Irish Sea. To date the financial commitment is €8.3 million, which represents 17 per cent of the whole Programme.

45. The approved projects are spread throughout the Programme area in Wales. Four of the projects cover the whole of South West Wales, plus one which is specifically focused on Ceredigion. Three projects cover North Wales, together with one focused on Denbighshire, one on Gwynedd and one on both Gwynedd and Anglesey. The remaining four projects are being taken forward on a pan-Wales basis, including one marine project which is focused on the Irish Sea.

46. The two Steering Committees which decide on project applications met recently to consider 26 second round grant applications. 15 projects were approved in principle and work is now under way to take these forward to the formal grant approval stage. The third grant application round, which closed on 21 January, has generated a further outstanding response, with 21 project applications.

Objective 1 Allocation, Commitments and Payments at 31 December 2002



Objective 1: Commitments and Payments 2000-06

		Commitments : Total			Commitment : EU Grant						Payment		Grant Rate		
		Total	Commitmnt	%	Total	Committed	%	Indicative	Committed	%	Forecast	Grant	Forecast	Programme	Committed
		to Dec 2002	to Dec 2002		Available	to Dec 2002		Allocation	to Dec 2002		Commitment	Paid	to end	Committed	
								2000-2002			to end 2002	to Dec. 2002	2002		
Priority 1 – Expanding and Developing the SME Base															
Measure 1 – Financial Support to SME's	ERDF	115.477	95.065	82%	56.987	36.854	65%	36.001	36.854	102%	36.303	27.087	28.378	49%	39%
Measure 2 – Promoting Entrepreneurship and Increasing the Birth Rate of SME's	ERDF	92.611	24.124	26%	46.306	18.453	40%	19.212	18.453	96%	18.453	2.830	3.391	50%	76%
Measure 3 – Developing Competitive SME'S	ERDF	137.423	53.103	39%	67.523	21.724	32%	23.477	21.724	93%	21.885	5.060	4.895	49%	41%
Measure 4 – Promoting Adaptability and Entrepreneurship	ESF	173.704	62.005	36%	76.852	27.330	36%	34.731	27.330	79%	29.411	11.294	12.456	44%	44%
Measure 5 – Providing Sites and Premises for SME's	ERDF	93.086	60.373	65%	37.166	23.089	62%	15.302	23.089	151%	26.538	11.034	10.079	40%	38%
Total – Priority 1		612.301	294.670	48%	284.834	127.450	45%	128.723	127.450	99%	132.590	57.306	59.199	47%	43%
ERDF		438.597	232.665	53%	207.982	100.120	48%	93.992	100.120	107%	103.179	46.012	46.743	47%	43%
ESF		173.704	62.005	36%	76.852	27.330	36%	34.731	27.330	79%	29.411	11.294	12.456	44%	44%
Priority 2 – Developing Innovation and the Knowledge Based Economy															
Measure 1 - ICT Infrastructure	ERDF	65.672	0.000	0%	24.502	0.000	0%	11.365	0.000	0%	4.904	0.000	0.000	37%	0%
Measure 2 – Stimulate and Support Demand for ICT	ERDF	77.364	30.878	40%	37.926	15.127	40%	16.914	15.127	89%	15.982	4.186	3.361	49%	49%
Measure 3 – Support for the Development of Innovation and Research and Development	ERDF	134.969	90.279	67%	71.524	44.755	63%	32.128	44.755	139%	46.987	6.471	6.554	53%	50%
Measure 4 - Skills for Innovation and Technology	ESF	47.840	20.793	43%	23.148	9.539	41%	10.462	9.539	91%	10.236	2.615	3.234	48%	46%
Measure 5 - Clean Energy Sector Developments	ERDF	47.636	11.238	24%	25.844	4.199	16%	11.806	4.199	36%	4.200	0.100	0.252	54%	37%
Total – Priority 2		373.481	153.187	41%	182.944	73.620	40%	82.675	73.620	89%	82.309	13.372	13.401	49%	48%
ERDF		325.641	132.395	41%	159.796	64.081	40%	72.213	64.081	89%	72.073	10.757	10.167	49%	48%
ESF		47.840	20.793	43%	23.148	9.539	41%	10.462	9.539	91%	10.236	2.615	3.234	48%	46%

		Commitments : Total			Commitment : EU Grant						Payment		Grant Rate		
		Total	Commitmt	%	Total	Committed	%	Indicative	Committed	%	Forecast	Grant	Forecast	Programme	Committed
		Total	to Dec 2002		Available	to Dec 2002		Allocation	to Dec 2002		Commitment	Paid	to end	Committed	
								2000-2002			to end 2002	to Dec. 2002	2002		
Priority 3 – Community Economic Regeneration															
Measure 1 – Community Action for Social Inclusion	ESF	21.543	4.143	19%	13.889	2.479	18%	6.277	2.479	39%	2.484	1.094	1.512	64%	60%
Measure 2 – Partnership and Community Capacity Building	ERDF	28.414	10.115	36%	20.702	6.856	33%	12.401	6.856	55%	6.697	2.675	2.621	73%	68%
Measure 3 – Regeneration of Deprived Areas Through Community Led Action	ERDF	74.017	20.837	28%	52.304	12.594	24%	20.815	12.594	61%	12.331	3.156	3.106	71%	60%
Measure 4 – Support for the Creation and Development of Businesses in the Social Economy	ERDF	35.903	7.141	20%	23.291	4.032	17%	10.302	4.032	39%	4.181	0.587	0.734	65%	56%
Total – Priority 3		159.877	42.236	26%	110.186	25.960	24%	49.795	25.960	52%	25.693	7.512	7.973	69%	61%
ERDF		138.334	38.093	28%	96.297	23.482	24%	43.518	23.482	54%	23.209	6.418	6.461	70%	62%
ESF		21.543	4.143	19%	13.889	2.479	18%	6.277	2.479	39%	2.484	1.094	1.512	64%	60%
Priority 4 – Developing People															
Measure 1 – Preventative and Active Employment Measures	ESF	158.194	78.539	50%	93.623	42.615	46%	42.957	42.615	99%	42.035	20.653	21.568	59%	54%
Measure 2 - Social Inclusion	ESF	107.535	76.298	71%	63.625	37.987	60%	28.004	37.987	136%	38.929	16.684	17.580	59%	50%
Measure 3 – Lifetime Learning for All	ESF	139.839	57.482	41%	69.298	27.590	40%	31.299	27.590	88%	35.658	12.910	11.858	50%	48%
Measure 4 – Improving the Learning System	ERDF	84.444	46.507	55%	40.741	21.203	52%	18.412	21.203	115%	26.993	8.777	8.482	48%	46%
Measure 5 – Improving the Participation of Women in the Labour Market	ESF	27.449	12.134	44%	17.678	6.822	39%	8.178	6.822	83%	6.822	2.058	2.379	64%	56%
Measure 6 – Anticipation and Analysis of Skills Needs	ESF	7.848	3.812	49%	3.924	1.823	46%	1.707	1.823	107%	1.818	0.253	0.299	50%	48%
Total – Priority 4		525.309	274.772	52%	288.889	138.040	48%	130.557	138.040	106%	152.255	61.334	62.166	55%	50%
ERDF		84.444	46.507	55%	40.741	21.203	52%	18.412	21.203	115%	26.993	8.777	8.482	48%	46%
ESF		440.865	228.265	52%	248.148	116.838	47%	112.145	116.838	104%	125.262	52.557	53.684	56%	51%

