

Getting Started - Introduction to Public Procurement

In2
the bargain

Essential event for public sector practitioners

2026

Training to meet your needs

The implementation of the Procurement Act 2023 heralds a seismic change in how public contracting authorities procure goods, works, and services. This event has been specially developed to support practitioners who are starting their public procurement careers or those who need to refresh their knowledge about the role and function of public procurement. At the end of this event, delegates will gain comprehensive coverage of all key Procurement Act 2023 and supporting regulations provisions, best practice and commercial skills to ensure they can confidently manage basic competitive procurement procedures. There will be plenty of opportunities to ask questions and take part in practical exercises and online polls.

Learning Outcomes

The event will offer you an opportunity to:

- understand the importance of procurement compliance to help deliver your Corporate Plan, National Procurement Policy Statement and Procurement Objectives;
- develop practical understanding of key provisions in the Procurement Act 2023;
- practically understand how to undertake competitive procurement procedures under the Procurement Act 2023;
- introduction to Framework's, Light Touch Contract and other key concepts;
- update on recent case law and future directions of public procurement in the UK; and
- take part in practical exercises/ online polls to allow knowledge to be applied to real life scenarios.

We actively encourage participation throughout the event, and the timetable is flexible to adapt to specific needs as they arise during the day.

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Who should attend this training?

The event is aimed at new staff (apprentices) taking up a role in the procurement team, as well as experienced staff who have undertaken no formal procurement qualifications or who would like to refresh their knowledge and skills. It will also be of interest to councillors and directors who have strategic responsibility for making procurement decisions, tendering or contract management, as well as contract managers, auditors, lawyers and finance staff.

Booking Details

Please book your tickets here

[Training – In2 the bargain](#)

PA2023.org subscription member Tickets: £99.00 + VAT

Free basic or non-member ticket Price: £195.00 + VAT

PA2023 free discount code applicable.

This half day training is delivered online via TEAMS with a 9:30 am start.

Attendance is by invitation only.

Tailored Events

This event can be tailored for your team, delivered in-house, in person or online.

Our training courses and conferences are subject to the following [Terms & Conditions](#)

Why not join Network PA2023.Org and attend our training using pre-paid tickets?

Further details are available at:

[Join – In2 the bargain](#)

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Training Agenda

09.30 Welcome, Introductions and Overview of the Day

Introduction to Public Procurement

- Background: Why is public procurement regulated?
- What motivates procurement officers?
- Introduction to key provisions in Procurement Act 2023
- Managing conflicts in tenders
- World Trade Organisation and GPA
- FTS thresholds, VAT and application to different contracts
- Understanding differences between Contracts and Grants
- Best Value obligations, standing orders and financial control limits
- Government policy (SMEs, community benefits, national frameworks etc.)
- The Procurement cycle

Explanation of Competitive Tendering Procedures

- Understanding new competitive tendering procedures
- Open procedure
- When is it suitable?
- Minimum timescales
- Conditions of Participation and PSQ
- Competitive Flexible Procedure
- Direct Awards – Transparency obligations

What does the Act allow/ not allow?

- Need for objective decision-making and evaluation
- Selection and award criteria (brief overview)
- Price-only or M.A.T.
- How to set your award criteria weightings?
- Clarification, negotiation, and dealing with Supplier errors
- Collaborating with other contracting authorities

Frameworks, Dynamic Markets and Special Regime Contracts

- What are Frameworks and Dynamic Markets?
- Making use of Frameworks?
- The Light-Touch Regime for social & other services
- What is an Abnormally Low Tender?
- Contract award formalities

Transparency obligations under the Procurement Act 2023

- Publication on the Central Digital Platform
- Introduction to the notices?
- Assessment summaries and feedback letters

Below-threshold Contracts

- Advertising below threshold contracts
- Abolition of PSQ's for below threshold contracts
- Suitability assessment questions
- Request for quotation (RFQ)

15.45 Online Poll followed by discussion, questions & close