



NEWS RELEASE

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Celebrating Excellence in Public Procurement

Dr Vincent Cable MP, Shadow Chancellor and Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrats, has been confirmed as a keynote speaker for National Public Procurement Practitioners Day (N3PD) 2007.

Since becoming an MP in 1997, Dr Cable has been a member of the Treasury Select Committee; he is now the Liberal Democrats' Shadow Chancellor and was elected as Deputy Leader of the party in March 2006. He has spoken in the House on many issues such as bank profits and personal debt. He is Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Victims of Crime, and Vice Chair of the APPG on Police. He is former Chief Economist at Shell.

Dr Cable will join Dr Neil Bentley of the CBI and Sir Michael Lyons at N3PD – one of the most eagerly anticipated events in the public sector procurement calendar, which celebrates the success of those working within this vital sector.

N3PD also encompasses the announcement of the results of the annual *Government Opportunities (GO)* magazine Excellence in Public Procurement Awards.

Organised by market-leading procurement specialists BiP Solutions Ltd, N3PD honours the role of procurement professionals and the part they play in delivering effective public services.

Bringing together representatives from local authorities, public services, utilities and community initiatives, as well as the private sector, N3PD recognises the efforts made to deliver ever-improving procurement services. Benefits to the taxpayer through more efficient spending and innovative procurement methods can mean more nurses in hospitals, more police officers on the streets and even lower council tax bills.

Dr Cable said: "The Government has promised very large efficiency savings through better public procurement. But there are no single technocratic solutions here. Centralised public procurement may cut across attempts to decentralise public sector management and 'value for money' policies may cut across other public policy priorities like the Defence Industrial Strategy".

Grahame Steed, Managing Editor of *GO* magazine, said he was delighted that Dr Cable would be addressing delegates at the event. "Dr Cable's views on public procurement are always thought provoking and challenging, so it will be hugely interesting to hear directly from him at N3PD."

N3PD 2007 takes place at the Institution of Civil Engineers, One Great George Street, London on 6 June.

- Further information on N3PD and the *GO* Awards can be found at www.n3pd.com
- A limited number of media passes are available for N3PD. To request a pass, please contact shellie.toal@bipsolutions.com

