Information Guide

Wales and Europe
A selection of websites to find information on Wales and Europe

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Latest revision: August 2016
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The added value information service that focuses on the European Union, the countries of Europe, and on the issues of concern to citizens, stakeholders and researchers in the Europe of today.
Search ESO from the Cardiff EDC for information on Wales and Europe

Click on a topic below to set off a search in ESO...

General and Key Sources
European Union – General and Institutional Developments
People and Politics
The Budget – Financing the EU
Economic and Monetary Policy
Single Market – Competition
Business – Industry – Trade
Employment – Labour Market
Social Policy – Social Issues
Economic and Social Cohesion – Structural Policies – Regional Policy
Environment
Consumers
Agriculture – Fisheries – Forestry
Transport – Communications – Tourism
Energy
Research – Science and Technology
Education – Training – Culture
External relations – Enlargement
Law

For information on Wales and Brexit see slides at the end of this guide
ESO is freely available to all...

http://www.europeansources.info

Contact

edc@cardiff.ac.uk
European Commission Representation in Cardiff

The European Commission Office in Wales was established in Cardiff in 1976. Today the role of the Office is the political representation of the European Commission in Wales, operating in the fields of public affairs, political contacts, press & media activity, and outreach to the general public. The EC Office tries to facilitate and mediate in contacts between Welsh authorities and interest groups and the EU institutions, with a view to fostering closer ties between the two. The Head of Office is David Hughes.

Follow us on

Wales and Europe

- Europe Direct Information Network
  - Europe Direct Information Centres
    - Carmarthen
    - Wrexham
    - Cardiff

  - European Documentation Centres
    - Aberystwyth
    - Cardiff

- Enterprise Europe Network
  - Bangor, Bridgend and Swansea
Welsh Members of the European Parliament 2014-2019

- Jill Evans
- Kay Swinburne
- Derek Vaughan
- Nathan Gill

Contact details
The legislative competence of the National Assembly for Wales is expressly limited by section 108(1) of the Government of Wales Act 2006 (GOWA 2006) to provisions that are compatible with EU law. In other words no provision of an Act of the Assembly may breach EU law.

Similarly section 80(8) of GOWA 2006 provides that the Welsh Ministers may not exercise their functions (including the function of making subordinate legislation) in so far as that would be incompatible with EU law.

This means that the Welsh Ministers' powers must be interpreted in the light of any relevant EU law. As an example, the Welsh Ministers have a power under section 1 of the Welsh Development Agency Act 1975 (WDA 1975) to provide grants to businesses in Wales. There are no constraints on this power in the Act itself but, by virtue of articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (the treaty provisions on State aid), the Welsh Ministers' ability to exercise this power is limited to paying grants only in certain circumstances and on certain terms.

The Welsh Ministers also have a role in transposing EU Directives. By virtue of section 10 of GOWA 2006 the Welsh Ministers are generally responsible for the
EU funds in Wales

Future of EU funds

We are continuing to deliver our EU funding programmes in Wales. Applications for EU funds are still being developed and approved in line with objectives agreed by the European Commission. The following statements respond to the result of the Referendum on the UK’s membership of the European Union.

EU Funds: Investing in Wales

EU funds are supporting growth and jobs, creating sustainable economic, social and environmental benefits for people, businesses and communities in Wales.

18,645 Enterprises Assisted
11,925 Enterprises Created
36,970 Jobs Created

72,700 Helped into work
56,055 Into further learning
234,335 Qualifications gained

Swansea University’s new Science and Innovation campus is located on the site of the former MOD site, receives EU support including a financial contribution of £135 million. The project is expected to create 5,000 jobs.

The Cardiff Campus provides world-class facilities for industrial research and development in engineering, advanced materials and manufacturing, and offers a state-of-the-art learning environment for students.

The development of the campus around the city’s knowledge economy is expected to have a gross economic impact of £900 million over a 10 year period through increased activity research and student and business investment.

IT Park in Wales is a key component of the Welsh Government’s strategy to attract high priority business and investment. The EU supports IT Park in Wales for the benefit of Welsh businesses and the Welsh economy. The IT Park has received EU funding for the construction of its facilities which are designed to support the growth of the information technology sector in Wales.