		Commitments : Total			Commitment : EU Grant						Payment			Grant Rate	
		Total	Commitmt to Dec 2002	%	Total Available	Committed to Dec 2002	%	Indicative Allocation 2000-2002	Committed to Dec 2002	%	Forecast Commitment to end 2002	Grant Paid to Dec. 2002	Forecast to end 2002	Programme	Committed
Priority 5 - Rural Development and the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources															
Measure 1 – Processing and Marketing of Agricultural Products	EAGGF	117.360	26.673	23%	23.472	5.335	23%	10.669	5.335	50%	5.334	3.257	2.458	20%	20%
Measure 2 – Training: Services to Help Farmers Adapt and Diversify	EAGGF	14.674	6.965	47%	7.337	3.403	46%	3.857	3.403	88%	3.403	2.169	2.156	50%	49%
Measure 3 – Forestry	EAGGF	24.467	7.810	32%	9.804	2.733	28%	4.417	2.733	62%	2.733	1.029	1.000	40%	35%
Measure 4 – Promoting the Adaptation and Development of Rural Areas	EAGGF	42.431	8.913	21%	16.790	3.437	20%	4.150	3.437	83%	3.128	0.916	0.802	40%	39%
Measure 5 – Investment in Agricultural Holdings	EAGGF	22.232	20.750	93%	6.574	4.669	71%	5.836	4.669	80%	4.669	0.312	0.245	30%	23%
Measure 6 – Promoting Local Economic Development	ERDF	65.389	35.705	55%	27.460	9.726	35%	12.433	9.726	78%	9.819	2.245	2.510	42%	27%
Measure 7 - A Sustainable Countryside – Enhancement and Protection of the Natural Environment and Countryside Management	EAGGF	33.156	10.772	32%	16.578	4.892	30%	7.475	4.892	65%	4.892	1.551	1.506	50%	45%
Measure 8 – Support for Recreational Opportunities and management of the natural environment	ERDF	29.981	5.457	18%	14.083	2.534	18%	6.341	2.534	40%	2.539	0.502	0.662	47%	46%
Measure 9 – Support for Fisheries and Aquaculture	FIFG	22.009	14.820	67%	9.383	5.567	59%	4.240	5.567	131%	5.567	0.831	0.524	43%	38%
Total – Priority 5		371.699	137.864	37%	131.481	42.296	32%	59.418	42.296	71%	42.084	12.812	11.863	35%	31%
ERDF		95.370	41.162	43%	41.543	12.260	30%	18.774	12.260	65%	12.358	2.747	3.172	44%	30%
EAGGF		254.320	81.882	32%	80.555	24.469	30%	36.404	24.469	67%	24.159	9.235	8.167	32%	30%
FIFG		22.009	14.820	67%	9.383	5.567	59%	4.240	5.567	131%	5.567	0.831	0.524	43%	38%
Priority 6 – Strategic Infrastructure Development															
Measure 1 – Accessibility and Transport	ERDF	144.468	17.070	12%	51.716	5.014	10%	23.830	5.014	21%	12.943	0.019	0.660	36%	29%
Measure 2 – Energy infrastructure	ERDF	52.770	2.558	5%	15.831	0.366	2%	6.615	0.366	6%	0.366	0.242	0.208	30%	14%
Measure 3 – Strategic Employment Sites	ERDF	90.196	37.333	41%	33.600	6.205	18%	15.839	6.205	39%	7.995	0.819	1.719	37%	17%
Measure 4 – Environmental Infrastructure	ERDF	71.207	1.458	2%	28.483	0.506	2%	12.298	0.506	4%	0.505	0.000	0.000	40%	35%
Total – Priority 6 (All ERDF)		358.641	58.420	16%	129.630	12.090	9%	58.582	12.090	21%	21.809	1.081	2.587	36%	21%

		Commitments : Total			Commitment : EU Grant						Payment		Grant Rate		
		Total	Commitmt	%	Total	Committed	%	Indicative	Committed	%	Forecast	Grant	Forecast	Programme	Committed
		to Dec 2002			Available	to Dec 2002		Allocation	to Dec 2002		Commitment	Paid	to end	Committed	
								2000-2002			to end 2002	to Dec. 2002	2002		
Priority 7 – Technical Assistance															
Measure 1 – Promoting Effective Programme Management	ERDF	19.359	15.840	82%	9.680	7.181	74%	4.381	7.181	164%	7.181	1.425	1.503	50%	45%
Measure 2 – Promoting Effective Programme Management	ESF	4.832	0.183	4%	2.416	0.091	4%	1.086	0.091	8%	0.091	0.010	0.038	50%	50%
Measure 3 – Raising Awareness of the Programme	ERDF	6.456	0.475	7%	3.228	0.238	7%	1.460	0.238	16%	0.700	0.028	0.064	50%	50%
Measure 4 – Raising Awareness of the Programme	ESF	1.612	0.000	0%	0.806	0.000	0%	0.363	0.000	0%	0.000	0.000	0.000	50%	0%
TOTAL – Priority 7		32.259	16.498	51%	16.130	7.510	47%	7.290	7.510	103%	7.972	1.463	1.605	50%	46%
ERDF		25.815	16.315	63%	12.908	7.418	57%	5.841	7.418	127%	7.881	1.453	1.567	50%	45%
ESF		6.444	0.183	3%	3.222	0.091	3%	1.449	0.091	6%	0.091	0.010	0.038	50%	50%
Total - All priorities		2,433.567	977.647	40%	1,144.094	426.967	37%	517.040	426.967	83%	464.712	154.879	158.794	47%	44%
ERDF		1,466.842	565.557	39%	688.897	240.654	35%	311.332	240.654	77%	267.502	77.244	79.179	47%	43%
ESF		690.396	315.388	46%	365.259	156.277	43%	165.064	156.277	95%	167.484	67.570	70.924	53%	50%
EAGGF		254.320	81.882	32%	80.555	24.469	30%	36.404	24.469	67%	24.159	9.235	8.167	32%	30%
FIFG		22.009	14.820	67%	9.383	5.567	59%	4.240	5.567	131%	5.567	0.831	0.524	43%	38%

OBJECTIVE 1: Outputs by Priority and Measure – as at 31/10/2002

This new format for reporting outputs contains 68 measure level targets giving a wider picture of progress. Since jobs are a key Programme target, forecast **gross new jobs** have been aggregated to show a total of 37,099.

Six Measure level indicators comprising direct, indirect and accommodated jobs together with jobs in high technology, food processing and forestry are aggregated to produce a total forecast figure. Net jobs, to which the Programme target refers, will be calculated as an impact from the actual gross jobs at the end of the programming period.

For seven of the 68 Measures, a percentage figure cannot be calculated yet because either a target has not been set or there are no predicted outputs. Of the remaining 61 indicators, 22 have a predicted figure of more than 50% of the Programme Complement target with a number of these having passed the set targets. Another 10 have reached between 33-49%.

At this stage it is not possible to suggest any relationship between the “Grant committed to date” column and the forecast figures, but work will be done on this in the future when actual figures begin to be reported. Actual figures are being declared by sponsors as they return the first of the new claims forms.

A number of key Measure level activities and results indicators for each Priority have been chosen to illustrate progress.

Notes on tables:

¹Column shows the amount of grant committed to date as a percentage of the total programme allocation.

²Current forecast figures include the percentage of PC target reached to date.

Priority level targets are denoted by an asterisk and, for some Priorities, numbers have been aggregated at the end of the table.

