

News

Michael Portillo to appear at *The Cleaning Conference*

Journalist and former cabinet minister Michael Portillo has confirmed his attendance at the *Cleaning Conference: Profiting from the Recovery*, scheduled for the 5th October 2010 at London's CBI Conference facilities.

Mr Portillo is due to convey his thoughts on the political climate at that time, and is one of the final additions to the speaker lineup for the day which will also include sessions hosted by leading industry figures on how businesses can thrive during the economic upturn in 2010. Conference organisers have also secured a commitment of a cabinet speaker from Whitehall, who will be confirmed after the general election.



Details on how to purchase tickets for the event will be circulated mid-February, with a regular feature on the Conference in Cleaning and Maintenance magazine starting in their March edition.

British Cleaning Council meets LOCOG

On the 18th January 2010 representatives from the British Cleaning Council met with the London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games (LOCOG) to discuss their current planning and strategy for cleaning related issues and waste management during the Games.



Some of the key actions agreed from the meeting were a commitment from LOCOG to making the Olympics 2012 an exemplar in terms of management, operations, sustainability and legacy. LOCOG reiterated their commitment that all of the service contracts will be subject to a competitive bidding process, with preference given to small and medium enterprises.

LOCOG also agreed to set up a cleaning advisory board with the BCC, which will convene three times annually in the run up to August 2012. The group is designed to ensure that LOCOG has access to the best, most relevant information and advice on cleaning related issues in the run up to the games.

Further details on the cleaning advisory group will be made available during February.

Diary

Keep Britain Tidy set to launch Manifesto 2010

Keep Britain Tidy's *Manifesto for a Cleaner England – This is our Home* will be launched on Thursday 4th March in Westminster, London.

The report aims to demonstrate that people care deeply about the way their local environment looks and how it affects us all. Keep Britain Tidy stresses that it is only by working together that we can win the battle to create high-quality, well-managed neighbourhoods – respected and enjoyed by all.



The report's author Dr Kevin Golding-Williams will use the reception to summarise the key messages of the document, and guest speakers who have been involved in developing the Manifesto will share their views on the opportunities and challenges it presents for improving local environmental quality. A full report on the day will appear in the spring edition of *the voice*, with further news available [here](#).

Asset Skills host PSSF seminars throughout spring

Asset Skills, the Sector Skills Council for facilities management, housing, cleaning, parking and property, has launched a new Public Service Framework programme (PSSF), specifically for employees providing support services to the public sector. The PSSF is for workers such as cleaners, porters or caretakers who are in frequent contact with the public, yet receive no formal training in customer service because this has not been considered part of their core job.

To launch the PSSF framework asset skills has set up a series of informal and participative seminars:

- 03 February: Bristol
- 09 February: Southampton
- 23 February: Peterborough
- 09 March: Newcastle
- 16 March: Manchester
- 31 March: London

Further information on how to attend is available [here](#).