

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL'S THIRD MISSION
COMMITTEE ON 29 NOVEMBER 2007

Disclosable

Meeting	Agenda Item	Reference No
1/2/08	12	HEFCW/08/06

1 Issue

This paper presents for information the agenda and unconfirmed notes of the last meeting of the Council's Third Mission Committee held on 29 November 2007.

2 Corporate Planning Implications / Rationale for paper

2.1 The Third Mission Committee is one of the standing committees of the Council and its purpose is to advise Members on developing Council's vision for third mission activities and the policies and principles that need to underpin it in the long term. The Committee is also a key vehicle for the delivery of closer working relations with the Council's key partners and stakeholders in this area.

2.2 The Third Mission Committee meets four times a year and in addition to submitting notes of all its meetings also provides an annual report to the Council.

3 Recommendation

The Council is invited to:

- i. Receive the agenda and unconfirmed notes of the Third Mission Committee on 29 November 2007.

4 Timing for decisions

The Council is invited to note the unconfirmed notes of 29 November 2007 prior to the next meeting of the Third Mission Committee on 11 February 2008.

5 Council members' interests

No conflicts of interests have been declared in advance of the meeting.

6 Further information

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Background

- 7 At its meeting on 9 May 2003, the Council approved the establishment of a Third Mission Committee and the Chairman subsequently invited Dr Len Arthur to act as its chair. Dr Arthur accepted and in turn, invited a total of eleven individuals to join him on the new committee (paper **HEFCW/05/27 refers**). The Committee was originally conceived as a key vehicle for the delivery of closer working relations between the Council and the former Welsh Development Agency (WDA) and ELWa as required by the then Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning and the Minister for Economic Development and Transport. The Assembly mergers effective from 1 April 2006 necessitated a review of the Committee's membership and terms of reference and a revised remit for the Third Mission Committee was approved by the Council at its meeting on 19 October 2006.

Notes of the meeting of the Third Mission Committee on 29 November 2007

- 8 The agenda and unconfirmed notes of the meeting of the Third Mission Committee held on 29 November 2007 are attached at **Annex A**.
- 9 In particular Members' attention is drawn to:
- The appointment of two new Committee members from the business sector in Wales (still subject to confirmation by the Council's Appointments Committee) – notes 2-3;
 - The receipt of institutions' Third Mission Strategies for 2007/08 to 2009/10 and the exercise of delegated authority by the Chief Executive and Chair of the Third Mission Committee to release the first funding allocations of the new three year Third Mission Fund cycle – notes 6-8;
 - Advice in relation to the inquiry into the 'economic contribution of higher education' by the National Assembly for Wales' Enterprise and Learning Committee (notes 9-10) and the recommendations of the Burgess Report (notes 16-20);
 - An event on 27 February 2008 to promote the internationalisation of HE at which Jane Hutt, Minister for Children, Education Lifelong Learning and Skills will be speaking – note 13.3;
 - The successful bid from Wales in the recent competition to establish a network of Beacons for Excellence in Public Engagement across the UK (an exercise supported by HEFCW in conjunction with the other UK HE

funding bodies, the seven UK research councils and the Wellcome Trust)
– note 22.

Financial Implications

- 10 No new financial implications arise from this paper.

Publicity Implications

- 11 A UK-wide event is taking place in the House of Commons on 30 January 2008 to launch the Beacons for Excellence in Public Engagement.

Diversity & Equality Implications

- 12 When submitting their third mission strategies all institutions are asked to consider how they will address the needs of potentially disadvantaged groups (in relation to race, gender, disability and age, including monitoring arrangements). In addition, institutions are asked to consider the needs of Welsh speakers, Welsh learners and Welsh speaking communities and, where appropriate, take account of their institution's/institutions' role/roles in the new sector Welsh medium strategic framework and development plan. Under GO Wales, although there are currently no EU funds attached, officers have continued to manage the programme in line with both WEFO's own diversity and equality requirements and those set out in the original, successful bid to WEFO. However, there are no immediate implications arising from this paper.

Risk Assessment

- 13 Details of identified risks are provided below:

RISK	ACTION TO ADDRESS RISK
Council fails to deliver its own strategic aim of "benefiting society and economy" as derived from its remit letter and <i>Reaching Higher</i>	Third Mission Committee established to offer Council advice and guidance on the development of policy in this area.