

## Procurement Reform Newsletter

16th 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](#).

### 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 [agenda](#) or to [book](#) your place.

### 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 [resources](#).

### 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 [Supplier Support Packages](#).

If you wish to unsubscribe from the email newsletter service at any time, please [click here](#)