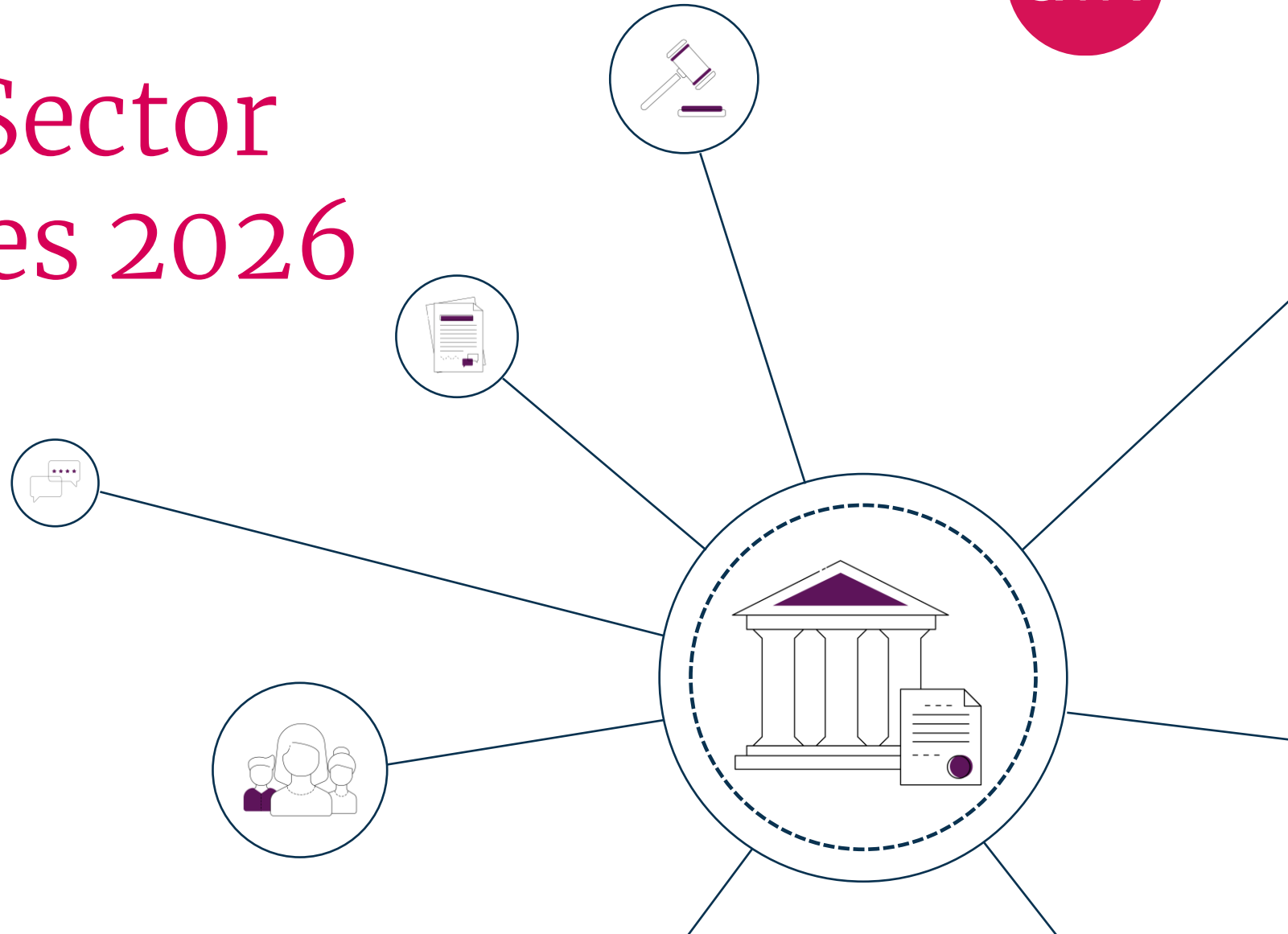




DWF Public Sector webinar series 2026



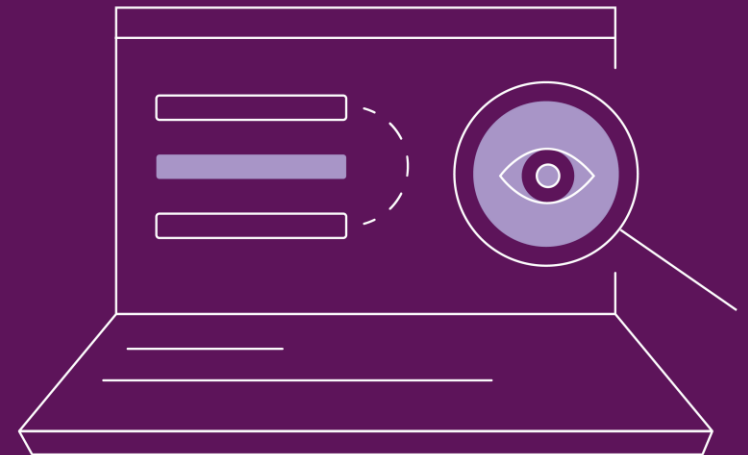
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Introducing our Public Sector webinar series 2026

We're delighted to launch our 2026 Public Sector Webinar Series. A curated programme designed to deliver timely insights, expert perspectives, and practical updates on the issues that matter most to public sector professionals. Each session will feature thought leaders and specialists who will explore key themes and emerging trends to help you stay informed and ahead.

Key topics include:

- Procurement Act 2023
 - Legal and Policy Updates
 - Subsidy Control Essentials
 - Commercial and Funding
 - EV Infrastructure
 - Innovation and Sustainability
 - Emerging Challenges
 - Employment
-
- All sessions are delivered free over GoToWebinar and you can register for as many sessions as you like.



