

European and External Affairs Committee

EUR(3)-12-10 : Paper 1 : 21 September 2010

Proposed Inquiry into Welsh participation in EU research, innovation and lifelong learning programmes

Purpose

The attached paper 1a scopes out the potential for an inquiry into Welsh participation in EU funding programmes for research, innovation and lifelong learning for the period 2007-13.

Background

This inquiry was included in a list of potential priority areas for the Committee's work programme that was considered on 20 April 2010. The attached paper sets out the rationale for undertaking the inquiry, a possible approach and timeframe, suggested terms of reference and potential witnesses.

Action for the Committee

Members are invited to consider the scoping paper and specifically:

1. To agree the focus and scope of the inquiry – should all 3 areas of programme funding be included (outside the Structural Funds), i.e. the Framework Programme for R&D (FP7), the Lifelong Learning programmes and the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP), or would Members prefer to concentrate on only one or two?
2. To agree the terms of reference for the inquiry, at section 7;
3. To consider the list of suggested witnesses at section 8 and agree priority for taking oral evidence (given that the Committee has limited meeting slots);
4. Taking account of the agreed scope of the inquiry, to decide whether to issue a public consultation to seek additional written evidence from stakeholders (eg academia, business, the third sector)?

Committee Service