PRIORITY 1

	Grant committed ¹	Output	PC Target (2000-06)	Current forecast ²	Current forecast as % of PC Target
Measure 1 – Financial Support to SMEs	61%	gross new jobs*	11,400	9,359	82%
		SMEs given financial support*	6,000	5,732	96%
Measure 2 – Promoting entrepreneurship & increasing the birth rate of SMEs	25%	gross new jobs*	10,560	3,796	36%
		SMEs given advice/information	6,000	6,111	102%
		new and existing SMEs assisted	1,000	280	28%
Measure 3 – Developing Competitive SMEs	17%	gross new jobs*	10,840	8,034	74%
		SMEs given advice/information	5,000	4,220	84%
		new and existing SMEs assisted	10,170	3,539	35%
Measure 4 – Promoting Adaptability and Entrepreneurship	35%	gross new jobs*	900	38	4%
		companies helped	6,330	2,550	40%
		beneficiaries gaining a qualification*	25,396	2,342	9%
Measure 5 – Providing Sites and Premises for SMEs	54%	gross jobs accommodated*	4,460	7,615	171%
		sq. metres of floor space made available	180,000	51,404	29%
		hectares of land developed	70	124	177%
Aggregated Priority Level Target	37%	Gross new jobs	36,000	28,842	80%

PRIORITY 2

	Grant committed ¹	Output	PC target (2000-06)	Current forecast ²	Current forecast as % of PC target
Measure 1 - ICT Infrastructure	0%	Not yet finalised			
Measure 2 – Stimulate and Support Demand for ICT	34%	gross new jobs*	4,000	588	15%
Measure 3 – Support for the Development of Innovation and Research and Development	55%	gross new jobs*	12,600	1,901	15%
		new jobs in high technology*	3,000	958	32%
		companies receiving financial support for R&D/innovation projects	1,000	1,483	148%
		companies given advice/information on R&D/innovation projects	2,000	5,051	253%
		Sq metres floor space in innovation centres and R&D facilities	30,000	12,739	43%
Measure 4 – Skills for Innovation and Technology	41%	gross new jobs*	400	0	0%
		employees assisted*	15,000	1,520	10%
		companies assisted*	3,000	664	22%
		people undertaking higher level skills training*	7,000	1,519	22%
Measure 5 – Clean Energy Sector Developments	2%	no. of exemplar models developed for clean energy	12	3	25%
Aggregated Priority Level Target**	34%	Gross new jobs	20,000	3,447	17%

** Includes new jobs in high technology which is also a Priority level target in itself.

PRIORITY 3

	Grant committed ¹	Output	PC Target	Current forecast ²	Current forecast as % of PC target
Measure 1 – Community Action for Social Inclusion	17%	community groups assisted*	700	140	20%
		no. of beneficiaries	7,000	6,282	90%
Measure 2 – Partnership and Community Capacity Building	31%	community groups assisted*	600	3,711	619%
		community development initiatives supported	110	807	734%
		local people involved in planning and developing strategies, partnerships and community initiatives.	7,200	12,992	180%
Measure 3 – Regeneration of Deprived Areas Through Community Led Action	21%	community groups assisted*	1,300	618	48%
		gross new jobs in community led projects and community enterprises*	1,100	499	45%
		community services and community owned sustainable assets supported	300	267	89%
Measure 4 – Support for the Creation and Development of Businesses in the Social Economy	15%	gross new jobs in community led projects and community enterprises*	1,900	295	16%
		new social enterprises established	600	115	19%
Aggregated Priority Level Targets	21%	Gross new jobs	3,000	794	26%
		Community groups assisted	2,600	4,469	172%

*Priority level target

PRIORITY 4

	Grant committed ¹	Output	PC target	Current forecast ²	Current forecast as % of PC target
Measure 1 – Preventative and active employment measures	45%	Beneficiaries completing their courses	31,055	4,311	14%
		Beneficiaries achieving positive outcomes on leaving	27,180	22,999	85%
Measure 2 – Social inclusion	58%	Beneficiaries completing their courses	21,695	2,528	12%
		Beneficiaries gaining positive outcome on leaving	19,428	12,438	64%
Measure 3 – Lifelong learning for all	39%	Beneficiaries completing their courses	33,016	11,652	35%
		Participants in lifelong learning	41,270	36,107	87%
Measure 4 – Improving the learning system	52%	Units of learning accommodation upgraded	-	11,397	-
Measure 5 – Improving the participation of women in the labour market	39%	Beneficiaries completing their courses	5,715	388	7%
		Beneficiaries gaining a positive outcome on leaving	-	2,675	-
		Women gaining a positive outcome on leaving	-	0	-
Measure 6 – Anticipation and analysis of skill needs	37%	Labour market assessments	10	40	400%

Where a PC target has yet to be set, it is indicated by '-' and no percentage has been calculated.