Contact us



Jonathan Branton

Partner, Head of Government & Public Sector

Jonathan is a dual-qualified UK and Irish solicitor with over 30 years' experience advising on EU and UK Competition law, including international trade, State aid and public procurement, major grant funding programmes and via the Brexit changes now UK Subsidy Control and the Procurement Act 2023. Jonathan successfully advised on the first Subsidy Control case in the courts and has delivered a significant number of the various subsidy referrals through the Competition & Markets Authority since the Subsidy Control Act 2022 entered into force (on which he gave evidence to Parliament during its development).

Email me



Colin Murray

Partner, Head of Procurement Centre of Excellence

Colin is a public sector specialist with over 15 years' experience advising Central and Local Government, strategic suppliers, and other public bodies on major service delivery and regeneration projects across the UK. He has led on complex outsourcings, in-sourcing initiatives, and large-scale leisure and redevelopment schemes. His expertise spans public law, governance, procurement, consultation, and commercial contracting, including Model Service Contracts and bespoke terms. A former civil servant, Colin also holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Local Government Law.

Email me



Grace Hayes

BD & Marketing Executive

Grace Hayes is a Marketing Executive at DWF, bringing seven years of experience within the firm. She began her career in the Executive Support team as a Personal Assistant, where she developed a strong foundation in stakeholder engagement and organisational insight. Now working within the Marketing function, Grace supports strategic campaigns and initiatives that enhance brand visibility and client engagement. Her combined experience across support and marketing roles gives her a unique perspective on internal operations and external communications, contributing to impactful and well-aligned marketing activity.

Email me

Webinar booking process



All the sessions advertised in this brochure will be delivered online. You can register to attend by clicking the registration link in the right-hand column. If you have any difficulties or questions, please email Grace Hayes at Grace.Hayes@dwf.law.

Contact us...

Follow us

You can follow the [DWF LinkedIn](#) channel to keep you up to date with the latest insights and commentary from across the sector.

Stay connected

Make sure you sign up to receive the DWF event invitations and newsletters [here](#).

Frequently asked questions

1. How do I join a webinar?

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with a unique link to join the session. Simply click the link at the scheduled time.

2. Do I need to download anything?

Yes, GoToWebinar requires a small application to run. You will be prompted to download it when you click the join link. Alternatively, you can join via your web browser without downloading software.

3. Can I join from a mobile device?

Yes, you can join using the GoToWebinar app available for iOS and Android.

4. Will I be visible or heard during the webinar?

No, attendees are not visible or audible during the session. You can interact using the Q&A or chat features.

5. How do I ask questions during the webinar?

Use the Q&A panel or chat feature within GoToWebinar to submit your questions to the presenter.

6. What if I lose connection or have technical issues?

Try reconnecting using your unique join link. If issues persist, check your internet connection or restart the GoToWebinar app.

7. What if the webinar link does not work to register?

Some organisations block GoToWebinar links. If you are unable to access the webinar, please contact your IT department for assistance.

8. Will the webinar be recorded?

Yes, all sessions are recorded. A link to the recording will be shared with registered attendees after the event.

9. Do I need a webcam or microphone?

No, these are not required for attendees.

10. Is there a cost to attend?

All sessions listed in this brochure are free to attend.

11. Who can I contact for help?

If you have difficulties or questions, please email Grace Hayes at **Grace.Hayes@dwf.law**.

Public Sector Webinar Series 2026

Webinar title	Date and time	Speakers	Synopsis	Link
Accelerating EV Charging Infrastructure in the Public Sector	Tuesday 3rd February - 14:00 - 15:00	Ewen Cairns James Lupton	In this webinar, we explore the legal, commercial, and strategic challenges facing public bodies in the rollout of electric vehicle charging infrastructure. This session will cover procurement models, planning and land use considerations, funding mechanisms, and partnerships with private operators. We'll also examine how local authorities and government agencies can align infrastructure delivery with sustainability goals and net-zero commitments. Ideal for legal, property, and transport professionals navigating the transition to low-emission mobility.	Register here
The Procurement Act - One Year On	Tuesday 24th February - 11:00 - 12:00	Colin Murray Special Guests	<p>The Procurement Act 2023 introduced significant changes to public procurement processes, reshaping how contracting authorities and suppliers operate. This session will provide a comprehensive review of the key issues and challenges encountered to date, drawing on practical experience.</p> <p>Key Learning Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Early lessons learned from the first year of the Procurement Act 2023. - Common compliance pitfalls and how to avoid them. - Interpretation of key provisions, including transparency, exclusion grounds, and contract management obligations. - Emerging trends in enforcement and litigation, and what they mean for procurement practitioners. <p>The webinar will offer practical guidance for both contracting authorities and suppliers, helping you navigate the evolving landscape and prepare for future developments under the Procurement Act 2023.</p>	Register here
Sponsorship and Skilled Worker Visas for Public Sector Employers	Thursday 26 th February - 12:00 - 13:00	Roisin Patton Lauren Parkinson Francesca Parry	<p>In this webinar, we will discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The latest changes to the UK's sponsorship and skilled worker visa rules, how they impact public sector employers and what to expect for the remainder of 2026 • The key compliance challenges for public sector sponsor licence holders and how to prepare for a compliance check • The key issues facing skilled worker visa holders in 2026 	Register here
Contract modifications under the Procurement Act 2023	Thursday 12th March - 11:00 - 12:00	Douglas Jefferies Orla Kerr Heather Brooks	<p>The Procurement Act 2023 introduced new rules and obligations for contract modifications, significantly impacting how contracting authorities and suppliers manage changes post-award. This webinar will provide a practical overview of the legal framework, compliance requirements, and strategic considerations for implementing modifications under the Procurement Act 2023.</p> <p>Key Learning Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Key provisions governing permitted contract changes. - Transparency and publication obligations for modifications. - Thresholds and triggers for re-procurement under the Act. - Risk areas and common pitfalls in managing variations. - Best practice guidance for drafting and negotiating modifications. <p>This session is designed for procurement professionals, legal advisors, and suppliers seeking clarity on how to navigate the Procurement Act 2023 effectively.</p>	Register here

