

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this consultation exercise is to seek views on the European Commission's proposal for the future "*Citizens for Europe*" Programme 2007 – 2013. This is to replace the current active citizenship programme which expires at the end of 2006.

Negotiations on the new Programme will be conducted in Brussels in an official working group known as the Cultural Affairs Committee (CAC). The CAC operates within the scope of the European Commission's Directorate General for Education, Youth and Culture (DG EYAC). DCMS officials, with input from other government departments including the Home Office, will lead on the negotiations taking into account advice received through this consultation process.

The proposed aims and actions of the new Programme are summarised in Annex B and we would welcome views on these or any aspect of the current Programme you feel might be relevant.

The text of the Commission's proposal can be found via the following web link: (http://europa.eu.int/comm/dgs/education_culture/activecitizenship/index_en.htm).

You will also be able to find other relevant material concerning the Commission's proposal via this link.

How to respond

When responding, please state whether you are responding as an individual or representing the views of an organisation. In the latter case, please make it clear who the organisation represents and, where applicable, how the views of members were assembled.

The deadline for responses is **Friday 28 October 2005**.

Responses may be sent by letter, fax or email to the following:

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International Unit
Department for Culture, Media and Sport
2-4 Cockspur Street
London SW1Y 5DH

Fax: 020 7211 6382

E-mail: Georgina.Ellis@culture.gsi.gov.uk

Confidentiality

All information in responses, including personal information, may be subject to publication or disclosure under freedom of information legislation. If a correspondent requests confidentiality this cannot be guaranteed, and will only be possible if considered appropriate under the legislation. Any such request should explain why confidentiality is necessary. Any automatic confidentiality disclaimer

generated by your IT system will not be considered as such a request unless you specifically include a request, with an explanation, in the main text of your response.

What happens next?

After the consultation closes we will analyse the responses and provide feedback within three months. A copy of the feedback will be available on the Department's website.

Complaints

Should you wish to complain about the manner in which this consultation has been carried out, you should write to: Liz Sweet, Consultation Coordinator, Strategy Division, DCMS, 2-4 Cockspur Street, London SW1Y 5DH.