

Health and Social Services Committee

HSS(2)-01-05(p.3)

Date: Wednesday 12 January 2005

Venue: Committee Room 3, National Assembly for Wales

Title: Current European Issues

Purpose

1. This paper contains a list of EU documents, relevant to the Health and Social Services Committee, which have been deposited in the UK Parliament between 8 November and 30 December 2004.

Action

2. Members are invited to consider whether they wish to give further scrutiny to the legislative and non-legislative items considered to be of interest to Health and Social Services (Annex A)

Background

3. The attached Annex A contains details of EU documents deposited in the UK Parliament since 8 November 2004 that have been considered to be of interest to Health and Social Services.

4. Also contained in the Annex is a new section in which documents highlighted but deemed not to be relevant to the Committee are listed.

Members' Research and Committee Services

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Annex A

Legislative proposals of interest to the Health and Social Services Committee, deposited in the UK Parliament (from 8.11.04 to 30.12.04)

There were no legislative proposals deemed to be of interest to HSS Committee during the specified period.

Non-legislative documents of interest to the Health and Social Services Committee, deposited in the UK Parliament

(from 8.11.04 to 30.12.04)

MRCS Ref.	Title	Link	Commentary and relevance to Wales	Opportunity and timescale for action
1158	COM (2004) 693 final The Fundamental Rights Agency – public consultation document.	http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/com/cnc/2004/com2004_0693en01.pdf	<p>This paper outlines the consultation which has just been held on a proposal for a Regulation to set up a Fundamental Rights Agency to replace and extend the work of the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia. At this stage, it would appear unlikely the body will have any legislative powers, but it will collect and analyse data on racism and xenophobia, and study the causes.</p> <p>The paper may have relevance in relation to equal opportunities issues within NHS Wales and Social Services Departments in Wales.</p>	No opportunity for action – for information only.

1212	<p>COPEN 133</p> <p>Initiative of the Kingdom of Belgium with a view to the adoption by the Council of a framework decision on the recognition and enforcement in the European Union of prohibitions arising from convictions for sexual offences committed against children.</p>		<p>This initiative is intended as a supplement to the proposal for a Council Decision on the exchange of information extracted from criminal records in relation to sexual offences against children. The Council Decision was presented by the European Commission at the Justice and Home Affairs Council of 25 and 26 October 2004, but may have relevance to areas of responsibility for the HSS Committee.</p>	<p>No opportunity for action – for information only.</p>
1240	<p>FIN 600</p> <p>Report on the annual accounts of the European Food Safety Authority for the financial year 2003.</p>	<p>http://www.eca.eu.int/audit_reports/specific_reports/docs/2003/efsa_en.pdf</p>	<p>The paper is included in this section because it contains a short report on the activities of the European FSA which committee members with a particular interest in food safety might wish to see.</p>	<p>No opportunity for action – for information only.</p>
1232	<p>SEC (2004) 1372</p> <p>Commission Staff Working Document on implementation of the community Strategy for Endocrine Disrupters.</p>	<p>No link found – copy of paper can be provided on request</p>	<p>Endocrine disrupters are a range of substances suspected of interfering with the hormone systems of humans and wildlife.</p> <p>This report is the second on the progress of actions set out in the Community Strategy for Endocrine Disrupters of December 1999 (COM (1999) 706). These</p>	<p>No opportunity for action – for information only.</p>

			<p>actions relate to the identification and monitoring of, and research into, suspect substances.</p> <p>Endocrine disrupters and any potentially harmful effects have relevance to food safety.</p>	
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Remaining legislative and non-legislative documents deposited in this subject area and not considered of interest

MRCS Ref.	Title
1131	A coherent European Policy Framework for External Action to Confront HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis
1132	<p>SEC (2004) 1326</p> <p>Commission Staff Working Document: Second Progress report on the EC Programme for Action: Accelerated action on HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis in the context of poverty reduction.</p>
1138 and 1139	<p>COM (2004) 7373 final</p> <p>SEC (2004) 1348 (Impact Assessment)</p> <p>Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on compulsory licensing of patents relating to the manufacture of pharmaceutical products for export to countries with public health problems.</p>