

## M&F launch Political and Stakeholder Counsel

UK MP Alan Milburn spoke at the launch of M&F's Political and Stakeholder Counsel practice (PSC) in London last month.

The launch event, held at the Commonwealth Club, focused on a seminar entitled: 'The Future Delivery of Public Services'. Well attended by over 50 Chief Executives and senior executives from professional bodies, the pharmaceutical industry, the voluntary sector, Think Tanks and pressure groups, the audience took the opportunity to debate with Milburn the merits of his vision for the future of public services and what their sector can contribute to this vision.

Brian Gunson, M&F Chairman, told *PA Newsletter*: "I am delighted to launch PSC at the first of this series of seminars looking at the future of our public services. As a communications consultancy involved in health, social care and public services it is vital for us and our clients to be aware of the political environment and the changes that lie ahead.

"It is now the delivery of public services rather than tax cuts that is forming the bread and butter of today's political debate. This series will look at the various sides of this debate and allow leading players from the commercial, professional and not for profit sectors to question and challenge the views of those involved."

Dave Roberts, Political Director, added: "Our Political and Stakeholder Counsel (PSC) service provides clients with the opportunity to understand the developing political trends, question and contribute to the debate and plan their future services and business accordingly. This series of seminars will help provide our clients with the insight they need to plan for the future."

M&F's PSC service will provide clients with the services which will include: strategic political advice, political intelligence, political and stake-



Left to right: Brian Gunson, Chairman M&F, Alan Milburn, M.P. and Dave Roberts, Political Director M&F at the launch of PSC

holder research projects, training in political affairs, stakeholder relations and alliance management and audits and forecasts.

Future events will include 'A View From The Right' and 'The Class of 2001'.

## From A to Z – the International Network of the European Affairs Consulting Group

The European Affairs Consulting Group (eacon) has established its international network of partner agencies in European capitals from A like Athens to Z like Zagreb. Eacon's partner network comprises independent Public Affairs agencies in nearly every EU member state, accession states and other

European countries, including Russia and Turkey. Among its partner agencies are well-known agencies such as the London based consultancy Citigate Public Affairs.

"In an EU of 25 member states, it is of crucial importance for Public Affairs agencies to cooperate with partners in as many member states as possible. When integrating the different mentalities and policy styles of the EU member states into Public Affairs strategies, we are dependent on competent partners on site. Only with a flexible partner network, independent Public Affairs agencies can compete against large agency networks," Dominiik Meier, Partner of eacon, told *PA Newsletter*.



Dominiik Meier

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## Curtis leads expansion at Indigo

UK local government, community and property specialist, Indigo Public Affairs, has enhanced its operations by appointing Max Curtis as Account Manager to work across a range of Indigo's clients.

Curtis, a former member of the National Union of Students Executive, holds a Social and Political Sciences degree from Cambridge University and a Diploma in Law. He is a freelance contributor to the Global Business Research Institute.

"I have brought my campaigning knowledge from NUS and elsewhere into a job where those skills are highly regarded. Empowering communities and widening debate and participation within those communities is essential to provide a valued contribution for our clients," Curtis commented.

Managing Director, Richard Patient, welcomed Curtis to the company telling *PA Newsletter*: "We work on projects with an end value of several million to several billion pounds. Max has proved to us that he can extend the quality service we provide to our clients."



Max Curtis