Public Sector Webinar Series 2026

Webinar title	Date and time	Speakers	Synopsis	Link
Concluding effective grant funding agreements	Tuesday 17th March - 14:00 - 15:00	Jonathan Branton Alex Eaton Matthew Johnson	In this webinar we will explore the core contents of a grant funding agreement and how concepts like outputs, eligible costs, security, overage and clawback are most commonly secured. We shall also cover practical issues including public authority powers for completion and alignment with practical Subsidy Control issues for concluding the contract, publications in the national subsidy database and protection of the relevant Subsidy Control solution.	Register here
Reform of trade union and industrial relations law	Wednesday 15 th April - 12:00 - 13:00	Ann Frances Cooney Ben Mordey Ana Ghaffari Moghaddam	The new Employment Rights Act will introduce a raft of legislative changes described as the most significant reform of trade union and industrial relations laws in a generation. The new laws have the potential to affect all employers, whether they currently recognise a trade union or not. This session will provide an overview of the key changes and how they will impact public sector employers.	Register here
Introduction to Judicial Review	Wednesday 22nd April - 11:00 - 12:00	Sam Pringle Grant Parkes	<p>Judicial review is a cornerstone of public law, providing a mechanism for challenging the lawfulness of decisions made by public bodies. This introductory session will demystify the process, explain its scope, and outline the key principles that underpin judicial review in the UK.</p> <p>Key Learning Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is judicial review? Understanding its purpose and limits. - Grounds for challenge, including illegality, irrationality, and procedural unfairness. - The role of the courts and how judicial review differs from appeals. - Practical considerations, including time limits, remedies, and costs. - Recent developments and trends shaping judicial review practice. <p>This webinar is ideal for professionals seeking a clear, practical overview of judicial review and its implications for decision-making in the public sector.</p>	Register here

Public Sector Webinar Series 2026

Webinar title	Date and time	Speakers	Synopsis	Link
Direct awards in accordance with the Procurement Act 2023	Thursday 7th May - 11:00 - 12:00	James Lupton Shaun Gamble Rowan Scarth	<p>The Procurement Act 2023 updated the rules for direct awards, creating opportunities for efficiency while imposing strict compliance requirements. This webinar will provide practical guidance for contracting authorities and suppliers to government, detailing when and how direct awards can be lawfully made under the Procurement Act 2023, and the risks to avoid to ensure compliance with the regime.</p> <p>Key Learning Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Legal framework for direct awards under the Procurement Act 2023. - Permitted grounds and exceptions, including urgency and exclusive rights. - Transparency and publication obligations for direct awards. - Managing challenges and disputes arising from direct award decisions. - Best practice strategies for documentation and audit readiness. <p>This session is designed for procurement professionals, legal advisors, and suppliers seeking clarity on the Procurement Act 2023 and its practical application.</p>	Register here
Managing Streamlined Routes for Subsidy Control	Thursday 21st May - 14:00 - 15:00	Jonathan Branton Alex Eaton	<p>In this webinar we will be looking at the new Streamlined Routes or Streamlined Subsidy Schemes published by the Government and considering the detail of their application and what will comprise relevant evidence for how compliance can be secured and therefore protected in any challenge scenario.</p>	Register here
Government contract templates	Tuesday 9th June - 11:00 - 12:00	Christine Williams Emily Green Claira Rodden	<p>Government contract templates play a vital role in ensuring consistency, compliance, and efficiency across government procurement. This webinar will provide an overview of the key templates available, their purpose, and practical guidance on how to use them effectively under the Procurement Act 2023.</p> <p>Key Learning Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview of government contract templates and their intended use. - Core clauses and compliance requirements embedded in the templates. - Flexibility and customisation – what can and cannot be changed when using templates. - Risk management considerations when adapting templates. - Best practice for implementation to ensure transparency and accountability. <p>This session is designed for procurement professionals, legal advisors, and public sector organisations seeking clarity on template usage and compliance obligations.</p>	Register here
The Public Office (Accountability) Bill – an update	Thursday 18th June - 14:00 - 15:00	Steffan Groch Simon Belfield	<p>As we anticipate the Bill becoming law at some stage in 2026, our experts will provide an update on the Bill's journey through Parliament, a summary of the key provisions and, importantly, their analysis of how the new legislation is going to affect public bodies and those who work for them, both as employees and as contractors.</p>	Register here