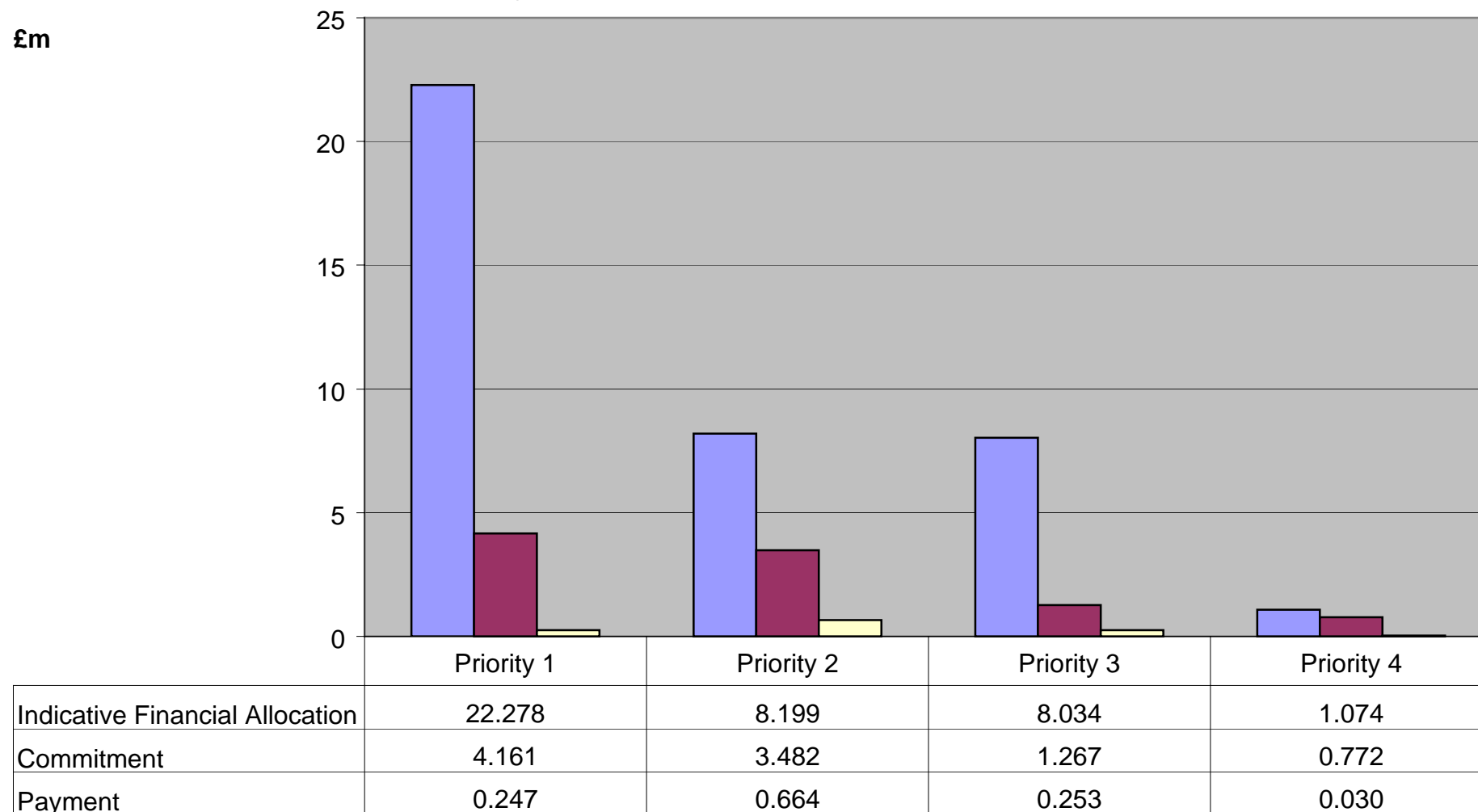
PRIORITY 5

	Grant committed ¹	Output	PC target	Current forecast ²	Current forecast as % of PC target
Measure 1 – Processing and marketing of agricultural products	34%	Gross new jobs in food processing	1,500	315	21%
		Gross new companies created in rural areas	1,500	43	3%
Measure 2 – Training services to help farming adapt and diversify	47%	Participants completing courses, receiving certification, completing NVQs or units towards NVQs	1,275	1,153	90%
Measure 3 – Forestry	27%	Woodland and timber related businesses supported	50	155	310%
		Hectares of woodland brought into sustainable management	10,000	2,900	29%
Measure 4 – Promoting the adaptation and development of rural areas	34%	Gross new jobs	300	90	30%
		New companies created in rural areas	400	69	17%
Measure 5 – Investment in agricultural holdings	36%	Gross new companies in rural areas	270	0	0%
Measure 6 – Promoting local economic development	29%	Gross new jobs	4500	364	8%
		New companies created in rural areas	1330	73	5%
Measure 7 – A sustainable countryside	21%	Gross new jobs	500	5	1%
		Hectares brought under sustainable management	6,000	2,658	44%
Measure 8 – Support for recreational opportunities and management of the natural environment	18%	Gross new jobs	770	132	17%
		Visitor management initiatives supported	50	23	46%
Measure 9 – Support for fisheries and aquaculture	47%	Gross new jobs	130	35	27%
		New processing units	6	0	0%

PRIORITY 6

	Grant committed ¹	Output	PC target	Current forecast ²	Current forecast as % of PC target
Measure 1 – Accessibility and transport	3%	Multi-modal centres receiving support	5	1	20%
Measure 2 – Energy infrastructure	2%	Gross new jobs	130	1	0.8%
Measure 3 – Strategic employment sites	3%	Sq metres of floor space made available/improved	300,000	2,280	0.8%
		Hectares of land developed	212	0	0%
		New sites supported*	10	1	10%
		Jobs accommodated	23,720	500	2%
Measure 4 – Environmental infrastructure	2%	Gross new jobs	250	30	12%

Objective 2 and Transitional Programme Allocation, Commitments and Payments at 31 December 2002



