



## Welcome

**Welcome to this week's newsletter**

### **[Government Opportunities \(GO\) National Excellence in Public Procurement Awards 2009](#)**

#### **Request your entry form today!**

The GO Awards aim to recognise excellence within procurement, and the benefits to the wider business and social community that smart, effective and sustainable purchasing can deliver. The GO Awards not only boost the confidence and career progression of individuals and teams working in the profession, but also benefit the organisations and stakeholders they work for, as they highlight the direct and wide-ranging impact of procurement's contribution. Entry to the GO Awards is free, and all finalists will receive a place at the GO Awards ceremony on 4 June, a framed certificate and PR support to maximise awareness of their achievement.

The GO Awards categories, which have been updated for 2009, reflect the wide range of vital activities undertaken by procurement professionals, from maintaining supplier partnerships to process innovation and from cross-functional initiatives to developing their own professionalism - all built upon the management of the organisation's external resource base.

For more information on the categories, or to request your form please visit [www.goawards.co.uk](http://www.goawards.co.uk)

The deadline for entries is **31 March**, and any queries relating to the GO Awards should be directed to Shellie Toal at [shellie.toal@goawards.co.uk](mailto:shellie.toal@goawards.co.uk) or call her on 0141 270 7327.

## News

### **NHS continues to deliver key priorities**

The NHS met a number of key commitments on healthcare priorities at the end of last year and continues to show strong financial management, the Department of Health announced. [More...](#)

### **Number of nurses in the NHS in Wales fell in 2008-09**

Nursing leaders last night warned that patient care is suffering because of a lack of nurses. [More...](#)

### **New Chair of the Health Protection Agency appointed**

The appointment of a new Chair for the board of the Health Protection Agency was announced by Public Health Minister, Dawn Primarolo. [More...](#)

## **NHS patients to benefit from new measures to improve access to drugs**

A package of measures designed to speed up access to new drugs and treatments for NHS patients, was announced by the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) and Health Minister Lord Darzi. [More...](#)

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

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## **This Week's Reports**

### **[Clinical Commissioning: Department of Health's vision for practice-based commissioning](#)**

This document sets out a vision for clinical commissioning, the hallmarks of successful clinical commissioning, the support and entitlements that practice-based commissioners can expect and the principles underpinning vibrant, productive partnerships between primary care trusts and their clinical communities.

### **[Department of Health: The Quarter - Quarter three, 2008-09](#)**

This quarterly report on NHS finance and service performance shows that the NHS is maintaining its momentum by delivering on its key priorities and national commitments including 18 weeks and healthcare associated infections whilst sustaining a strong financial position.

### **[DH Statement on Internal Control 2008-09: Disclosures](#)**

This letter offers clarification on how and where organisations should make disclosures or qualifications on their statement on internal control about risk management and review processes being in place for the full year, gaps in assurance frameworks, NHS Pension Scheme compliance and significant control issues for 2008-09.

### **Reports can be found at:**

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

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## **Events**

### **[Perfecting Compliant Evaluation Processes](#)**

**24 March 2009 - Marriott Victoria & Albert, Manchester**

**22 April 2009 - Marriott Maida Vale, London**

**13 May 2009 - City Inn, Birmingham**

### **This event is a must for all personnel engaged in the evaluation process**

The Perfecting Compliant Evaluation Processes seminar will help you implement new evaluation processes and identify what you can ask for and when.

It discusses in detail all stages of the evaluation process, from setting the specifications to debriefing suppliers, and is designed to:

- Give you an understanding of the changing legal obligations pertinent to the evaluation process - from both UK and EU perspectives.
- Provide practical assistance drawn from many years' experience of how to carry out effective evaluation processes.
- Offer expert advice on how to manage the complete evaluation process, starting with setting the specifications.
- Help you minimise your authority's exposure to liability.
- Update you on the responsibilities of evaluation personnel and suppliers.
- Help you improve control and effectiveness of the evaluation process so you achieve value for money.
- Provide practical guidance on current and anticipated developments affecting the evaluation process.

Attending this event will help to ensure probity in your procurement function.

**This event is CPD accredited.**

For further information, 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](http://www.healthcaresupply.org.uk)  
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We welcome your feedback, comments or suggestions for topics to be addressed, these should be emailed to [media@bipsolutions.com](mailto: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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