

#### **Procurement Reform Newsletter**

3rd March 2023



# Health Service Procurement (Wales) Bill

In our last newsletter we looked at the key elements in the <u>Social Partnership and Public Procurement (Wales) Bill</u> that is designed to improve public service delivery and well-being in Wales.

On the 13th of February 2023, the <u>Health Service Procurement (Wales) Bill</u> was laid before the Senedd by Eluned Morgan (MS, Minister for Health and Social Services).

This follows on from the Welsh Government's Social Partnership and Public Procurement (Wales) Bill (SPPP Bill), and the UK-wide Procurement Bill, introduced in the House of Lords last year.

This Health Service Procurement (Wales) Bill will provide the following:

- A 'disapplication power' that will enable the Welsh Ministers to disapply provisions of the Procurement Act 2023.
- A 'creation power' to enable Welsh Ministers to introduce, via regulations, a new separate procurement regime for these NHS health services in Wales.

So, while one of the UK governments aims within the Green Paper was simplification, it seems that these two Welsh Bills will mean that public procurers in Wales (especially in the NHS in Wales) may need to refer to multiple documents when determining what to apply to their procurements.

Hopefully the information explaining which set of legislation applies is clear and unambiguous.

### **Online Supplier Events**

We have a programme of **Online Supplier Events** that focus on the impacts for suppliers ahead of the changes coming into force. They will deliver actionable insights and allow for effective preparation, helping to mitigate the risks and increase the opportunities that will come with the reforms. Our speakers include key stakeholders from the Cabinet Office, CBI and Places for People who will provide complementary perspectives on the challenges and opportunities ahead.

Please click here to view the <u>agenda</u> or to <u>book</u> your place.



# **Procurement Bill Progress**

As of 21st February the Procurement Bill completed its <u>Committee Stage</u> in the House of Commons. This included a significant five days of debate and 40 votes by the committee.

According to the update on the 22nd of February, the key themes include 'national security, conflicts of interest, Net Zero, local buying and devolution issues' so I'm looking forward to getting into the detail of these.

For those amongst you who enjoy some light procurement reading <u>please use this</u> <u>link</u> to view the most up to date Hansard records of the Committee debates.

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## **Procurement Reform Consultancy Packages**

We also have a range of Procurement Reform Consultancy Packages to enable you to manage the transition successfully. Please use this link for more information on our <u>Supplier Support Packages</u>.

## **Procurement Reform Resources**

Other than this Newsletter we're publishing a range of Briefings and Blogs, covering topics such as 'Open Frameworks', 'Changes to the Challenge Process', and many more. Please use this link to view these free <u>resources</u>.

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