

Procurement Reform Newsletter

1st February 2023



Social Partnership and Public Procurement (Wales) Bill

Although Welsh contracting authorities will apply the new Procurement Act when it enters into force, there is also the complementary [Social Partnership and Public Procurement \(Wales\) Bill](#) that is designed to improve public service delivery and well-being in Wales. This legislation includes provision for:

- the establishment of a Social Partnership Council;
- a statutory duty on certain public bodies to seek consensus or compromise with their recognised trade unions (or where there is no recognised trade union) other representatives of their staff, when setting their well-being objectives and delivering on those objectives under section 3(2) of the WFG Act 2015;
- a statutory duty on Welsh Ministers to consult social partners, employers and worker representatives through the Social Partnership Council when delivering on their well-being objectives under section 3(2)(b) of the WFG Act 2015 ;
- amendment of section 4 of the WFG Act 2015 by substituting 'fair work' for 'decent work' within the existing "A prosperous Wales" goal;
- a statutory duty on certain public bodies to consider socially responsible public procurement when carrying out procurement, to set objectives in relation to well-being goals, and to publish a procurement strategy
- certain public bodies to carry out contract management duties to ensure that socially responsible outcomes are pursued through supply chains.
- reporting duties to be imposed on the public bodies and Welsh Ministers in relation to the Social Partnership Duty and Procurement duty.

Following the completion of [Stage 2](#) proceedings, Stage 3 commenced on 24 January 2023. Stage 3 consideration will take place in Plenary on 7 March 2023 to consider amendments to the Bill (as amended at Stage 2). The deadline for tabling amendments is five working days before the date of the meeting at which they are due to be considered. For further information on the Bill please see the [Explanatory Memorandum](#).

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.



Lindsay Maguire
Head of Engagement for
Procurement Reform, Cabinet Office



Lucy Sydney
Head of Strategic Relationships,
Procurement Reform, Cabinet Office



Joshua Pritchard
Deputy Director, Confederation
of British Industry (CBI)

Defence Procurement Reform

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](#).

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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