

News Release

For immediate publication

Meetings & Events Manifesto Continues to Receive Government Support Vince Cable latest Minister to endorse campaign

London 14th September 2010: The recently launched Meetings & Events Manifesto for Britain, created by the Business Visits & Events Partnership (BVEP), has received further support from Vince Cable MP, Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills.

In a letter to BVEP Chairman Michael Hirst OBE, Mr Cable recognised that business visits and events not only generate wealth and employment, but “also play an important role in showcasing the strength of the UK's overall economic offer to the global business community that is key to our pipeline of inward investment and to promoting our sectoral offering.”

Mr Cable concluded his letter by saying he had asked his officials to work with UKTI, the Department of Culture Media and Sport and VisitBritain to develop programmes to support the sector.

The response from Mr Cable comes at the time when invitations for the events industry reception at the House of Commons on 20th October, which takes place during National Meetings & Events Week, have just been issued to a senior group of Ministers, MP's, and Government Officials and industry leaders. The event is expected to attract 150 guests.

Commenting, Michael Hirst said; “As a result of a concerted campaign by the BVEP and its members over the past six months, we are now seeing a growing level of government support for our industry and a much clearer understanding of what more the sector can deliver to help achieve their long term economic and social objectives.”

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About the Business Visits & Events Partnership

The Business Visits and Events Partnership's aim is to lead the way in supporting a competitive, high quality and more profitable business visits and events sector in Britain. The Partnership seeks to provide a cohesive industry voice and works with VisitBritain and other government departments and agencies to influence and develop policies and practices favourable to the growth of tourism, trade and creative enterprise from business visits and events and with the support of the leading trade organisations and government agencies with an interest in conferences, meetings, exhibitions, trade fairs, incentive travel, corporate hospitality, and business, sporting, cultural and festival events.

Members of the BVEP include;

- **Association of British Professional Conference Organisers**
- **Association for Conferences and Events**
- **Association for Events Management Education**
- **Conference Centres of Excellence**
- **Department for Culture, Media & Sport**
- **Eventia**
- **Events Industry Alliance**
- **Events Industry Forum**
- **Hotel Booking Agents Association**
- **International Congress & Convention Association**
- **International Special Events Society**
- **Meet England**
- **Meetings Industry Association**
- **Meeting Professionals International**
- **National Outdoors Events Association**
- **Northern Ireland Tourist Board**
- **Site Global**
- **UK Inbound**
- **UK Trade & Investment**
- **VisitBritain**
- **Visit London**
- **VisitScotland**
- **Visit Wales**

www.businessvisitsandeventspartnership.com

Notes

For further information, including a digital copy of the Manifesto, please contact;

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