

**Westminster Business Forum policy conference:
Next steps for public procurement policy and implementation**

Timing: Morning, Friday, 26th April 2024

*****Taking place online*****



Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **The Procurement Act - key priorities for implementation**
Lindsay Maguire, Deputy Director, Procurement Reform, Cabinet Office
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 Break
- 9.40 **Assessing the potential impact of the new procurement legislation**
Navigating the new application process | Addressing concerns over resources for the preparation period | Interpretation of definitions | Use of increased flexibility | Support for stakeholders | Resolving tension between cost and sustainability
Paul Wright, Owner, PAWA Consulting
Rebecca Rees, Head of Public Procurement and Partner, Trowers & Hamlins
Peter Schofield, Head of Integrated Commissioning and Procurement, Manchester City Council
Senior representative, business
Senior representative, public body
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.30 **Alternative options for procurement policy**
Senior representative, policy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.55 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.00 Break
- 11.10 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.15 **Encouraging competition and opening up procurement to SMEs**
Reducing barriers | Supporting innovative solutions | Priorities for digitisation and streamlining | Increasing transparency and public confidence
Heather Buchanan, Chief Executive Officer, Bankers for Net Zero
Senior representative, policy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 **The role of public procurement in supporting national policy priorities**
Creating jobs | Enhancing supplier resilience | Fostering innovation | Assisting in levelling up | Helping pandemic recovery | Supporting the transition to net zero
Michelle McCann, Chief Sustainability and Innovation Officer, NHS London Procurement Partnership
Heather Cover-Kus, Head of Central Government Programme, Tech UK
Andrew de Whalley, Senior Manager, Deloitte
Senior representative, business
Senior representative, local authority
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Priorities for ensuring an effective regulatory framework**
Senior representative, policy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Business Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Sean Cudmore, Deputy Editor, Westminster Business Forum