OBJECTIVE 2 SPD 2000-06

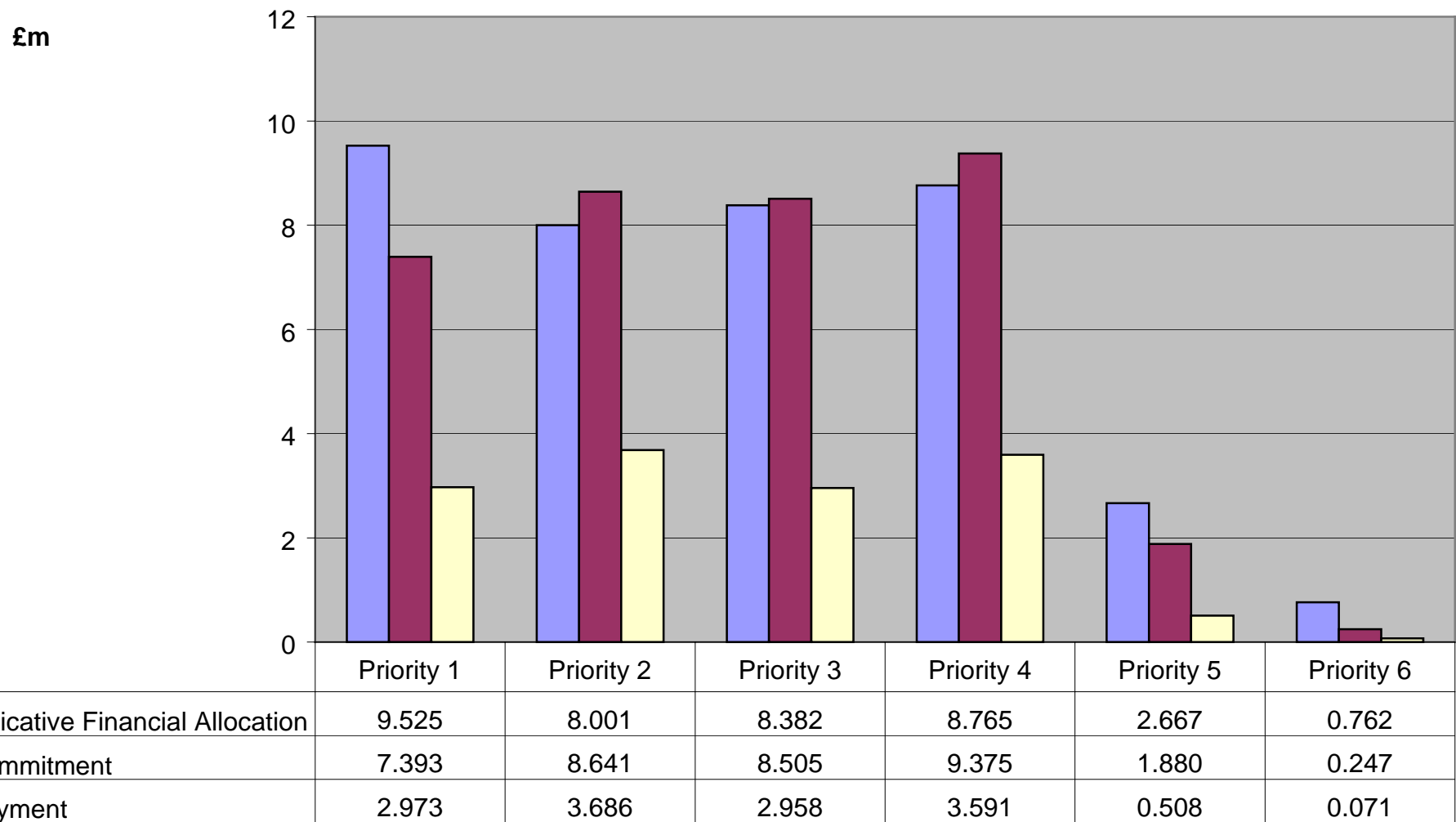
Appendix 5

Commitments and Payments 2000-06

Transitional Programme shown in italics	Commitments : Total			Commitment : EU Grant						Payment		Grant Rate		
	Total	Commitment to Dec 2002	%	Total Available	Commitment to Dec 2002	%	Indicative Allocation 2000-2002	Commitment to Dec 2002	%	Forecast Commitment to end 2002	Grant Paid to Dec 2002	Forecast to end 2002	Programme	Committed
Priority 1 : Developing Sustainable & competitive Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)														
1.1 Support for Enterprise, Innovation and SME Development	26.112	7.499	29%	11.696	3.050	26%	3.735	3.050	82%	3.050	0.152	0.176	45%	41%
<i>1.1 Support for Enterprise, Innovation and SME Development</i>	<i>7.384</i>	<i>0.719</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>3.280</i>	<i>0.310</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>2.059</i>	<i>0.310</i>	<i>15%</i>	<i>0.310</i>	<i>0.034</i>	<i>0.067</i>	<i>44%</i>	<i>43%</i>
1.2 Financial Support for SMEs	26.309	0.315	1%	8.769	0.089	1%	6.291	0.089	1%	0.089	0.038	0.054	33%	28%
<i>1.2 Financial Support for SMEs</i>	<i>13.942</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>4.585</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>4.038</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>33%</i>	<i>0%</i>
1.3 Development of Sites and Premises for SMEs	29.296	1.819	6%	8.776	0.544	6%	2.802	0.544	19%	0.544	0.018	0.044	30%	30%
<i>1.3 Development of Sites and Premises for SMEs</i>	<i>17.496</i>	<i>1.046</i>	<i>6%</i>	<i>5.240</i>	<i>0.168</i>	<i>3%</i>	<i>3.354</i>	<i>0.168</i>	<i>5%</i>	<i>0.168</i>	<i>0.005</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>30%</i>	<i>16%</i>
Total	81.717	9.633	12%	29.241	3.684	13%	12.827	3.684	29%	3.684	0.208	0.274	36%	38%
Total	38.822	1.765	5%	13.105	0.478	4%	9.451	0.478	5%	0.478	0.039	0.067	34%	27%
Priority 2 : Sustainable Rural Development														
2.1 Rural Economic Development	11.970	4.292	36%	5.362	1.630	30%	2.807	1.630	58%	1.630	0.267	0.256	45%	38%
<i>2.1 Rural Economic Development</i>	<i>4.356</i>	<i>1.227</i>	<i>28%</i>	<i>1.959</i>	<i>0.483</i>	<i>25%</i>	<i>1.701</i>	<i>0.483</i>	<i>28%</i>	<i>0.421</i>	<i>0.138</i>	<i>0.045</i>	<i>45%</i>	<i>39%</i>
2.2 Building Rural Networks	8.827	2.534	29%	4.390	1.139	26%	2.299	1.139	50%	1.139	0.209	0.254	50%	45%
<i>2.2 Building Rural Networks</i>	<i>3.301</i>	<i>0.496</i>	<i>15%</i>	<i>1.606</i>	<i>0.230</i>	<i>14%</i>	<i>1.391</i>	<i>0.230</i>	<i>17%</i>	<i>0.230</i>	<i>0.050</i>	<i>0.059</i>	<i>49%</i>	<i>46%</i>
Total	20.796	6.826	33%	9.751	2.769	28%	5.106	2.769	54%	2.769	0.476	0.510	47%	41%
Total	7.657	1.723	23%	3.565	0.713	20%	3.093	0.713	23%	0.651	0.188	0.104	47%	41%
Priority 3 : Urban Community Regeneration														
3.1 Capacity Building and Community Initiatives	14.617	1.895	13%	7.309	0.934	13%	2.301	0.934	41%	0.922	0.110	0.133	50%	49%
<i>3.1 Capacity Building and Community Initiatives</i>	<i>10.681</i>	<i>0.486</i>	<i>5%</i>	<i>5.341</i>	<i>0.220</i>	<i>4%</i>	<i>3.725</i>	<i>0.220</i>	<i>6%</i>	<i>0.208</i>	<i>0.114</i>	<i>0.149</i>	<i>50%</i>	<i>45%</i>
3.2 Developing the Social Economy	4.872	0.230	5%	2.436	0.112	5%	0.767	0.112	15%	0.112	0.029	0.029	50%	49%
<i>3.2 Developing the Social Economy</i>	<i>3.559</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>1.780</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>1.241</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>50%</i>	<i>0%</i>
Total	19.489	2.125	11%	9.744	1.047	11%	3.068	1.047	34%	1.034	0.139	0.162	50%	49%
Total	14.241	0.486	3%	7.120	0.220	3%	4.966	0.220	4%	0.208	0.114	0.149	50%	45%

Transitional Programme shown in italics	Commitments : Total			Commitment : EU Grant						Payment		Grant Rate		
	Total	Commitment to Dec 2002	%	Total Available	Commitment to Dec 2002	%	Indicative Allocation 2000-2002	Commitment to Dec 2002	%	Forecast Commitment to end 2002	Grant Paid to Dec 2002	Forecast to end 2002	Programme	Committed
Priority 4 : Technical Assistance														
4.1 Promoting Effective Programme Management	2.425	1.545	64%	1.212	0.772	64%	0.474	0.772	163%	0.772	0.030	0.054	50%	50%
<i>4.1 Promoting Effective Programme Management</i>	<i>1.183</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>0.591</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>0.393</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>50%</i>	<i>0%</i>
4.2 Raising Awareness of the Programme	0.584	0.000	0%	0.292	0.000	0%	0.112	0.000	0%	0.000	0.000	0.000	50%	0%
<i>4.2 Raising Awareness of the Programme</i>	<i>0.286</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>0.143</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>0.095</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>50%</i>	<i>0%</i>
Total	3.009	1.545	51%	1.504	0.772	51%	0.586	0.772	132%	0.772	0.030	0.054	50%	50%
Total	1.469	0.000	0%	0.735	0.000	0%	0.488	0.000	0%	0.000	0.000	0.000	50%	0%
TOTAL														
Objective 2	125.01	20.129	16%	50.241	8.272	16%	21.588	8.272	38%	8.259	0.853	1.000	40%	41%
1														
<i>Transitional related</i>	<i>62.189</i>	<i>3.973</i>	<i>6%</i>	<i>24.525</i>	<i>1.411</i>	<i>6%</i>	<i>17.997</i>	<i>1.411</i>	<i>8%</i>	<i>1.337</i>	<i>0.341</i>	<i>0.320</i>	<i>39%</i>	<i>36%</i>
Total	187.20	24.103	13%	74.765	9.683	13%	39.585	9.683	24%	9.596	1.194	1.320	40%	40%
0														

