

## For Immediate Release

Dorking, Surrey – 21<sup>st</sup> September 2006 - The Partnership Ltd, the leading Home Information Pack provider for the high-end property market, has welcomed today's announcement by the Department For Community and Local Government (DCLG) on plans for marketing the dry run, awarding of the Home Condition Report Register contract, the inspection certification scheme and consumer redress process.

Since the decision in July to make Home Conditional Reports optional, there had been concern within the industry that this marked the start of a government withdrawal from the Home Information Pack (HIP) scheme. Today's announcement demonstrates the strength of commitment to the scheme and includes;

- *Funds of £4m to assist in marketing for the promotion of HIPs*
- *Approval of the first certification scheme through SAVA*
- *Confirmation of contract to supply the Home Condition Report register*
- *Announcement of a redress scheme for consumers*

As **Peter Ambrose**, director of **The Partnership** explains; *"We are delighted to see such unequivocal commitment from the government to the programme. This announcement will go a long way to help clarify the government's position on HIPs. The decision to publicise the awarding of the contract for the home condition report register overcomes genuine concerns from industry about its readiness, and the project timeline is achievable."*

**Neil Kurz** from **Neil Douglas Estate Agents**, an Aylesbury-based estate agency that is already offering combined Home Inspection and Energy Reports to house sellers also welcomed the announcement. *"We look forward to working with The Partnership and DCLG in delivering voluntary Home Condition Reports. Our proposals will allow 20-25 Home Inspectors who had previously considered themselves out of a job, with genuine work. This ties in well with our on-going commitment to giving our clients the service they expect."*

### Notes to Editors

**The Partnership (2005) Ltd** is a privately held specialist provider of Home Information Packs working with high-end estate agents, surveyors and solicitors focussing on the high-end property market. For information go to [www.thepartnershiplimited.com](http://www.thepartnershiplimited.com)

**Neil Douglas Estate Agents** are a forward thinking estate agency that is focussed on taking an intelligent approach to the modern agency market. For information go to [www.neildouglas.co.uk](http://www.neildouglas.co.uk)

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