

Enterprise, Innovation and Networks Committee

Minutes EIN(2) 10-06

Meeting date: 22 November 2006

Meeting time: 9.30 – 12.55

Meeting venue: Committee Room 2, Senedd, Cardiff Bay

Assembly Members in Attendance

Assembly Member	Constituency
Christine Gwyther (Chair)	Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire
Leighton Andrews	Rhondda
Alun Cairns	South Wales West
Andrew Davies (Minister)	Swansea West
Janet Davies	South Wales West
Alun Ffred Jones	Caernarfon
Carl Sargeant	Alyn & Deeside
Kirsty Williams	Brecon and Radnorshire

Officials in Attendance

Name	Job Title
Gareth Hall	Director, Enterprise Innovation & Networks
Bob Macey	Chief Executive, Welsh European Funding Office
Mark Osland	Head of Finance and Planning
Robin Shaw	Chief Executive, Transport Wales

Others in Attendance

Name	Organisation
Simon Pickering	Passenger Link Manager, Passenger Focus
Stella Mair Thomas	Wales Representative, Passenger Focus

Assembly Parliamentary Service

Name	Job Title
Claire Morris	Committee Clerk
Abigail Phillips	Deputy Committee Clerk
Gwyn Griffiths	APS Legal Advisor
Graham Winter	Members' Research Service

Item 1: Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

1.1 No apologies were received.

1.2 A verbatim record of the meeting is available.

Item 2: Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising Paper: EIN(2) 07-06 Minutes of the meeting held on 5 October EIN(2) 08-06 Minutes of the meeting held on 18 October EIN(2) 10-06 – Action Outstanding

2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 5 October and 18 October were agreed as a true record.

Item 3: Minister's Report Paper: EIN(2) 10-06 p1- Minister's Report

3.1 The Committee received an update from the Minister.

Action Points:

- The Minister would provide an update on the difficulties in opening coastal paths and the progress made in overcoming them.
- The Minister would provide information on which the decision to restructure Screen Commission Wales was based to the next meeting.
- Representatives of First Great Western, Department for Transport and Passenger Focus would

- be invited to attend Committee to discuss timetable changes and reductions in service levels.
- Information would be provided on how business support services were working since the merger; how and where Business Eye was advertised; and the value for money gained from this advertising as part of the Enterprise Review to be presented to Committee in the New Year.
 - The Minister would provide updates on the progress of negotiations with the European Commission regarding the 2007-2013 Convergence Programme and how structural funds would be spent in the next round.
 - A video conference with Graham Meadows, Director General of DG Regio, would be arranged to discuss structural funds.
 - Robin Shaw would discuss the closure and plans to reopen the bridge in Saltney with Network Rail and update the Committee.
 - The Minister would provide details of the benefits that Wales would derive from hosting the Ashes test match and the Ryder Cup.
 - The Minister would provide a paper on the progress made in developing and promoting National Paths.

Item 4: Secondary Legislation Schedule

Paper: EIN(2) 10-06 p2

4.1 The Committee considered the Secondary Legislation Schedule. No items of Secondary Legislation were identified for further scrutiny.

Item 5: WEFO Quarterly Report

Paper: EIN(2) 10-06 (p3)

5.1 The Committee discussed the Wales European Funding Office Quarterly Report.

Action Points:

- The Minister would provide a note on what information could be provided to the Committee in relation to fraudulent claims, taking into account the constraints of commercial confidentiality.

Item 6: EIN Draft Budget 2007-08

Paper: EIN(2) 10-06 (p4)

6.1 The Committee considered the EIN Draft Budget 2007-08.

Action Points:

- The Minister would provide details of how much of the DEIN draft budget was committed expenditure and how much was left for discretionary spend.
- The Minister would provide information on the reasons for the decrease in the revenue programme for regeneration packages and the types of scheme that would be affected.

- The Minister would provide disaggregated figures for improving rail and air services for both revenue and capital expenditure.
- The Clerk would draft a letter setting out the views of the Committee. This would be circulated to Members for approval before submission to the Minister.

Item 7: Passenger Focus – Update from Wales Representative

Paper: EIN(2) 10-06 (p5)

7.1 The Committee received an Update from the Wales Representative of Passenger Focus

Committee Service