



Procurement Reform Newsletter

24th November 2022



Procurement Bill Progress

The Procurement Bill (Amended by Grand Committee) has now reached the Report Stage at the House of Lords with sittings scheduled for 28th and 30th November.

This precedes the third and final Reading, in the House of Lords, before being sent to the House of Commons, to go through the same stages, after which there will be a final Consideration of Amendments, prior to receiving Royal assent.

Devolved Administrations



It's important to remember that the Procurement Bill will result in legislation whose general scope will apply to all contracting authorities in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

This ensures that contracting authorities and suppliers can benefit from the efficiencies of having a broadly consistent regime operating across these parts of the UK.

The Scottish Government, however, has opted not to adopt the Procurement Bill at this time and will retain their own procurement regulations in respect of devolved Scottish authorities.

This maintains the manner in which the current regulations operate, with the Scottish Government having the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015 in their own statute book.

Procurement Reform Conferences

To engage with expert stakeholders and to join us on this journey, please come along to our March 2023 Procurement Reform Conferences that we're delivering in partnership with the Cabinet Office.

Our fantastic line up of [speakers](#), includes Lindsay Maguire, Head of Engagement for Procurement Reform in the Cabinet Office, who will be delivering up to date information and insight into the progress of procurement reform. Lindsay will be joined by other notable stakeholders and commentators such as Lucy Sydney (Head of Strategic Relationships, Procurement Reform, Cabinet Office) and Joshua Pritchard (Deputy

Director, CBI).

Please click here to view the [agenda](#) or to [book](#) your place.



Public Procurement Objectives

The UK Government's [Green Paper](#), [NPPS](#) and [Procurement Bill](#) set out major legislative reforms to UK public procurement. While the proposed changes are clearly set out in a draft Bill, this is not yet fixed in law as the Parliamentary process may still significantly alter the final version of the legislation.

One thing that is certain about the new legislation is that it's going to be simpler; both through the combination of many sets of regulations into one and through the reduction of available procurement procedures. This reduction of procedural conformity means that we'll have to rely more than ever on the principles of procurement, or as they're reinvented in the Procurement Bill, the procurement objectives – [click here to continue reading](#)

Procurement Reform Resources

Other than this fortnightly **Newsletter** we're publishing a range of **Briefings and Blogs**, covering topics such as 'Open Frameworks', 'Changes to the Challenge Process', etc. Please use this link to view these free [resources](#).

Competitive Flexible Procedure

The proposed change from five current procurement procedures to one all-encompassing Competitive Flexible Procedure raises many questions.

Indeed, the whole concept behind this new procedure appears to be flexibility, giving buyers endless variables in how to apply it, which will potentially confuse suppliers.

The current Regulations offer a range of options, depending on the buyer's need, from

Open and Restricted, where the buyer knows, to a point, exactly what they require; to Competitive Procedure with Negotiation and Competitive Dialogue, if the buyer wants the ability to have a degree of negotiation and dialogue around the potential solution; to Innovation Partnership, where a genuinely innovative solution is required.

The new procedure, however, is designed to address all and any of those options, but without any rigid structure [click here to continue reading](#)

Procurement Reform Consultancy Packages

We also have Procurement Reform Consultancy Packages to increase awareness and capability in your organisation and to support your successful transition into applying the new legislation. Please use this link for information on our [Buyer Support Packages](#).

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