

Procurement Newsletter

February 2024

- [New Procurement Act 2023](#)
- [Advice for Suppliers](#)
- [Advice for SMEs and VCSEs](#)
- [Additional Resources](#)



Procurement Newsletter

We are the Post Office and there is no-one like us. From our travel and financial services, passports to postage, the Post Office network is serving communities across the UK. We have a network of more than 11,500 branches across the UK and every one of our branches is at the heart of its community.

We are introducing a series of quarterly newsletters to our Supplier partners to:

- Raise awareness of our values and the subjects that matter to us.
- Provide news, information and training that will help you to do business with us.
- Help you find opportunities to work with us as we grow and change for the future.

New – Procurement Act 2023

Prior to the UK leaving the European Union the public procurement legislation consisted of four sets of regulations: Public Contracts Regulations 2015, Utilities Contracts Regulations 2016, Concessions Contracts Regulations 2016 and Defence and Security Public Contracts 2011.

Since leaving the EU the government has worked to simplify the way we undertake public procurement by consolidating these four sets of regulations into the new Procurement Act 2023 which is expected to bring many benefits to suppliers and contracting authorities.

It enables a more flexible and simplified process to reach the most advantageous offers through fair and open competition giving:

- Increased visibility of new opportunities
- Greater scope for premarket engagement
- Greater scope for innovative solutions
- Greater focus on prompt payment
- Consistent feedback on exercise

The secondary legislation required to complete the detail is being progressed and the new act is expected to be in place by October 2024

Advice for Suppliers

The government has provided “knowledge drop” videos and guidance for suppliers. We recommend that you watch the videos available on their Knowledge drop page (see Additional Resources) or directly on YouTube to familiarise yourself with how the new Act and the supporting mechanism are intended to work.

Part One <https://youtu.be/7AqPVAKT-bq>

Part Two https://youtu.be/nJ8SnElv4_0

Part Three <https://youtu.be/97xo5P8MK8Q>

The videos mention a new central digital platform system built on the existing Find a Tender platform, with the ability to search for opportunities and receive alerts. This is intended to provide greater transparency of the opportunities available, and therefore a better ability for companies to plan and take part in early market engagement. A centralised platform will also reduce the burden of administration and remove the duplication of having to provide the same information.

Advice for SMEs and VCSEs

The government has provided “knowledge drop” videos and guidance for small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) and voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSEs). We recommend that you watch the videos available on their Knowledge drop page (see Additional Resources) or directly on YouTube to familiarise yourself on how the new Act and the supporting mechanism are intended to work.

Part One <https://youtu.be/uuddEMGJQ74>

Part Two <https://youtu.be/EOF7fCofwyE>

Part Three <https://youtu.be/7JwStlp-H64>

It explains the key changes to the previous regulations, and how these may benefit SMEs and VCSEs when doing business with the UK public, utilities or defence sectors, or health and social care through the light touch regime, which has been retained in the

Act as 'light touch' contracts. Also explained is how the Act makes it easier for suppliers to participate in procurements, through the introduction of a new central digital platform and early market engagement.

Additional Resources

For more information and to keep up to date with the detail of the Act and the changes as they are being implemented you can sign up to be in the government mailing list. There are also several conferences and regional events taking place over the next year. Please also watch the trade press and other publications for more information.

[The Official Transforming Public Procurement Knowledge Drops - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-official-transforming-public-procurement-knowledge-drops)

[TPP Knowledge Drop supporting factsheets - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/transforming-public-procurement-knowledge-drop-supporting-factsheets)

[Transforming Public Procurement - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/transforming-public-procurement)

[Benefits for Prospective Suppliers to the Public Sector - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/benefits-for-prospective-suppliers-to-the-public-sector)

[Public procurement policy - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/public-procurement-policy)

Who do I contact for help?



Please read the guidance on our website <https://corporate.postoffice.co.uk/en/governance/our-suppliers/working-with-us/>

If you require any further advice please contact procurement@postoffice.co.uk