Objective 3 Allocation, Commitments and Payments at 31 December 2002



OBJECTIVE 3 OP 2000-06**Commitments and Payments 2000-06**

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	Commitments : Total			Commitment : EU Grant						Payment		Grant Rate		
	Total	Commitment to Dec. 2002	%	Total Available	Committed to Dec. 2002	%	Indicative Allocation 2000-2002	Committed to Dec. 2002	%	Forecast Commitment to end 2002	Grant Paid to Dec. 2002	Forecast to end 2002	Programme Committed to Dec. 2002	Committed to Dec. 2002
Priority 1 Developing Active Labour Market Policies to Prevent and Combat Unemployment														
Measure 1 Preventing long term unemployment	18.134	8.791	48%	8.161	3.763	46%	3.810	3.763	99%	5.273	1.553	2.203	45%	43%
Measure 2 Re-integration of the long-term unemployed	20.402	4.344	21%	9.181	1.806	20%	4.286	1.806	42%	2.735	0.763	0.699	45%	42%
Measure 3 Supporting the transition from education to the labour market	6.801	3.839	56%	3.060	1.523	50%	1.429	1.523	107%	1.530	0.658	0.698	45%	40%
Total – Priority 1	45.337	16.974	37%	20.402	7.092	35%	9.525	7.092	74%	9.538	2.973	3.600	45%	42%
Priority 2 Equal Opportunities for All and Promoting Social Inclusion														
Measure 1 Pathways to Employment	19.042	13.198	69%	8.569	5.541	65%	4.001	5.541	138%	5.176	2.191	2.892	45%	42%
Measure 2 Capacity building for Community Based Groups	9.521	3.897	41%	4.284	1.725	40%	2.000	1.725	86%	2.142	1.104	1.061	45%	44%
Measure 3 The development of business opportunities in the Social economy	7.617	1.620	21%	3.427	0.742	22%	1.600	0.742	46%	1.206	0.278	0.202	45%	46%
Measure 4 Local Development to promote Social Inclusion	1.904	0.889	47%	0.857	0.399	47%	0.400	0.399	100%	0.429	0.112	0.133	45%	45%
Total – Priority 2	38.084	19.605	51%	17.137	8.407	49%	8.001	8.407	105%	8.953	3.686	4.288	45%	43%
Priority 3 Lifelong Learning														
Measure 1 Developing new or improved guidance and Learning systems	21.943	5.606	26%	9.874	2.296	23%	4.610	2.296	50%	3.257	0.814	0.964	45%	41%
Measure 2 Increasing participation and attainment in Lifelong Learning	17.953	12.822	71%	8.079	5.112	63%	3.772	5.112	136%	4.985	2.144	2.678	45%	40%
Total – Priority 3	39.896	18.428	46%	17.953	7.408	41%	8.382	7.408	88%	8.242	2.958	3.642	45%	40%

	Commitments : Total			Commitment : EU Grant						Payment		Grant Rate		
	Total	Commitment to Dec. 2002	%	Total Available	Committed to Dec. 2002	%	Indicative Allocation 2000-2002	Committed to Dec. 2002	%	Forecast Commitment to end 2002	Grant Paid to Dec. 2002	Forecast to end 2002	Programme Committed to Dec. 2002	Committed to Dec. 2002
Priority 4 Promoting Business Competitiveness														
Measure 1 Supporting management development	6.256	3.160	51%	2.815	1.208	43%	1.315	1.208	92%	1.639	0.341	0.448	45%	38%
Measure 2 Skills and knowledge development for the Workforce in SMEs	19.604	10.090	51%	8.822	4.473	51%	4.119	4.473	109%	4.054	1.848	1.603	45%	44%
Measure 3 Encouraging Innovation, R&D and the Information Society for growth	6.257	2.833	45%	2.815	1.244	44%	1.315	1.244	95%	1.801	0.699	0.854	45%	44%
Measure 4 Support to encourage and develop Entrepreneurship	8.342	3.509	42%	3.754	1.465	39%	1.753	1.465	84%	1.877	0.593	0.853	45%	42%
Measure 5 Anticipation and Analysis of Skill Needs	1.251	0.947	76%	0.563	0.349	62%	0.263	0.349	133%	0.251	0.110	0.145	45%	37%
Total – Priority 4	41.710	20.538	49%	18.769	8.739	47%	8.765	8.739	100%	9.622	3.591	3.903	45%	43%
Priority 5 Promoting Gender Equality within the Labour Market														
Measure 1 Pathways to participation	8.886	2.738	31%	3.999	1.191	30%	1.867	1.191	64%	1.019	0.391	0.444	45%	44%
Measure 2 Promoting attitudinal change	3.808	1.533	40%	1.714	0.689	40%	0.800	0.689	86%	0.685	0.117	0.193	45%	45%
Total – Priority 5	12.694	4.271	34%	5.713	1.880	33%	2.667	1.880	70%	1.704	0.508	0.637	45%	44%
Priority 6 : Technical Assistance														
Technical Assistance	3.627	0.552	15%	1.632	0.247	15%	0.762	0.247	32%	0.486	0.071	0.486	45%	45%
Total – Priority 6	3.627	0.552	15%	1.632	0.247	15%	0.762	0.247	32%	0.486	0.071	0.486	45%	45%
Total all Priorities	181.348	80.368	44%	81.607	33.773	41%	38.102	33.773	89%	38.545	13.787	16.556	45%	42%

Appendix 8

OBJECTIVE 3: Priority Level Outputs – as at 31/10/02

PRIORITY 1

	Grant committed to date	Output	PC Target (2000-06)	Current forecast	Current forecast as % of PC Target
Developing Active Labour Market Policies to Prevent and Combat Unemployment	34%	Activities			
		Numbers participating in active measures	23155	7421	32%
		Number of young people receiving help	11780	0	-
		Number of young people receiving help before 6 months unemployment (50% of all young people receiving help)	5890	2390	41%
		Number of adults receiving help	11375	0	-
		Number of adults receiving help before 12 months unemployment (50% of all adults receiving help)	5688	2294	40%
		Number of women receiving help	9262	0	-
		Results			
		Number of beneficiaries completing courses/provision (67% of total)	15514	9359	60%
		Number of beneficiaries gaining a qualification (50% of total)	11577	5049	44%
		Number of beneficiaries gaining a positive outcome on leaving (66% of total)	15282	4468	29%
		Number of women achieving positive outcomes on leaving (70% of total women receiving help)	6483	0	-

PRIORITY 2

	Grant committed to date	Output	PC Target (2000-06)	Current forecast	Current forecast as % of PC Target
Equal Opportunities for All and Promoting Social Inclusion	44%	Activities			
		Number of beneficiaries	21200	13560	64%
		Number of women receiving support (42% of all beneficiaries)*	8904	0	-
		Number of disabled people receiving support (16% of all beneficiaries)*	3392	0	-
		Number of ethnic minorities receiving support (5% of all beneficiaries)*	1060	0	-
		Number of older people receiving support (20% of all beneficiaries)*	4240	0	-
		Number of capacity building projects	170	17	10%
		Number of social economy projects	40	10	25%
		Results			
		Number of beneficiaries completing their courses/activities (70% of all beneficiaries)	14840	8389	57%
		Number of beneficiaries gaining a qualification (45% of all beneficiaries)	9540	4522	47%
		Number of beneficiaries with positive outcomes on leaving (60% of all beneficiaries)	12720	4134	33%
		Number of beneficiaries in work on leaving (34% of all beneficiaries)	7208	1150	16%

* 15 of the 45 Priority activity and results targets have no predicted figure. This is because projects are required to break down actual numbers of beneficiaries into categories where the target is a percentage of the total.