Public Sector Webinar Series 2026

Webinar title	Date and time	Speakers	Synopsis	Link
Land Deals v Public Works Contracts v Grant Funding Agreements - the choice is yours	Wednesday 1st July - 11:00 - 12:00	Colin Murray Clemma Franklin Alex Eaton	<p>The distinction between land transactions, grant funding agreements, and public works contracts is critical under the Procurement Act 2023, as misclassification can lead to compliance breaches and legal challenges. This webinar will provide clarity on how the Act treats land deals and grant funding agreements versus public works contracts, and the practical implications for contracting authorities and developers.</p> <p>Key Learning Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Defining land deals, grant funding agreements and public works contracts under the Procurement Act 2023. - Key legal tests and criteria for classification. - Transparency and publication obligations for each category. - Risks of misclassification and potential remedies. - Best practice guidance for structuring agreements to ensure compliance. <p>This session is designed for procurement professionals, legal advisors, and public sector organisations involved in property development and infrastructure projects.</p>	Register here
Driving Renewable and Sustainable Development in the Public Sector	Thursday 9th July - 14:00 - 15:00	Ewan Cairns Plus guest speakers	<p>This DWF webinar explores how public sector bodies can lead the transition to a low-carbon future through innovative legal, commercial, and planning strategies. Our panel will discuss the legal frameworks supporting renewable energy projects, sustainable housing, and infrastructure delivery aligned with net-zero goals. Topics include land assembly for green developments, funding and procurement models, and collaboration with private sector partners. Ideal for professionals involved in regeneration, climate policy, and sustainable land use.</p>	Register here
Managing the Commercial Market Operator (CMO) principle in Subsidy Control	Wednesday 15th July - 11:00 - 12:00	Jonathan Branton Alex Eaton	<p>This webinar will explore how and when to deploy the CMO principle in managing issues of Subsidy Control, and crucially how to ensure there is an adequate evidence base for concluding this reliably and in a manner that will stand up to challenge. In considering this we will be looking carefully at the challenge process and how it unfolds even for supposed non-subsidy measures, and most particularly the judgements in <i>Weis v GMCA</i>, first considered by the CAT in Summer 2025, and drawing the lessons from this case and relevant economic and financial expert analysis.</p>	Register here

Public Sector Webinar Series 2026

Webinar title	Date and time	Speakers	Synopsis	Link
Creating and managing effective subsidy schemes	Tuesday 8th September - 14:00 - 15:00	Jonathan Branton Alex Eaton	<p>This session will provide a clear, practical guide to navigating the Subsidy Control Act 2022 and its application in 2026, but with special reference to Subsidy Schemes and how and when to use them effectively, and when there is little to be gained. With increasing scrutiny on funding decisions and transparency obligations, our experts will share actionable insights to help public authorities manage compliance effectively and avoid common pitfalls.</p> <p>Key Learning Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regulatory Update: Latest developments and policy changes impacting subsidy control. - Risk Management: How to structure and solidify schemes and prepare the evidence trail for individual awards under cover of schemes, and how to ensure proper publication in national subsidy database. - Audit Readiness: Preparing for enhanced checks and demonstrating robust governance. - Case Studies: Real-world examples from recent public sector projects. 	Register here
Frameworks and dynamic markets under the Procurement Act 2023	Thursday 24th September - 11:00 - 12:00	Douglas Jefferies Orla Kerr Emily Green	<p>This session will explore the key features of Open and Closed Frameworks and Dynamic Markets introduced under the Procurement Act 2023. Our experts will provide practical insights into how these tools can be used to deliver flexibility and compliance in public procurement, while ensuring transparency and value for money.</p> <p>Key Learning Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understanding Frameworks and Dynamic Markets: What they are and how they differ under the Procurement Act 2023. - Compliance Essentials: How to set up and call off under these models while meeting statutory requirements. - Strategic Benefits: Leveraging frameworks and dynamic markets to improve efficiency and supplier diversity. - Risk Management: Common pitfalls and how to avoid challenges during implementation. - Practical Examples: Real-world scenarios illustrating successful application of these tools. <p>This session is designed for procurement professionals, legal advisors, and suppliers seeking clarity on the Procurement Act 2023 and its practical application.</p>	Register here
The new legislation expanding the duty to prevent harassment in the workplace	Tuesday 29th September - 12:00 - 13:00	Nigel Crebbin Laura Hawkins Lucy Smith	<p>Two years after the duty on employers to take reasonable steps to prevent sexual harassment came into effect, the new Employment Rights Act will expand the duty and widen it to cover other forms of harassment. The Act will also re-introduce liability on employers for harassment carried out by third parties, rather than just for acts carried out by fellow employees. Our session will look at the further steps public and private sector employers will need to take, both to protect their workforce and also themselves, and we will examine the Government's consultation regarding additional regulations in this area and the specific legal protection to be provided to sexual harassment whistleblowers.</p>	Register here

Public Sector Webinar Series 2026

Webinar title	Date and time	Speakers	Synopsis	Link
Procurement Lotting Strategy	Thursday 15th October - 14:00 - 15:00	James Lupton Shaun Gamble Claira Rodden	<p>Lotting strategies are a key feature of the Procurement Act 2023, designed to promote SME participation and drive competition. This webinar will provide practical guidance on how public authorities can design and implement effective lotting strategies that balance compliance, market engagement, and value for money.</p> <p>Key Learning Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understanding Lotting Requirements: Key provisions from the Procurement Act 2023 and why lotting is important. - Strategic Design: How to structure lots to encourage SME involvement without compromising efficiency. - Compliance Essentials: Avoiding pitfalls and ensuring transparency in lotting decisions. - Market Engagement: Techniques for assessing supplier capability and tailoring lot sizes. - Case Studies: Examples of successful lotting strategies in public sector projects. 	Register here
Conducting a lawful evaluation to comply with the Procurement Act 2023	Tuesday 3rd November - 14:00 - 15:00	Sam Pringle Simon Harris	<p>The evaluation stage is the key stage of any procurement process for both contracting authorities and suppliers. This webinar will provide practical guidance on how to conduct a lawful evaluation of bids that satisfies the requirements of the Procurement Act 2023.</p> <p>Key Learning Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Key evaluation principles. - Keeping records to allow completion of the assessment summaries. - How to conducting a lawful clarification of bids. - Evaluation top tips, and how to mitigate the risk of a procurement challenge. <p>This session is designed for procurement professionals, legal advisors, and suppliers seeking clarity on the Procurement Act 2023 and its practical application when evaluating bids.</p>	Register here
Procurement End of Year Review	Wednesday 2nd December - 14:00 - 15:00	Colin Murray Heather Brooks Special Guest	<p>The Procurement Act 2023 fundamentally changed the public procurement regime. This session will provide a summary of the key issues and challenges encountered since the Procurement Act 2023 came into force in February 2024, drawing on practical experience.</p> <p>Key Learning Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Key developments from the Procurement Act 2023. - Common compliance pitfalls and how to avoid them. - Interpretation of key provisions. - Emerging trends and lessons learned. <p>The webinar will offer practical guidance for both contracting authorities and suppliers, helping you navigate the evolving landscape and prepare for future developments under the Procurement Act 2023.</p>	Register here