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• **Committees** [there was no dedicated European Committee in the 4th term of the NAW and in the current 5th term – European issues are dealt with by other Committees]

— European & External Affairs Committee


• Other NAW Committees also deal with European topics

• Constitutional & Legislative Affairs Committee: [Inquiry and Report into Wales’ role in the EU decision making process](#), 2013/2014

• Constitutional & Legislative Affairs Committee: [4th Assembly Legacy Report, March 2016](#)

• **Record of proceedings**

• **News**

• **Research** including Europe Matters
Welsh Local Government Association

WLGA and Europe

Welcome to the web pages of the WLGA Europe Team

Local authorities play a major role in ensuring that the European Union (EU) delivers practical benefits for Welsh citizens. The EU affects every individual, family, business and organisation in Wales. Approximately 70% of domestic law impacting on local authorities originated in the EU, making it critical for Welsh local government to be represented at the heart of Europe and engaged at an early stage in Brussels when the European Commission initiates new proposals or amends existing texts, with implications for local authorities.

Since April 2003, the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) European Office, collocated in Wales House (in the Brussels European Quarter) with the Welsh Government, the National Assembly for Wales (NAW) and the Welsh Higher Education Brussels Office, has provided a dedicated resource for the WLGA and its member authorities on European issues and promoted the role of Welsh local government in European affairs. The work of the office feeds into the wider work of the WLGA Europe Team, which also has two officers based in the WLGA Cardiff Office, responsible for the work of the team in Wales. The EU Team sits within the WLGA Regeneration and Sustainable Development Directorate.

The overall aim of the WLGA Europe Team is to promote the interests of Welsh local government in Brussels and Europe, and maximise the value to Welsh local government from the (UK’s) EU membership.

In 2010, the WLGA Europe Team will:

- Support Welsh local authorities in the delivery and implementation of the main ESI (European Structural and Investment) Funds in Wales
- Seek to influence decisions at Wales level on the 2014-2020 EU funding programmes for Wales, and at EU level on the post-2020 EU funding programmes
- Support local authorities to maximise the opportunities from the wider EU themed funding programmes
- Monitor and seek to influence EU decisions on priority policy issues
- Provide value across all WLGA policy portfolios
- Communicate European issues to the relevant officer and elected Member networks in Welsh local authorities
- Seek to raise the profile of the WLGA and Welsh local authorities in Europe
- Encourage more transnational partnerships between Welsh local authorities and European partners
- Provide support to Welsh Elected Members on European issues

For more information contact: Lucy Street

WLGA EU Funding Guide 2014-2020

This guide is for Welsh local authorities interested in EU funding.

Drastically reduced public sector finances means local authorities need to be more creative in finding new sources of funding. The EU offers plenty of funding opportunities for local authorities, but past surveys by the LGA have shown awareness of EU funding opportunities, outside of the main Structural Funds Programmes (European Regional Development Fund and European Social Fund) within local authorities across the UK is fairly low.

http://www.wlga.gov.uk/
Further stakeholders
The EU Referendum, 23 June 2016
Before the result...

Find more information via ESO
The EU Referendum, 23 June 2016
After the result...

Find more information on Wales and the EU after the EU referendum in ESO

Extraordinary Council Summit
15 July 2016
First Minister of Wales, Carwyn Jones AM, will host an extraordinary Summit of the British-Irish Council in Cardiff next week.

The meeting will be attended by leaders and Ministers from the eight EIC Member Administrations: the UK and Irish Governments, the Devolved Administrations of Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales and the Governments of Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man.

The Summit has been convened to consider the outcome of the UK’s referendum on membership of the European Union and the implications for the Council and its members.
For further information and help...

- **Visit us:**
  Cardiff EDC, Guest Building, Colum Drive, Cardiff CF10 3EU
  Opening hours: Monday-Friday, 09:00 – 17:00

- **Contact us:**
  Cardiff EDC, University Library Service, Cardiff University,
  PO Box 430, Cardiff CF24 ODE
  Tel: 029 2087 4262 Email: edc@cardiff.ac.uk
  [http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/european-documentation-centre](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/european-documentation-centre)
The Cardiff EDC provides a professional and neutral information service on the European Union and the wider Europe.

Enquiry service – Find information: European Sources Online – Events

Further information: http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/european-documentation-centre
Blog: http://blogs.cardiff.ac.uk/european-documentation-centre/