



Welcome

Welcome to this week's newsletter

A note from the Executive Director

Those of you who follow these things may have noticed the absence of a newsletter from me recently!

Nothing sinister about that: just busy and nothing very interesting to say so best to say nothing!

However, the Association Council has just held a planning workshop, and one of the outcomes of this was a list of topic suggestions for the next round of our very successful 'One-Day Seminars'.

It is important that we find topics that will be useful to you as, obviously, their main purpose is to provide you, as a member, with something that you need. Therefore, in no particular order (as they say on the television), here is the list of suggested topics:

- Self-Search Research
- Collaborative Procurement – across government
- Commercialisation – including outsourcing
- Commissioning – purchaser/provider
- Sustainable Procurement
- Procurement's Role in Innovation

It's quite a mixed bag and your opinion is important!

You can let me know what you think by emailing helpdesk@healthcaresupply.org.uk and the subjects with the most votes will win!

One other item to bring to your attention is the Annual Summer School which will be held at the University of Birmingham from 19 to 24 August 2007. Full details will be issued shortly, but please start thinking about whom you might send or if you would like to attend yourself.

John Smith
Executive Director

News

Merger gives hope to crisis hospital

Solihull and Heartlands Hospitals will merge with the struggling Good Hope Hospital to create one of the biggest health trusts in the country. [More...](#)

Tools to improve health

An obesity toolkit crammed with practical tips and information is being launched to help people fight the flab and improve their health. [More...](#)

Monthly Creutzfeldt Jakob disease statistics

The Department of Health is issuing the latest information about the numbers of known cases of Creutzfeldt Jakob disease. This includes cases of variant Creutzfeldt Jakob disease (vCJD) - the form of the disease thought to be linked to BSE. [More...](#)

New PECs to get more muscle in local NHS decisions

Clinicians on new Professional Executive Committees (PECs) will gain greater control over local NHS priorities, policies and investment plans under a new published guidance designed to ensure that clinicians from a multi-professional background are firmly part of the decision-making process of primary care trusts (PCTs). [More...](#)

NHS improving on stress and safety

NHS staff say they are less stressed, suffer fewer work-related injuries and see fewer potentially harmful errors, incidents or 'near misses', according to the Healthcare Commission. [More...](#)

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

This Week's Reports

[The National Evaluation of LEAP: Final report on the national evaluation of the Local Exercise Action Pilots](#)

This is the final report of the evaluation into the Department of Health, Sport England and Natural England-funded local exercise action pilots. It provides the evidence base that was used to make recommendations for commissioners, providers and evaluators of physical activity interventions.

[National Report: 'Getting results' - Pathology services in acute and specialist trusts](#)

This report presents the key national findings of an acute hospital portfolio review, carried out by the Healthcare Commission of pathology services in NHS acute and specialist trusts in England during 2005-06.

[Maternity Matters: Choice, access and continuity of care in a safe service](#)

This guidance is for commissioners, service providers and other organisations involved in the provision of maternity services. It highlights the Government's commitment to developing a high-quality, safe and accessible maternity service through the introduction of a new national choice guarantee for women.

Guidance for the PCT Professional Executive Committees

This document sets out new arrangements for the primary care trust (PCT) Professional Executive Committees. PCTs now have the freedom to determine how these committees should be structured and operated according to local circumstances, based on a set of guiding principles for all committees.

Reports can be found at:

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

Events

Government Opportunities (GO) Excellence in Public Procurement Awards 2007

Many organisations claim to be achieving excellence, but if you can prove your organisation is really raising its game, then the *Government Opportunities (GO) Excellence in Public Procurement Awards 2007* are the awards for you – and there is still time to submit an entry!

The GO Awards celebrate a wide variety of achievements across public sector procurement. Finalists are invited to attend the Awards Ceremony, held in conjunction with National Public Procurement Practitioners Day (N3PD) 2007 on 6 June at the Institution of Civil Engineers, One Great George Street, London, where the winners will be announced and Award presentations made.

If you are one of our finalists, not only will you get to spend the day networking with buyers and suppliers alike, you'll also be on a fast-track route to recognition of your outstanding commitment to contract delivery, enjoying publicity that will establish your organisation's reputation as a proven provider of exemplary levels of service and best value. The 2007 categories are:

[GO Lifetime Achievement Award](#)

[GO Individual Award](#)

[GO Team Excellence Award](#)

[GO Sustainability Award](#)

[GO e-Government Award sponsored by Open Text Corporation](#)

[GO Best Service Award sponsored by Central Telecom](#)

[GO Young Procurement Professional Award](#)

[GO Best Small Supplier Innovation Award sponsored by Supply2.gov.uk](#)

Enter your organisation and ensure its achievements are recognised!

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: 13 April 2007

For more information on the event please click [here](#)

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>

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