Accelerating EV Charging Infrastructure in the Public Sector

Tuesday 3rd February | 14:00 – 15:00



Ewen Cairns

Ewen is dual-qualified in Scotland and England & Wales, advising on energy, infrastructure, and sustainable real estate projects across diverse sectors and jurisdictions.



James Lupton

James is a projects and infrastructure specialist with expertise in advising public and private sector organisations on procurement, major infrastructure projects and public law.

Webinar synopsis

In this webinar, we explore the legal, commercial, and strategic challenges facing public bodies in the rollout of electric vehicle charging infrastructure. This session will cover procurement models, planning and land use considerations, funding mechanisms, and partnerships with private operators. We'll also examine how local authorities and government agencies can align infrastructure delivery with sustainability goals and net-zero commitments. Ideal for legal, property, and transport professionals navigating the transition to low-emission mobility.

Register now



Sponsorship and Skilled Worker Visas for Public Sector Employers

Thursday 26th February | 12:00 – 13:00



Rosin is an employment and business immigration Partner, heading up the Newcastle employment practice.

Rosin advises businesses and public sector employers on the full range of employment law matters. She is an experienced business immigration lawyer and has continued to help employers in the sports, technology, energy, manufacturing and care sectors navigate the increasingly complex sponsorship and work visa system post-Brexit.

Rosin's business immigration expertise includes:

- sponsorship licence and work-related visa applications;
- sponsor licence compliance audits and training;
- sponsor management support;
- advising on complex compliance and visa issues;
- advising on immigration issues in corporate transactions.

Rosin also supports multi-national businesses with global mobility and cross-border employment issues, including overseas visas and mandatory employment rights.

Webinar synopsis

In this webinar, we will discuss:

- The latest changes to the UK's sponsorship and skilled worker visa rules, how they impact public sector employers and what to expect for the remainder of 2026.
- The key compliance challenges for public sector sponsor licence holders and how to prepare for a compliance check.
- The key issues facing skilled worker visa holders in 2026.

Register now



The Procurement Act – One Year On

Tuesday 24th February | 11:00 – 12:00



Colin Murray

Colin leads the market leading #Tier 1 rated (Legal 500) UK based public sector team at DWF Law LLP. Colin regularly advises Central and Local Government, and other public sector bodies when looking to deliver major service and regeneration projects across the UK. Colin also advises some of the UKs biggest Strategic Suppliers looking to provide services to the public or challenging procurement procedures.

Colin has over 15 years' experience of advising on the successful delivery of major projects across the UK including some of the biggest outsourcings of services to third parties, in-sourcing services back to public sector control, and the delivery of major regeneration and leisure projects. Colin specialises in public law, governance and safeguarding decision making, procurement, consultation, and preparing and negotiating commercial terms and conditions (based on Model Service Contracts and bespoke drafting). Colin has previously worked for Central Government as a civil servant and has also been awarded the Post Graduate Diploma in Local Government Law.

Webinar synopsis

The Procurement Act 2023 introduced significant changes to public procurement processes, reshaping how contracting authorities and suppliers operate. This session will provide a comprehensive review of the key issues and challenges encountered to date, drawing on practical experience.

Key Learning Objectives

- Early lessons learned from the first year of the Procurement Act 2023.
- Common compliance pitfalls and how to avoid them.
- Interpretation of key provisions, including transparency, exclusion grounds, and contract management obligations.
- Emerging trends in enforcement and litigation, and what they mean for procurement practitioners.

The webinar will offer practical guidance for both contracting authorities and suppliers, helping you navigate the evolving landscape and prepare for future developments under the Procurement Act 2023.

Register now



Contract modifications under the Procurement Act 2023

Thursday 12th March | 11:00 – 12:00



Douglas Jefferies

Douglas is the Director at DWF LLP, specialising in public procurement and compliance. Douglas delivers expert guidance on governance, risk management, and the Procurement Act 2023, helping organisations navigate complex legal challenges with confidence.



Orla Kerr

Orla is a Senior Associate in the Commercial & Public team. Orla specialises in contract law and procurement and is part of DWF's Procurement Centre of Excellence.



Heather Brooks

Heather is a commercial solicitor with experience of advising upon high-value private and public sector commercial law matters, including as part of the team advising on major projects.

Webinar synopsis

The Procurement Act 2023 introduced new rules and obligations for contract modifications, significantly impacting how contracting authorities and suppliers manage changes post-award. This webinar will provide a practical overview of the legal framework, compliance requirements, and strategic considerations for implementing modifications under the Procurement Act 2023.

This session is designed for procurement professionals, legal advisors, and suppliers seeking clarity on how to navigate the Procurement Act 2023 effectively.

