Education, Culture and Sport Committee  
Meeting Monday 18 December 2000  
European Parliament Familiarisation Programme

Purpose

The Committee is invited to nominate at this meeting a member, which may be the Convener or another member of the Committee, to take part in a European Parliament-funded familiarisation programme.

Background

The European Parliament has agreed to fund a short familiarisation programme for a group of Scottish Parliament Committee Conveners and members. This is likely to take place in the Spring of 2001.

The aim is to familiarise members with the European legislative process and the operation of the European Parliament.

Much of the business of the Scottish Parliament is driven or affected by European legislation and policy. The Parliament has obligations within Community law. A good understanding of the European Union is important in helping members to work effectively in these areas.

If successful, it is envisaged that the programme may develop in future years.

Recommendation

The Committee is invited to nominate a member to participate in the programme.

Martin Verity  
Clerk to the Committee