

Information Note no. 5



pTo: All successful Ireland-Wales beneficiaries
From: Finance Unit, Ireland-Wales Programme
Date: 10th March 2009
Re: State Aid and the Ireland-Wales Programme

“State Aid” is a European Commission term for

“any public support given selectively to an undertaking that could potentially affect competition and intra-community trade.”

State Aid provided by European Union Member States can distort the market, which in turn can result in lower competitiveness for business, less innovation and ultimately higher prices for consumers. There is therefore a need for effective State Aid control in order to maintain a level playing field for free and fair competition in the single market.

Detailed guidance on State Aid in Wales has been published by WEFO and is available at:

http://www.wefo.wales.gov.uk/resource/State_Aid_Guidance_Version_1_August_20078421.pdf

and guidance for Ireland, published by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment is available at

<http://www.entemp.ie/publications/enterprise/2007/stateaidguide2007.pdf>

Partners concerned about State Aid and how it may affect their project should consult these guidance documents, and if you have any further concerns please contact the JTS.