Register now



Concluding effective grant funding agreements

Tuesday 17th March – 14:00 – 15:00



Jonathan Branton

Jonathan is Head of EU/Competition at DWF and also leads the Government & Public Sector group. Jonathan is a leading Competition lawyer rated #1 in legal directories for many years and has delivered multiple grant funding programmes in addition to CMA subsidy referrals.



Alex Eaton

Alex is an Associate in DWF's Commercial and Public Sector team with experience of advising public and private sector organisations on grant funding, Subsidy Control and public procurement compliance.



Matthew Johnson

Real Estate solicitor acting for the Public Sector and on Regeneration, Social Housing, Infrastructure, Residential Development, Commercial Property, funding and development, Property Asset Management, and many other things.

Webinar synopsis

In this webinar we will explore the core contents of a grant funding agreement and how concepts like outputs, eligible costs, security, overage and clawback are most commonly secured. We shall also cover practical issues including public authority powers for completion and alignment with practical Subsidy Control issues for concluding the contract, publications in the national subsidy database and protection of the relevant Subsidy Control solutions.

Register now



Reform of trade union and industrial relations law

Wednesday 15th April – 12:00 – 13:00



Ann Frances Cooney

Ann Frances is an employment law specialist with vast expertise handling employment disputes, commercial transactions, workforce restructures and industrial relations.

Ann Frances advises on a broad range of contentious and non-contentious employment matters including TUPE, redundancy & restructures, industrial relations & strike action, appointment & severance terms (including service and settlement agreements), discrimination & equality, enforceability of post-termination obligations, whistleblowing as well as, dismissal, discipline, absence management, grievance and other day to day HR support issues. She is an experienced litigator and regularly appears in Employment Tribunals across the UK.

Ann Frances advises private and public sector employers, and she works with a broad range of clients including PLCs, multinational and UK-wide corporations, as well as business start-ups and senior executives. Her expertise spans several commercial sectors including aviation, financial services, hospitality, logistics, retail, e-commerce and technology.

Ann Frances has represented clients in several complex, high value disputes and she has extensive experience of advising on transactions, including large scale outsourcings, mergers & acquisitions and business insolvencies.

Ann Frances is an experienced employment law trainer and regular speaker at specialist seminars for business leaders, HR professionals and in-house lawyers.

Webinar synopsis

The new Employment Rights Act will introduce a raft of legislative changes described as the most significant reform of trade union and industrial relations laws in a generation. The new laws have the potential to affect all employers, whether they currently recognise a trade union or not. This session will provide an overview of the key changes and how they will impact public sector employers.

Register now



Introduction to Judicial Review

Wednesday 22nd April | 11:00 – 12:00



Sam Pringle

Sam deals with a wide range of commercial and contract disputes including claims in professional negligence, contentious trust / probate and contentious public procurement, grant funding and Subsidy Control disputes.

Webinar synopsis

Judicial review is a cornerstone of public law, providing a mechanism for challenging the lawfulness of decisions made by public bodies. This introductory session will demystify the process, explain its scope, and outline the key principles that underpin judicial review in the UK.

Key Learning Objectives

- What is judicial review? Understanding its purpose and limits.
- Grounds for challenge, including illegality, irrationality, and procedural unfairness.
- The role of the courts and how judicial review differs from appeals.
- Practical considerations, including time limits, remedies, and costs.
- Recent developments and trends shaping judicial review practice.

This webinar is ideal for professionals seeking a clear, practical overview of judicial review and its implications for decision-making in the public sector.

Register now



Direct awards in accordance with the Procurement Act 2023

Thursday 7th May | 11:00 – 12:00



James Lupton

James is a projects and infrastructure specialist with expertise in advising public and private sector organisations on procurement, major infrastructure projects and public law.



Shaun Gamble

Shaun is a Senior Associate in DWF's commercial & public law team, specialising in public procurement and is a member of DWF's Procurement Centre of Excellence.



Rowan Scarth

Rowan is a solicitor in our Commercial and Public Law Team. Rowan advises clients on a range of commercial matters, including conducting a compliant procurement and drafting commercial contracts, and is a member of DWF's Procurement Centre of Excellence.

Webinar synopsis

The Procurement Act 2023 updated the rules for direct awards, creating opportunities for efficiency while imposing strict compliance requirements. This webinar will provide practical guidance for contracting authorities and suppliers to government, detailing when and how direct awards can be lawfully made under the Procurement Act 2023, and the risks to avoid to ensure compliance with the regime.

This session is designed for procurement professionals, legal advisors, and suppliers seeking clarity on the Procurement Act 2023 and its practical application.

Register now



Managing Streamlined Routes for Subsidy Control

Thursday 21st May – 14:00 – 15:00



Jonathan Branton

Jonathan is Head of EU/Competition at DWF and also leads the Government & Public Sector group. He has been responsible for delivering close to 20% of all the CMA subsidy referrals since the Subsidy Control Act 2022 came into force, including landmark subsidy schemes,, and has contributed to government development of new streamlined routes across different sectors.



Alex Eaton

Alex is an Associate in DWF's Commercial and Public Sector team with experience of advising public and private sector organisations on grant funding, Subsidy Control and public procurement compliance.

Webinar synopsis

In this webinar we will be looking at the new Streamlined Routes or Streamlined Subsidy Schemes published by the Government and considering the detail of their application and what will comprise relevant evidence for how compliance can be secured and therefore protected in any challenge scenario.

Register now



Government contract templates

Tuesday 9th June | 11:00 – 12:00



Emily Green

Emily is a Senior Associate in the Commercial and Public Sector team. She is part of DWF's Procurement Centre of Excellence.