PRIORITY 3

	Grant committed to date	Output	PC Target (2000-06)	Current forecast	Current forecast as % of PC Target
Lifelong Learning	41%	Activities			
		Number participating in Lifelong Learning	17000	7408	44%
		Number of trainers trained	2000	142	7%
		%of women receiving support	50%	0	-
		Results			
		Number of beneficiaries completing their courses (81% of total participants in Lifelong Learning)	13770	11596	84%
		Number of leavers gaining a qualification (53% of total participants in Lifelong Learning)	9010	5536	61%
		Number in work or further study on leaving (88% of total participants in Lifelong Learning)	14960	7262	49%
		Number in work or further study at six months after leaving (70% of total participants in Lifelong Learning)	11900	0	-

PRIORITY 4

	Grant committed to date	Output	PC Target (2000-06)	Current forecast	Current forecast as % of PC Target
Promoting Business Competitiveness	44%	Activities			
		Number of beneficiaries getting self-employed help	1200	1541	128%
		Number of companies helped	3600	5626	156%
		Number of employees helped	9600	1495	16%
		% of women receiving support	40%	0	-
		Number of work modernisation projects	30	20	67%
		Number of research programmes	16	32	200%
		Results			
		Survival rate of self-employment at 18 months	50%	0	-
		% of beneficiaries completing their courses	11000	19473	177%
		% of beneficiaries gaining a qualification	7425	11638	157%

PRIORITY 5

	Grant committed to date	Output	PC Target (2000-06)	Current forecast	Current forecast as % of PC Target
Gender Equality	24%	Activities			
		Number of beneficiaries	4000	6014	150%
		Number of innovative/demonstration projects	60	137	228%
		Number of women beneficiaries (95% of total beneficiaries)	3800	0	-
		Results			
		Number completing courses/activities (95% of total beneficiaries)	3000	3872	129%
		Number of positive outcomes for women (85% of total women beneficiaries)	3230	0	-
		% of unemployed beneficiaries in work on leaving	1120	242	22%
		Number of beneficiaries gaining a qualification (45% of total beneficiaries)	1800	2430	135%
		% of parents with children under 5 years in work for at least 6 months after ESF	27%	0	-

NB: Wherever possible, percentage targets have been converted into figures.

REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF THE OBJECTIVE 1 PROGRAMME MONITORING COMMITTEE

1. The Objective 1 Programme is continuing to progress well, with well over 750 approved projects and a grant commitment of some £430 million. With match funding, this will represent an investment of almost £1 billion in West Wales and the Valleys. Thanks to a lot of hard work by all concerned we met the de-commitment targets for 2002, by some margin for the two main Funds. However, there is no room for complacency with the Programme and the Monitoring Committee is continuing to keep a close eye on certain areas.

2. The latest Programme Monitoring Committee was held in December at Clydach Vale near Tonypany. The main issues considered at the meeting were:

- The Committee noted the progress which has been made in terms of commitments and spending, and congratulated WEFO on meeting the 'N+2' targets for 2002. The Committee will continue to keep a close eye on the de-commitment targets for 2003. It will also be considering how the partnerships can adopt a more pro-active role, including the development of a 'commissioning' approach to ensure that specific Programme aims and objectives can be met.
- The PMC heard a report on the all-Wales Policy Group meeting held at the end of November, which focused on human resource development.
- The Committee discussed match funding for community economic regeneration projects, where it is concerned about the difficulty of accessing the various funding sources given the different rules applying to each fund. This is an issue which I am following up with the Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities.
- The Committee agreed the detailed arrangements for the development and selection of strategic infrastructure projects. These arrangements flesh out the detail of the agreement reached at the September meeting to establish the Infrastructure Partnership as a sub-group of the Business Assets Strategy Partnership, but with authority to provide WEFO with a qualitative assessment of projects. They should improve the effectiveness of the partnerships dealing with the infrastructure Measures.
- The Committee endorsed a proposed survey of existing Strategy Partnership members, which focuses on the effectiveness of the current Strategy Partnership arrangements. The Committee was keen for the survey to go ahead, given the need to seek continuous improvement in the partnership structures and the parallel requirement for Local and Regional Partnerships to review their membership each year. It will be considering the results of the survey in March.

- The Committee endorsed a revision to the section of the Programme Complement covering ICT infrastructure (Priority 2 Measure 1) to take account of the Welsh Assembly Government's policy on broadband technology.
- The Committee noted that work on the mid-term evaluation is now under way and that a draft final report will be available for the June meeting.
- The Committee endorsed a proposal to widen the Strategic Employment Site at Pembrey to cover South Llanelli, which will allow all four priority projects identified under the strategy for the South West sub-region to come forward for funding under Priority 6 Measure 3.

3. We also held a meeting of the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Objective 1 Local, Regional and Strategy Partnerships at the end of January, as a follow-up to an initial meeting held last July. This meeting considered progress to date, as well as a number of issues which are likely to arise in the second half of the Programme. It was a useful meeting, providing an opportunity for the Chairs to meet informally to share experiences and to learn from each other.

4. The next Programme Monitoring Committee meeting will be held in Gorseinon on 17 March.

Christine Chapman AM

January 2003

REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF THE OBJECTIVE 2 PROGRAMME MONITORING COMMITTEE

1. The Objective 2 Programme is continuing to make steady progress with some 70 approved projects and a grant commitment of nearly £10 million. With match funding this represents an investment of over £24 million in the East Wales Objective 2 and transition area.

2. The latest Programme Monitoring Committee was held in November at Barry in the Vale of Glamorgan.

There was extensive discussion on progress of the Programme emphasising the importance of using the European Structural Funds available to the Programme as speedily and effectively as possible. The Committee commented on the detailed programme update report, and made recommendations to:

- increase the pace of commitments across the Programme and
- increase the volume of claims coming forward to meet the 2003 decommitment targets

There was discussion on the review of Local Partnership indicative allocations, and the extent to which some parts of the Programme could be more effectively delivered Regionally. The Committee agreed to:

- Transfer Local Partnership indicative allocations for Priority 1 Measure 3 (Development of Sites and Premises for SMEs) to a Regional indicative allocation to speed up commitment; and
- The formation of a task group specialising in the development of sites and premises to focus on Priority 1 Measure 3 spend, with representation from Local Partnerships, Private Sector Unit (WEFO), WDA and WEFO;

3. The Committee also agreed:

- Any ideas /recommendations which materialise from the mid term evaluation exercise and the parallel mid-term review which can be endorsed by the Committee should be implemented immediately;
- Applicants to come forward with project applications immediately, and not bound by opening of bidding rounds, and
- WEFO to give Priority to/and fast track approval of high value projects;

4. Other matters considered at the meeting were:

- The Committee noted progress on the revised programme complement.
- The PMC heard a report on the all-Wales Policy Group meeting held in September, which focussed on business support.
- The Committee received a report on progress regarding the mid-term evaluation
- The Committee noted a report on gender balance.

5. All Partnerships are aware of the need to bring forward good projects to meet the N+2 target. WEFO is in regular contact with Partnerships and their secretariats to assist this process.

6. A large Finance Wales project requesting a grant of £8.5 million has been submitted to WEFO. The bid has been sent to the Commission, as it requires Commission approval. Once approved it will represent a significant spend for this year.

