

Date:	Thursday, 16 February 2006
Time:	9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Venue:	Committee Room 2

Committee's draft report on the evidence taken on the successor Rural Development Plan, 2007-2013

Purpose

1. To consider the Committee's draft report on the evidence taken on the successor Rural Development Plan 2007-2013.

Background

2. At its meeting on 3 November 2005, the Committee received an update on the Rural Development Plan 2007-2013 from the Welsh Assembly Government. The update outlined the draft proposals on the EU Strategic Guidelines for Rural Development. The first four guidelines (axes) are supported by priority areas that Member States need to address in their successor plans. They are:

- improving the competitiveness of the agricultural and forestry sectors;
- improving the environment and countryside;
- improving the quality of life in rural areas;
- building local capacity for employment and diversification.

3. In view of the fact that there would be a consultation on the draft successor plan in spring 2006, Committee agreed to take evidence from stakeholders on the four axes to inform its view.

4. Evidence sessions were held on 17 November 2005 and 19 January 2006.

5. A draft report of the evidence taken is attached at Annex A.

Recommendation

6. That the Committee considers and agrees its draft report of the evidence taken on the successor Rural Development Plan 2007-2013. (Annex A).

Glyn Davies AM

Committee Chair

Contact: Kathryn Jenkins, Committee Clerk