Clair Rodden

Clair is a solicitor in our Commercial Team. Clair advises clients on a range of commercial matters, including conducting a compliant procurement, varying contracts, negotiating and drafting commercial contracts and grant funding agreements.

Webinar synopsis

Government contract templates play a vital role in ensuring consistency, compliance, and efficiency across government procurement. This webinar will provide an overview of the key templates available, their purpose, and practical guidance on how to use them effectively under the Procurement Act 2023.

This session is designed for procurement professionals, legal advisors, and public sector organisations seeking clarity on template usage and compliance obligations.

Register now



The Public Office (Accountability) Bill – an update

Thursday 18th June | 14:00 – 15:00



Steffan Groch

Steffan heads up DWF's national Regulatory and Public Inquiries team as well as a recognised public speaker on crisis management, the duty of candour and safety culture.



Simon Belfield

Simon is an experienced and highly recognised regulatory specialist who provides up-front investigation, compliance and procedural advice as well as crisis management support to regulatory bodies, organisations and individuals in this sector.

Webinar synopsis

As we anticipate the Bill becoming law at some stage in 2026, our experts will provide an update on the Bill's journey through Parliament, a summary of the key provisions and, importantly, their analysis of how the new legislation is going to affect public bodies and those who work for them, both as employees and as contractors.

Register now



Land Deals v Public Works Contracts v Grant Funding Agreements

Wednesday 1st July | 11:00 – 12:00



Colin Murray

Colin leads the market leading #Tier 1 rated (Legal 500) UK based public sector team at DWF Law LLP. Colin regularly advises Central and Local Government, and other public sector bodies when looking to deliver major service and regeneration projects across the UK. Colin also advises some of the UKs biggest Strategic Suppliers looking to provide services to the public or challenging procurement procedures.



Alex Eaton

Alex is an Associate in DWF's Commercial and Public Sector team with experience of advising public and private sector organisations on grant funding, Subsidy Control and public procurement compliance.

Webinar synopsis

The distinction between land transactions, grant funding agreements, and public works contracts is critical under the Procurement Act 2023, as misclassification can lead to compliance breaches and legal challenges. This webinar will provide clarity on how the Act treats land deals and grant funding agreements versus public works contracts, and the practical implications for contracting authorities and developers.

This session is designed for procurement professionals, legal advisors, and public sector organisations involved in property development and infrastructure projects.

Register now



Driving Renewable and Sustainable Development in the Public Sector

Thursday 9th July | 14:00 – 15:00



Ewen is dual-qualified in Scotland and England & Wales, advising on energy, infrastructure, and sustainable real estate projects across diverse sectors and jurisdictions.

Webinar synopsis

This DWF webinar explores how public sector bodies can lead the transition to a low-carbon future through innovative legal, commercial, and planning strategies. Our panel will discuss the legal frameworks supporting renewable energy projects, sustainable housing, and infrastructure delivery aligned with net-zero goals. Topics include land assembly for green developments, funding and procurement models, and collaboration with private sector partners. Ideal for professionals involved in regeneration, climate policy, and sustainable land use.

Register now



Managing the Commercial Market Operator (CMO) principle in Subsidy Control

Wednesday 15th July – 11:00 – 12:00



Jonathan Branton

Jonathan is Head of EU/Competition at DWF and also leads the Government & Public Sector group. He has been a leading State aid and now UK Subsidy Control lawyer for over 30 years and has advised on multiple cases involving effective use of the original market economy operator principle in State and now the CMO principle in Subsidy Control, and managing appropriate evidence to ensure defensibility.



Alex Eaton

Alex is an Associate in DWF's Commercial and Public Sector team with experience of advising public and private sector organisations on grant funding, Subsidy Control and public procurement compliance.

Webinar synopsis

This webinar will explore how and when to deploy the CMO principle in managing issues of Subsidy Control, and crucially how to ensure there is an adequate evidence base for concluding this reliably and in a manner that will stand up to challenge. In considering this we will be looking carefully at the challenge process and how it unfolds even for supposed non-subsidy measures, and most particularly the judgements in *Weis v GMCA*, first considered by the CAT in Summer 2025, and drawing the lessons from this case and relevant economic and financial expert analysis.

Register now



Creating and managing effective subsidy schemes

Tuesday 8th September | 14:00 – 15:00



Jonathan Branton

Jonathan is Head of EU/Competition at DWF and also leads the Government & Public Sector group. He has been a leading State aid and now UK Subsidy Control lawyer for over 30 years and has advised on the design, development and referral to the CMA of a number of innovative subsidy schemes, including forming procedures for effective use of schemes for individual award and managing the evidence trails later.



Alex Eaton

Alex is an Associate in DWF's Commercial and Public Sector team with experience of advising public and private sector organisations on grant funding, Subsidy Control and public procurement compliance.

Webinar synopsis

This session will provide a clear, practical guide to navigating the Subsidy Control Act 2022 and its application in 2026, but with special reference to Subsidy Schemes and how and when to use them effectively and what evidence to ensure is in place for each award, and when there is little to be gained. We shall also consider post-award transparency issues for scheme-based subsidy awards. With increasing scrutiny on funding decisions and transparency obligations, our experts will share actionable insights to help public authorities manage compliance effectively and avoid common pitfalls.

Register now



Frameworks and dynamic markets under the Procurement Act 2023

Thursday 24th September | 11:00 – 12:00



Douglas Jefferies

Director at DWF LLP, specialising in public procurement and compliance. Douglas delivers expert guidance on governance, risk management, and the Procurement Act 2023, helping organisations navigate complex legal challenges with confidence.



Orla Kerr

Orla is a Senior Associate in the Commercial & Public team. Orla specialises in contract law and procurement and is part of DWF's Procurement Centre of Excellence.



