

CIPFA Procurement Event

Procuring Light Touch Contracts & Concession Contracts under the Procurement Act 2023

Zoom Event

24 September 2025

Purpose

This new event from the CIPFA Procurement Network will cover key stages of managing and awarding compliant Special Regime Contracts (Light Touch Contract (LTC) and Concession Contracts under the Procurement Act 2023. The event will cover exceptions and special provisions which relate to the award of LTCs, as well how contracting authorities can make use of procedural flexibilities, choice of award criteria as well avoid common pitfalls and maximise opportunities. The event will provide an update and refresher on the LTCs, help answer unresolved questions and will be of particular benefit to procurement and commissioning staff involved in social care, education and training tenders.

The event will also cover the legal framework relating to the award of Concession Contracts, an explanation of typical concession contracts, how to value the concession and undertake the procurement process.

Learning Outcomes

Key learning outcomes include: -

- Develop awareness of the scope of light touch contracts under the Procurement Act 2023.
- How to maximise flexibilities when awarding light touch contracts.
- Explanation of how to make a direct award for user choice services contracts.
- Understand what it means to “transfer’ of real operating risk” when awarding concessions.
- Find out if the contracting authority can make payments to a concessionaire?

Who Will Benefit?

The event will support heads of procurement, senior finance, procurement lawyers, project managers, senior auditors and contract managers with strategic responsibility of the procurement function or income generation by awarding contracts to concessionaires. It will also benefit other practitioners who are responsible for delivering better procurement outcomes and innovative service delivery.

Programme

09.20 – 09.30	Join the Webinar
09.30 – 09.35	Welcome, Introductions and Overview of the Event Mohamed Hans, Manager CIPFA Procurement & Commissioning Network
09.35 – 10.50	Regulatory and Public Policy Context of Light Touch Contracts <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ What are LTCs?▪ Why are they treated differently?▪ Which contracts are covered in Schedule 1 PR24?▪ How much flexibility is allowed?▪ What about pre-2025 contracts?▪ Reserving contracts▪ Financial thresholds for LTCs▪ LTCs and PSR contracts▪ Procurement of LTCs▪ Competitive tendering procedures▪ Transparency obligations▪ Procedures (time limits, lots)
10.50 – 11.05	Comfort Break
11.05 – 11.40	Procuring Light Touch Frameworks & User Choice Contracts <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ PSQ in LTS's▪ Conditions of Participation▪ Maximum term▪ Framework requirements▪ Open LTC Frameworks▪ Proximity of users▪ Potential case studies▪ Contract management and modifications▪ Transparency Notices.
11.40 – 12.50	Awarding Concession Contracts Under the Procurement Act 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Definition of a concession contract▪ Transfer of operating risk to the supplier▪ What is meant by "Special Regime"▪ Exemptions for concession contracts▪ Below threshold concession contracts▪ Calculating value of a concession▪ Rules relating to mixed procurements▪ Drafting payment provisions▪ Concession notices – which ones apply?
12.50 – 13.00	Discussion, Questions, Next Steps & 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.