

Monday 24 September 2012

Chief Secretary to Treasury announces National Infrastructure Plan Strategic Engagement Forum

Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Danny Alexander, has today (September 23), announced the creation of the new National Infrastructure Plan Strategic Engagement Forum [NIPSEF] at the Infrastructure Alliance Liberal Democrat fringe event. NIPSEF will bring government and industry together to help deliver the UK's infrastructure needs.

NIPSEF will be formally launched this autumn and will be co-chaired by the Chief Secretary of the Treasury on behalf of government and Dr Nelson Ogunshakin OBE from the Infrastructure Alliance, on behalf of industry.

The forum will bring together key representatives from the infrastructure delivery supply chain, the infrastructure investment and advisory community, infrastructure asset owners, asset managers and regulators, and representatives of the business end users of infrastructure. It will ensure that government is able to call on industry to facilitate delivery of the National Infrastructure Plan, the government's central plan for UK infrastructure. Dr Nelson Ogunshakin OBE, NIPSEF industry chair said: "The National Infrastructure Plan is the government's most important strategic programme to deliver infrastructure, the core driver to UK economic growth. Delivering such an ambitious programme of infrastructure expansion on this scale means bringing government and industry together to successfully achieve this goal. This new National Infrastructure Plan Strategic Engagement Forum will place the expertise of industry at the heart of government to make that happen."

The Infrastructure Alliance brings together four leading trade bodies – the Association for Consultancy and Engineering, the Civil Engineering Contractors Association, the

Construction Products Association and the Institution of Civil Engineers. The Alliance works in close partnership with CITBConstructionSkills, the sector skills council for the industry.

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Notes to Editors

The National Infrastructure Plan Strategic Engagement Forum will be formally launched on Monday 29 October at ICE.

The co-chairmanship of the forum will see the industry chair provided by the members of the Infrastructure Alliance on a rotating annual basis.

The desired outcomes and outputs for the forum will be:

- Continuous strategic dialogue.
- Monitoring progress against NIP delivery and suggesting any necessary remedial action.
- To ensure government is aware of industry views on NIP.
- To advise on barriers to the delivery of NIP and on mitigation/removal of these barriers.
- To disseminate the Government and Forum's work to industry on the NIP.

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