7. The next Programme Monitoring Committee meeting will be held in Cardiff on 3 March.

John Griffiths AM

January 2003

REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF THE OBJECTIVE 3 PROGRAMME MONITORING COMMITTEE

1. I am pleased to report that the Objective 3 programme is still progressing well and has now committed **£33m** or **41%** of its financial allocation to over **340** projects in East Wales.
2. The East Wales Objective 3 Programme Monitoring Committee met in Cardiff on the 11 December to discuss the Progress of the Programme.
 - The Committee heard a presentation on the **Social Risk Capital** small grants scheme administered by the Welsh Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA). The scheme provides grants of up to £10,000 for voluntary and community groups to cover 100% of project costs using a simplified application process. The Committee was pleased to note that the scheme is proving to be successful with £300,895 having been awarded to 33 projects up to September 2002.
 - The Committee also considered a **report on Measures that were performing less well** and discussed actions to ensure that all Measures achieved maximum commitment in all areas. It was recognised that the issue had to be tackled through various means, including: sub-groups of the Partnerships looking at each Measure, discussions with potential applicants, targeted publicity and spreading best practice. Both WEFO and the Objective 3 Lead Bodies will continue to give priority to this issue during their scheduled meetings and will monitor the position closely. .
 - The Committee received an update on the Gender Balance of Partnership boards, the Publicity of the programme, and Technical Assistance applications.
 - A report of the All Wales Policy Group's meeting of 29 November was presented and the implications of the **Mid Term Evaluation** were discussed. It was agreed to re-schedule the June meeting until the end of the month to allow members time to consider the draft Mid Term Evaluation Report.

Date of next meeting

- 10 March at the NEWI, Wrexham.

Kirsty Williams AM

February 2003

REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF THE LEADER+ PROGRAMME MONITORING COMMITTEE

1. The LEADER+ Programme Monitoring Committee met on 8 May and 2 October 2002 to discuss the progress of the Programme.
2. The PMC noted that the LEADER+ Programme was progressing satisfactorily. The PMC examined an executive summary of the LEADER+ Groups Business Plans. There are seven LEADER+ Groups and the summaries provided information on the 48 projects under Action 1 (Development activity within the Local Action Groups localities) of the Programme. A total of £3,258,439 EAGGF funding is committed to Action 1.
3. The PMC considered and accepted the LEADER+ Annual Implementation Report 2001. This was the first annual report for the Programme providing information on the main activities completed during 2001 and was central to reviewing Programme performance. Following consultation with the PMC the report was submitted and accepted by the Commission.
4. The Chair has steered the PMC towards fulfilling a broader policy role. Following a presentation on the work of the Objective 1 All Wales Policy Group Members debated key issues relating to rural development and rural Wales in the context of LEADER+. The issues arising from the debate were presented to the All Wales Policy Group at their meeting on 24 January.
5. The PMC examined and accepted the projected targets and indicators for the LEADER+ Programme. WEFO are to provide a paper at the next meeting of the PMC outlining suggested indicators to capture information relating to the cross cutting themes.
6. Members were provided with a presentation by the WDA on the domestic agreement between the WDA and the Welsh Assembly Government to facilitate the LEADER+ Programme.
7. A report on WEFO monitoring and evaluation strategy and the mid-term evaluation of the LEADER+ Programme was presented. Members were advised that the contract for the mid-term evaluation of the LEADER+ Programme had not been awarded and that the contract was to be re-tendered using accelerated procurement procedures.
8. The next meeting of the PMC is to take place on 20 March. As well as discussing the progress of the Programme, the PMC will be provided with an update on the mid-term evaluation, have the opportunity to debate issues relating to the work of the Objective 1 All Wales Policy Group and will consider the draft LEADER+ Annual Implementation Report 2002.

REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF THE EQUAL WALES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

1. Following an application round for the First Call in the summer of 2001, the 3 successful Development Partnerships began their Action 1 (Development phase) activities on 15 November 2001. This activity lasted for 6 months and focussing on the Employability theme and the Entrepreneurship Theme.

2. Action 2 (Implementation phase) of the programme commenced on 15 May 2002. Activity is progressing well. (Committed funds for 1st Call total £1.5m). WEFO will be conducting initial monitoring visits of the 3 Welsh Development Partnerships during January and February 2003. Feedback will be given at the next Wales Management Committee meeting which will be held on the 24 February 2003.

3. The 3 EQUAL Development Partnerships are preparing for Action 3 of the programme (Dissemination and Mainstreaming). The Great Britain Partnerships with activity in Wales are working with the Welsh Development Partnerships and WEFO on the Welsh Mainstreaming Strategy. They met on 21 January 2003, where the basis of the strategy was discussed. WEFO is preparing a draft mainstreaming strategy to be circulated to all Wales Management Committee members, and all Development Partnerships for comments. The final version is expected to be approved by the end of March 2003.

4. £12m is available in Wales for the second call of the programme. WEFO has been helping to build the capacity of organisations in Wales to bid for this funding. The next in a series of capacity building events is an awareness raising seminar which is to be held at the Metropole Hotel, Llandrindod Wells on the 26 March 2003. Various workshops on the different elements of EQUAL are being planned for the summer of 2003 and will take place throughout Wales.

Ann Jones AM

February 2003

REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF THE URBAN II PROGRAMME MONITORING COMMITTEE

1. The Urban II Community Initiative in West Wrexham is making good progress. Five projects (with a total value of £1.3m, £647,000 grant) have been approved so far and a further seven (total value £2.7m, £1.2m grant) are being appraised by WEFO.

2. The most recent Programme Monitoring Committee was held on 20 January at the Brynteg Lifelong Learning Centre. The main issues considered at the meeting were:

- the vacancies that had arisen within the secretariat during the last months had still not been filled due to the lack of suitable candidates.
- the membership of the Committee and the assessment panel following a review.
- the possibility of a key fund for small community applications;
- the Committee noted the financial profile update. The Committee discussed the profile in relation to the N+ 2 target.
- the Committee noted the up-to-date position on the mid-term evaluation.
- the Committee were notified as to how the Annual Implementation Report would be compiled.
- the Committee recommended that a Technical Assistance bid should be made for travel and subsistence claims from the PMC's private and voluntary sector members.
- discussion with WEFO and the European Commission on the complexities of eligibility criteria.

3. The next Programme Monitoring Committee meeting will be held in Brynteg on 7 April.

Karen Sinclair AM

January 2003

REPORT BY THE JOINT CHAIR OF THE IRELAND/WALES INTERREG IIIA PROGRAMME MONITORING COMMITTEE

1. The Ireland/Wales INTERREG IIIA Programme has been making good progress since it was launched by the First Minister and the Taoiseach almost exactly a year ago. There has been a high level of interest in the Programme, with a large number of good quality project proposals coming forward. To date 15 projects have been approved, representing a financial commitment of €8.3 million (17 per cent of the whole Programme).

2. The Monitoring Committee, which I chair jointly with Cllr John Stafford of the Southern and Eastern Regional Assembly, held its second meeting at New Ross in County Wexford last October. The main issues to emerge from the meeting were:

- Both the Committee and the European Commission were very satisfied with the Programme and how it was progressing. The Committee identified a number of issues which will require careful monitoring in 2003, including the 'N+2' de-commitment target and the number of projects coming forward in Priority 1 Measure 4 (Communications in Technology and Transport).
- The three Development Officers reported a high level of project development activity throughout the Programme area. There was however some concern about the number of project applications which have been put forward without any involvement from the Development Officers. The Secretariat has strengthened the advice given to project sponsors on this issue.
- The Committee agreed an appeals procedure for applicants who wish to appeal against a decision taken by a Steering Committee. This is a two-tier process, initially involving an Appeals Panel of the Steering Committee, but with the possibility of a further appeal to the joint PMC Chairs if a project sponsor feels that there has been a procedural irregularity.
- The Committee noted that contractors had been appointed to undertake the mid-term evaluation of the Programme. This will focus on implementation issues and the effectiveness of Programme processes. It will also seek to identify any additional benefits or 'soft' outcomes, particularly in relation to community involvement in the Programme.

3. The PMC meets on a six-monthly basis and the next meeting will be held in North Wales on 10 March.