



Welcome

Welcome to this week's newsletter

Deadline extended for national procurement awards

The deadline for entries into the 2009 *Government Opportunities (GO)* National Excellence in Public Procurement Awards has been extended to 17 April, to ensure that organisations across the public and private sectors are able to promote their examples of best practice and innovation within procurement.

The eighth annual national *GO* Awards will once again recognise innovation, achievement and exceptional standards in public service delivery, either by or on behalf of a public sector organisation.

The national *GO* Awards will be judged by members of the *GO* Editorial Advisory team, which includes representatives from central and local government, health, education, defence and IT, as well as the private sector.

Categories cover areas such as sustainability, collaborative procurement, best service delivery, third sector, individual and team procurement and, new for 2009, Best Procurement Innovation or Initiative Award for excellence. Individuals and organisations engaged in public procurement in the UK are encouraged to enter, and SMEs are particularly welcome for the private sector-facing categories.

Grahame Steed, Managing Editor of *GO* Magazine, said: "The *GO* Awards are now recognised as a benchmark for quality within the public procurement sector. Each year the standard of entries increases, and the work of the judging panel becomes harder. I hope the extended deadline for entries encourages more organisations to take part in this year's *GO* Awards."

The 2009 national *GO* Awards will be presented at a ceremony held in conjunction with National Public Procurement Practitioners Day (N3PD) 2009 - the only day which celebrates the achievements and professionalism of all those who work within public procurement to deliver better value for money for all taxpayers - at the Institution of Civil Engineers, One Great George Street, London on 4 June 2009.

For more information on the national *GO* Awards, or to request a nomination form visit www.goawards.co.uk or contact shellie.toal@goawards.co.uk

News

Mike Taylor reappointed as Commissioner for North West and West Midlands

Mike Taylor begins his reappointment as the Health and Social Care

Commissioner for the North West and West Midlands at the Appointments Commission. [More...](#)

New pilots announced to bring health and social care together

Patients in 16 pilot sites will benefit from a trial to see how health and social care services can join together to increase quality of care, Health Minister Ben Bradshaw and Care Services Minister Phil Hope have announced. [More...](#)

Watchdog calls for immediate improvement in promoting race equality in the NHS

The Healthcare Commission says NHS trusts must do more to meet their legal obligations to promote race equality, as it publishes a review of race equality in the NHS. [More...](#)

Bowel cancer screening increases in Scotland

As a new national awareness campaign begins, more people in Scotland than ever before will be invited to be screened for bowel cancer. [More...](#)

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

This Week's Reports

[Private and Voluntary Healthcare: Care Standards Act 2000 - Regulations and national minimum standards - Consultation response](#)

The Department of Health held a consultation on the Private and Voluntary Healthcare Regulations 2001 to ensure that the private and voluntary healthcare sector is regulated effectively during the run-up to wider changes to the regulatory framework. This is the response to the consultation.

[Pre-existing Patient-reported Outcome Measures Data Collections](#)

This is a letter clarifying the status of pre-existing patient reported outcome measures (PROMs) data collections in light of the national PROMs implementation from 1 April 2009.

[Pandemic flu guidance for businesses: Risk assessment in the occupational setting](#)

This booklet explains how businesses can help reduce the spread of flu in the event of a pandemic. It provides information to allow businesses to assess the types of measures that may be used in their particular occupational setting.

Reports can be found at:

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

Events

[Writing a Procurement Specification](#)

22 April 2009 - Novotel, Birmingham

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>

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