



European Programme 2011

The Northern Ireland Assembly and Business Trust (NIABT) works to forge links with, and promote the exchange of knowledge and information between local businesses and parliamentarians here and in Europe.

Europe plays an important role in informing and shaping policies here in Northern Ireland—policies that will ultimately have a significant impact on our local businesses.

NIABT has been working with the Leuven Institute for Ireland in Europe to develop a comprehensive European Programme of seminars and visits for NIABT business members and MLAs. The 2011 European Programme will take place from 21 – 24 November 2011.

The programme combines presentations by Leuven Institute staff and organisations based in Brussels, visits to the European Parliament and the opportunity to meet and talk to local MEPs. It is designed to give MLAs and businesses a greater understanding of the EU structures, how to effectively contribute to decisions made at a European level and how those decisions shape the Northern Ireland political system.

Business members attending the trip will have the opportunity to see how other organisations are affected by European issues, how they operate successfully in the EU region and problems that they face.

For provisional details of the programme and how to register please see below.

“Excellent value and organisation of events, should be recommended to NI bodies and organisations to use”

“The professional and academic advice provided... was second to none, the added extra value provided... generally is not to be found in academia”

Agenda

Programme Outline (subject to alteration)

Day One

- Depart Parliament Buildings for the Airport
- Fly to Brussels
- Accommodation provided in Leuven Institute, Leuven
- Presentation on EU Institutions by Leuven Institute staff

Day Two

- Depart for Brussels
- Tour of European Parliament including Committee viewings and meeting with MEPs
- Meeting with representatives from the Office of the NI Executive

- Meeting with UK Permanent Representation, Irish Permanent Representation and Lobby Group
- Dinner in Brussels
- Return to Leuven

Day Three

- Visit to local company, to be confirmed

Day Four

- Depart for Airport
- Return to Parliament Buildings via coach

How to apply

The 2011 European Programme will take place from 21 – 24 November 2011. To register your place on the European Programme please email your name, company name and contact details to Ivor Gibson at niabt@niassembly.gov.uk. Please note places are limited and registrations are accepted on a first come first served basis. The deadline for registration is 1 October 2011. The full cost of the programme is £500 per person. The cost of the programme may increase subject to flight prices if registered after 1 October 2011. Costs are payable as soon as possible but no later than 1 October 2011.

Please provide your name as it appears on your passport, address, company name, 60 word personal biography, passport number, nationality and mobile telephone number.

The costs cover the price of flights, accommodation and meals.

Payment can be made by cheque to the address below or by BACs to:

Account Name: NIABT, Knock Branch Northern Bank

Sort Code: 95-01-28

Account Number: 11103911

NI Assembly & Business Trust, Room 401d, Parliament Buildings, Stormont, BT4 3XX