

CIPFA Procurement Webinar

What procurement practitioners need to know about the Common Assessment Standard

Zoom Webinar

14 October 2025

Purpose

This event has been developed to support public contracting authorities develop a practical understanding of how to use the Common Assessment Standard (“CAS”) in works procurements. CAS’s main objective is to create a more streamlined and consistent process for assessing the capabilities and compliance of potential suppliers. It is designed to minimise duplication, particularly for suppliers who often have to complete multiple, slightly different PQQs for various contracts. PPN 03/24 extended CAS to central government and wider public sector bodies to pre-qualify suppliers for works related contracts. This event will explain the requirements of the latest guidance and what it means for practitioners involved in procuring constructions contracts, and how you can position yourself in light of the changes.

Learning Outcomes

How will you benefit?

- Overview of supplier pre-qualification for works contracts in the UK public sector.
- How CAS has been developed to take into account wider criteria such as sustainability, modern slavery and financial performance.
- Factors CAs should consider when deciding whether to use CAS or the Standard PSQ.
- Whether your SME’s can seek CAS accreditation?
- Find out if CAS is mandatory for all works contracts?

Who Will Benefit

The webinar will support procurement, finance, solicitors, project managers, auditors and contract managers with day-to-day responsibilities for developing the Associated Tender Documents and managing Suppliers.

Programme

09.20 – 09.30

Join the Webinar

09.30 – 10.50

What is the Common Assessment Standard?

This session will provide delegates with an introduction to the new Common Assessment Standard that was extended to the public sector by PPN 03/24.

The session will provide an overview on:

- Supplier pre-qualification in the UK Public Sector
- Definition & purpose of CAS
- Current status of PAS91
- Overview & key components of CAS
- How does the data sharing solution work?
- Is CAS mandatory for above/ below threshold contracts?
- Financial and health and safety checks

10.50 – 11.05

Comfort Break

11.05– 12.15

When CAS met PSQ!

This session will provide an overview and detail key components of using supplier pre-qualification questionnaires in works contracts. This will include:

- Implementing supplier pre-qualification
- How do suppliers get the Common Assessment Standard?
- Who are the published Recognised Assessment Bodies?
- Risks & common pre-qualification mistakes under PA23
- Benefits/ challenges of CAS
- Can you use PSQ for works contracts
- CAS and the Central Digital Platform

12.15 – 12.30

Plenary Session - Discussion, questions & close



CIPFA Sustainability Policy

CIPFA is delivering all of our training courses, workshops and seminars in accordance with our sustainability strategy. We do not provide hardcopy course materials to delegates and these are now distributed by email in advance of the event. We are striving to reduce our carbon footprint in every way that we can, and we hope that we can count on your support.