

## EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT SEEKS TO INVOLVE CITIZENS IN FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS



The European parliamentary elections will be held from 4–7 June 2009. In order to engage citizens, a series of events are being organised in UK regions. The events will aim to raise awareness about how the EU affects the everyday lives of UK citizens. A roadshow will be coming to Manchester on 18 May, illustrating the choices of themes for the election (Energy, Health Care, Employment, Work/Life Balance, Recycling). On 19–22 May, a “choice box” will be installed with walk-in interactive multimedia booths. Voters will be able to record a video message giving their views on the issues facing the European Parliament. These messages will then be relayed in Brussels. The organisers (the European Parliament’s UK office) are keen to link up with local actors undertaking activities around the European elections. For contact details please contact [the office](#)

## MEPS SUPPORT ZERO ENERGY BUILDINGS BY 2019 – RECAST OF THE PERFORMANCE OF BUILDINGS DIRECTIVE

MEPs have voted to support amendments to the proposed recast of the energy performance of buildings directive (EPBD). MEPs strongly support a big push in public financing for energy efficient buildings. Their amendments would require all new buildings built after 2019 to produce as much energy onsite as they use, and for all buildings undergoing renovations which cost more than 25% of their value or cover more than 25% of their surface to meet national energy efficiency standards. The parliament also wants new financial instruments to support efficiency improvements, an “energy efficiency fund” and for EU countries to draw up national action plans by June 2011. Final agreement with national governments is not expected until the end of this year.



## INTELLIGENT ENERGY 2009 CALL FOR PROPOSALS – FUNDING EARMARKED FOR URBAN AREAS



According to the 2009 work programme for Intelligent Energy funding, at least €15 million of the €96 million available will be earmarked for developing the potential of municipalities and regions to accelerate local investments, notably in buildings and urban transport. The call is divided into 4 priority themes: energy efficiency and rational use of resources; new and renewable energy resources; energy in transport; and integrated initiatives. Within these themes are several priority areas, including: networking for local action, sustainable energy communities, energy efficient buildings, decentralised renewable energy systems and energy efficient transport. This year is the first time that projects such as renovation of public and private buildings, street lighting, and combined heat and power (CHP) systems will be eligible. **Deadline: 25 June 2009.**

## ATLANTIC AREA CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2009

The Atlantic Area transnational cooperation programme aims to achieve cohesive, sustainable and balanced territorial development of the Atlantic Area and its maritime heritage. The eligible regions, of which Greater Manchester is one, are invited to submit applications under the 4 themes of the programme, which are: to promote transnational entrepreneurial and innovation networks; to protect, secure and enhance the marine and coastal environment sustainability; to improve accessibility and internal links; to promote transnational synergies in sustainable urban and regional development. The programme is funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) with a total allocation for 2009 of €26 million. **Deadline: 5 June 2009**



## OTHER OPEN FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### TRANS-EUROPEAN TRANSPORT NETWORKS (TEN-T)

The 2009 call has three separate work programmes: Economic Recovery Programme (€500 million), Multi-Annual Programme (€370 million) and the Annual Programme (€140 million). The Economic Recovery Programme represents an ad hoc programme for 2009-2010 in which €500 million has been brought forward to support the European economy. The Multi-Annual Programme aims to finance the highest priorities of the TEN-T network. The Annual Programme complements the efforts developed under the Multi-Annual Work Programme. **Deadline: 15 May 2009**

### MEDIA 2007 – DISTRIBUTION

The core objective of this call is to encourage the development of links between the production and distribution sectors in the media industry, thus improving the market share of European films and the competitiveness of European companies. **Deadline: 29 May 2009**

### ERASMUS FOR YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

This programme is aimed at helping new EU entrepreneurs enrich their experiences by spending periods in enterprises run by experienced entrepreneurs in other EU countries. The overall objective of the programme is to enhance the entrepreneurship, internationalisation and competitiveness of potential start-up entrepreneurs in the EU. Total budget €4.3 million. **Deadline: 29 May 2009**

### YOUTH IN ACTION – YOUTH IN THE WORLD

Aims to support projects which promote cooperation in the youth sector between countries in the EU and outside EU. Projects must involve partners from at least four different countries, including at least two EU countries and two non-EU 'partner countries'. The maximum single grant is €1000,000. **Deadline: 01 June 09**

### ICT POLICY SUPPORT PROGRAMME

The current call contains eight broad themes: (1) ICT for health, ageing and inclusion, (2) Digital Libraries, (3) ICT for government and governance, (4) ICT for energy efficiency and environment, (5) Multilingual Web, (6) Public Sector Information, (7) Internet Evolution and Security, and (8) open innovation, user experience and living labs. Proposals should examine e-accessibility and be user centric. The total budget for this call is €100 million. **Deadline: 2 June 2009**

### LIFELONG LEARNING – EUROPEAN QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK/ EDUCATION AND TRAINING

2 calls under the lifelong learning programme. The European Qualifications Framework (EQF) aims to develop and promote the learning outcomes approach for all qualifications, support links between national frameworks and the EQF and promote mutual trust between countries and sectors. The Cooperation in Education and Training call aims to raise awareness of lifelong learning strategies and of European cooperation in education and training and to support transnational cooperation in the development and implementation of national and regional lifelong learning strategies. **Deadline for both calls: 14 August 2009**

### ECO INNOVATION

The eco innovation initiative aims to address organisations that have developed an innovative environmental product, service, management practice or process which has a proven track record, yet is not fully marketed due to residual risks. Applications from SMEs are particularly welcome. The types of projects that will be considered include: projects in the area of materials recycling; sustainable buildings (innovative building processes and products); food & drink industrial processes (waste reduction, recycling & recovery); green business; and smart purchasing. **Deadline: 10 September 2009**

### EUROPEAN YOUTH FOUNDATION

The purpose of the fund is to encourage co-operation among young people in Europe by providing financial support to such European youth activities which serve the promotion of peace, understanding and co-operation in a spirit of respect for the CoE's fundamental values of human rights, democracy, tolerance and solidarity. Previous projects have received between €8,000 and €20,000 funding. **Deadline: 01 October 2009**

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