Emily Green

Emily is a Senior Associate in the Commercial and Public Sector team. She is part of DWF's Procurement Centre of Excellence.

Webinar synopsis

This session will explore the key features of Open and Closed Frameworks and Dynamic Markets introduced under the Procurement Act 2023. Our experts will provide practical insights into how these tools can be used to deliver flexibility and compliance in public procurement, while ensuring transparency and value for money.

This session is designed for procurement professionals, legal advisors, and suppliers seeking clarity on the Procurement Act 2023 and its practical application.

Register now



The new legislation expanding the duty to prevent harassment in the workplace

Tuesday 29th September | 12:00 – 13:00



Nigel Crebbin

Nigel is a Director in the employment team, advising on a wide range of employment and HR issues, as well as delivering employment law training.

Nigel works in the main for employer clients and takes a commercial, pro-active, straight-talking and solutions focused approach. He helps businesses spot potential employment law issues early on and helps them deal with any employment problems which do arise.

His works includes advising on redundancies and reorganisations, managing disciplinary and grievance processes and handing claims of unfair dismissal and discrimination, including employment tribunal litigation. He also specialises in drafting employment contracts, policies and procedures, including post-employment restrictions and confidentiality clauses.

Nigel works closely with our corporate and commercial teams, providing specialist employment law support on mergers, business acquisitions and outsourcing agreements. He has a particular interest in TUPE.

Nigel also advises on executive departures, where his works includes advice and support for senior individuals, as well as for employer clients. Nigel is also a highly experienced and accomplished presenter and trainer on employment law and HR matters and is a regular speaker, both at public events and in house for clients.

Webinar synopsis

Two years after the duty on employers to take reasonable steps to prevent sexual harassment came into effect, the new Employment Rights Act will expand the duty and widen it to cover other forms of harassment. The Act will also re-introduce liability on employers for harassment carried out by third parties, rather than just for acts carried out by fellow employees. Our session will look at the further steps public and private sector employers will need to take, both to protect their workforce and also themselves, and we will examine the Government's consultation regarding additional regulations in this area and the specific legal protection to be provided to sexual harassment whistleblowers.

Register now



Procurement Lotting Strategy

Thursday 15th October | 11:00 – 12:00



James Lupton

James is a projects and infrastructure specialist with expertise in advising public and private sector organisations on procurement, major infrastructure projects and public law.



Shaun Gamble

Shaun is a Senior Associate in DWF's commercial & public law team, specialising in public procurement and is a member of DWF's Procurement Centre of Excellence.



Claira Rodden

Claira is a solicitor in our Commercial Team. Claira advises clients on a range of commercial matters, including conducting a compliant procurement, varying contracts, negotiating and drafting commercial contracts and grant funding agreements.

Webinar synopsis

Lotting strategies are a key feature of the Procurement Act 2023, designed to promote SME participation and drive competition. This webinar will provide practical guidance on how public authorities can design and implement effective lotting strategies that balance compliance, market engagement, and value for money.

Key Learning Objectives

- Understanding Lotting Requirements: Key provisions from the Procurement Act 2023 and why lotting is important.
- Strategic Design: How to structure lots to encourage SME involvement without compromising efficiency.
- Compliance Essentials: Avoiding pitfalls and ensuring transparency in lotting decisions.
- Market Engagement: Techniques for assessing supplier capability and tailoring lot sizes.
- Case Studies: Examples of successful lotting strategies in public sector projects.

Register now



Conducting a lawful evaluation to comply with the Procurement Act 2023

Tuesday 3rd November | 14:00 – 15:00



Sam Pringle

Sam deals with a wide range of commercial and contract disputes including claims in professional negligence, contentious trust / probate and contentious public procurement.



Simon Harris

Simon specialises in advising major public sector projects and is part of DWF Law LLP's Procurement Centre of Excellence, which has been set up to add value for and service the requirements of our Public Sector clients.

Webinar synopsis

The evaluation stage is the key stage of any procurement process for both contracting authorities and suppliers. This webinar will provide practical guidance on how to conduct a lawful evaluation of bids that satisfies the requirements of the Procurement Act 2023.

Key Learning Objectives

- Key evaluation principles.
- Keeping records to allow completion of the assessment summaries.
- How to conducting a lawful clarification of bids.
- Evaluation top tips, and how to mitigate the risk of a procurement challenge.

This session is designed for procurement professionals, legal advisors, and suppliers seeking clarity on the Procurement Act 2023 and its practical application when evaluating bids.

Register now



Procurement End of Year Review

Wednesday 2nd December | 14:00 – 15:00



Colin Murray

Colin leads the market leading #Tier 1 rated (Legal 500) UK based public sector team at DWF Law LLP. Colin regularly advises Central and Local Government, and other public sector bodies when looking to deliver major service and regeneration projects across the UK. Colin also advises some of the UKs biggest Strategic Suppliers looking to provide services to the public or challenging procurement procedures.



Heather Brooks

Heather is a commercial solicitor with experience of advising upon high-value private and public sector commercial law matters, including as part of the team advising on major projects.

Webinar synopsis

The Procurement Act 2023 fundamentally changed the public procurement regime. This session will provide a summary of the key issues and challenges encountered since the Procurement Act 2023 came into force in February 2024, drawing on practical experience.

Key Learning Objectives

- Key developments from the Procurement Act 2023; Common compliance pitfalls and how to avoid them; Interpretation of key provisions; and Emerging trends and lessons learned.

The webinar will offer practical guidance for both contracting authorities and suppliers, helping you navigate the evolving landscape and prepare for future developments under the Procurement Act 2023.

Register now





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