



Welcome

Welcome to this week's newsletter

Michael O'Higgins confirmed to speak at national GO Awards

Chairman of the Audit Commission Michael O'Higgins has been confirmed to speak at the National *Government Opportunities (GO)* magazine Excellence in Public Procurement Awards 2009, held in conjunction with National Public Procurement Practitioners Day (N3PD).

With a distinguished career in business as well as government, Mr O'Higgins will deliver his address to hundreds of delegates at the event on 4 June 2009. He continues the tradition of high-profile speakers addressing the National GO Awards, with those in previous years including former Minister for the Third Sector Phil Hope MP; Deputy Director-General of CBI John Cridland; and Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrats Vince Cable MP.

Organised by market-leading procurement specialists BiP Solutions, the National GO Awards honour the role of procurement personnel and celebrate the part they play in delivering effective public services. The categories have once again been updated in 2009 to reflect the ever changing and diverse procurement landscape.

For more information on the Awards or to request your entry form today visit www.goawards.co.uk

News

Southampton audiology waiting times among best in country

Patients with hearing difficulties are receiving quicker than ever treatment at Southampton's teaching hospitals. [More...](#)

Borders NHS Board Appointment

Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing Nicola Sturgeon announced the re-appointment of Mrs Mary Wilson as the Chair of Borders NHS Board. [More...](#)

New agency for a new era in mental health

A new agency to ensure national mental health policies bring about real improvements for patients and carers will start work on 1 April, Care Services Minister Phil Hope has announced. [More...](#)

Cutting edge cancer treatment

Over £20 million is to be invested over the next year to ensure Scotland's radiotherapy equipment remains at the cutting edge of cancer treatment. [More...](#)

News can be read at: <http://www.healthcaresupply.org.uk>

This Week's Reports

[Code of Conduct for Payment by Results from 1 April 2009](#)

This code of conduct establishes core principles governing the behaviours and relationships of organisations operating payment by results.

[NHS Constitution: Local decision making about funding of medicines and other treatments](#)

This letter to all strategic health authority and primary care trust chief executives explains the statutory directions that are coming into force on 1 April clarifying trusts' responsibilities regarding local decision making about the funding of medicines and other treatments.

[150 Years of the Annual Report of the Chief Medical Officer: On the state of public health 2008](#)

This report draws attention to major health challenges requiring immediate action and details progress made in key areas identified in previous annual reports. It calls for a new focus on 'passive drinking', draws attention to the quality of advice and support given to men diagnosed with prostate cancer and highlights the extent of chronic pain, antimicrobial resistance and the use of simulation to prepare doctors for the real world.

Reports can be found at:

<http://www.healthcaresupply.org.uk/reports/>

Events

[Writing a Procurement Specification](#)

1 April 2009 - Renaissance Hotel, Heathrow

Aimed at public sector professionals seeking a clearer understanding of the importance of drafting a compliant procurement specification, Writing a Procurement Specification will provide attendees with useful information on a variety of relevant issues.

Speakers will include BiP Solutions' Senior Procurement Consultant Eddie Regan and former Director of Procurement at the South West London Procurement Alliance, Stephen Dickinson. New interactive sessions have also been introduced, ensuring that you get the most from this one day seminar.

To receive £50 off, book now quoting reference WPS09 at www.passevents.co.uk/events/WPS09

Update your diary by visiting

<http://www.healthcaresupply.org.uk/events/index.htm>

Discussion Forum

Do you have a burning issue or a hot topic that you wish to share with members? Then why not post it on the Discussion Forum in the members area of the website.

To read the current topics, or to begin your own discussions, visit the Health Care Supply Association Discussion Forum by clicking [here](#)

Health Care Supply Association www.healthcaresupply.org.uk
Members Area - Hosts Access to CPV Codes Online, Members Directory, Members Discussion Forum, World-wide Procurement Links & Contract Search Services, as well as E-tendering and Electronic Supplier List Facilities, for further information on these services please visit <http://www.bipsolutions.com/Delta/delta.html>

We welcome your feedback, comments or suggestions for topics to be addressed, these should be emailed to media@bipsolutions.com This email (and any attachment) is intended only for the attention of the addressee(s). Its unauthorised use, disclosure, storage or copying is not permitted. If you are not the intended recipient, please destroy all copies and inform the sender by return email. This email (whether you are the sender or the recipient) may be monitored, recorded and retained by BiP Solutions Ltd. Email monitoring/blocking software may be used, and email content may be read at any time. You have a responsibility to ensure laws are not broken when composing or forwarding emails and their contents.

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