

Westminster Business Forum policy conference:
Next steps for public procurement in England, Wales and Northern Ireland
Timing: Morning, Monday, 9th February 2026
*****Taking Place Online*****



Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Baroness Neville-Rolfe, Shadow Treasury Minister
- 9.05 **Next steps for public procurement - legislation, latest developments and key considerations for implementation**
 Senior commentator
 Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Assessing plans for reform - policy proposals, domestic supply chains, international trade obligations and improving market access**
government's response to consultation and priorities for implementation / proposals to classify certain goods and services as critical for national security / supporting market development and domestic supply chain resilience / international trade obligations, non-discrimination requirements and options for linking KPIs to employment, skills and supply-chain commitments / supporting SME participation and addressing legal and commercial risk concerns / applying public interest tests for in-house delivery, and implications for existing suppliers and markets / strengthening capability within contracting authorities to manage complex and long-term contracts / potential impact of future reforms on access to contracts for qualifying foreign suppliers
Laura Brealey, Partner, Bevan Brittan
 Senior representative, business
 Senior representative, local authority
 Senior representative, international
 Senior commentator
 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.20 **The interim Civil Engineering Market Study report - competition, investment and supplier diversification**
Daniel Turnbull, Senior Director, Markets, Competition and Markets Authority
 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.45 **Chair's closing remarks**
Baroness Neville-Rolfe, Shadow Treasury Minister
- 10.50 Break
- 11.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
 Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.05 **Supporting transparency and fairness in contracting practices**
Gavin Hayman, Executive Director, Open Contracting Partnership
 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.30 **Opportunities through digital transformation - improving transparency, access and contract performance**
 Senior representative, technology
- 11.40 **Next steps for encouraging inclusive procurement - social value, supplier participation and fair treatment across the system**
inclusion of social value KPIs in major contracts and links to environmental and community outcomes / practicalities of measuring and reporting social value without overburdening suppliers / implementation of the CCS's SME Action Plan and support for smaller suppliers / expectations around early market engagement and clear requirements to support SME and VCSE participation / prompt payment, use of Central Digital Platform data and enforcement of fair payment practices / challenges for SMEs and VCSEs in adapting to evolving procurement requirements and accreditation / using transparency and data-sharing to support trust, value for money and wider participation / promoting cross-sector partnerships and local collaboration to widen access to contracts
Daniella Dei, Associate Director, Social Value, AECOM
Subarna Chakraborty, Digital Product Manager, North London Waste Authority
 Senior representative, SME
 Senior representative, workforce
 Senior representative, VCSE
- 12.00 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Next steps for public procurement - reform implementation, market development and the broader policy agenda**
Lindsay Maguire, Deputy Director, Procurement Reform, Cabinet Office
 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Business Forum closing remarks**
 Senior Parliamentarian
Thomas Howard, Westminster Business Forum