

Procurement & Commissioning Network
(CPCN)

Your network membership

2024/25

cipfa.org

The network offer

The CIPFA Procurement & Commissioning Network (CPCN) has been established for over 22 years. As one of the leading networks available to public sector procurement and commissioning practitioners, it will support you and your organisation with current and future procurement challenges.

CPCN will help you with your daily procurement queries, offer expert practical support to navigate complex and changing procurement regulations, facilitate compliant tendering and keep you up to date with best practice. CPCN also offers a wide range of interactive webinars and special face-to-face events at various regional venues, as well as our 'Introduction to Essentials' events, which can be delivered as tailored webinars, at special discounted rates for subscribers.

The role of procurement and commissioning is evolving at incredible pace, with the biggest overhaul of procurement legislation in 2024 in a generation. The CPCN will ensure that you stay informed and fully upskilled to face the future with confidence.

The CPCN website contains detailed guidance, toolkits, webinar recordings, briefing notes and templates, as well as documentation written to accompany events on topics of current interest, which can be downloaded free of charge by subscribers. Our e-alert service and newsletters, provided to over 130 members contains all the information and analysis on the latest regulation, policy notes and case law. No other organisation provides such a comprehensive, one-stop shop for everyone involved in public sector procurement and commissioning.

If you would like further information about the benefits of subscribing to the CPCN, please contact [Mohamed Hans](#) who will be delighted to assist you.

How to join?



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Teams: 020 7543 5830 who will be delighted to assist you.

Joining the CPCN

If you are interested in joining CPCN or have any questions, please email mohamed.hans@cipfa.org or call CIPFA on 020 7543 5600 and we can provide a quote based on your required level of membership.

What our members say



“I wanted to send my thanks for the training sessions below which I recently attended. It was great to hear from Mohamed and other speakers throughout the day and has given me a great insight into the new Act and the opportunities. I’m really buoyed followed the session and looking forward to relaying the information with my team too. ...Please would you pass on my thanks for a superb session”

Features and benefits

- Attendance at a wide selection of topical events (webinars and physical events) using pre-paid places, as well as open training courses for this network
- Technical support and guidance on procurement from expert advisors who can respond to requests from subscribers either by e-mail or phone
- Timely updates on relevant procurement, commercial and legislative issues giving you all the facts and analysis at your fingertips, and information on how these will affect your job role, service delivery and your wider authority agenda
- Opportunities for networking, career development and CPD
- Sharing of knowledge and best practice with peers to create an environment where key procurement and commissioning issues of the day can be debated and addressed
- Exclusive website access – www.cipfa.org/procurement - the website contain a wealth of published information including regular briefings, newsletters and updates, as well as current and past event presentation materials to allow you to engage with colleagues and members in your area and share best practice
- Regular monthly newsletter to keep you updated on the latest procurement issues affecting your area of activity
- Discounts off any CIPFA Essentials training events run by other CIPFA Networks
- Access to other network events when bought under a corporate membership arrangement.

What our members say



For the past several years, I have decided to invest in specific training for my procurement team and this commitment is best placed with CIPFA Procurement Network. The training received has been excellent and the diversity of the training available far outweighs that of any other current provider in my opinion. The learning outcomes have certainly improved my team's confidence and productivity which in turn has raised the profile of the team within the authority.

Mark Pearson, AD – Procurement and Contract Management, London Borough of Lambeth

Programme of events

Our planned headline events below are complemented by alerts and briefings, newsletters and dedicated advisor support for practitioners in subscribing organisations. Pre-paid places can be used to attend any events set out in this service plan.

New events are likely to be added during the year and details of these, along with options for use of pre-paid places, will be confirmed as part of the event promotion materials, CPCN newsletters and alerts.



January, February, March, July & September 2024 (V)

NEW: The Wait is Over - Implementing the New Procurement Act 2023

This event will provide comprehensive support to enable implementation of the new Procurement Act from October 2024.



February & May 2024 (V & F2F)

NEW: Updating Contract Procedures Rules Under the PA23

All contracting authorities will be required to update and write new Contract Standing Orders (CSOs) as part of implementing the Procurement Act 2023.



February, July & December 2024 (V)

UPDATED: Introduction to Public Procurement

This introductory event will support new practitioners or those who need a refresher to develop an overview of the role and function of procurement under the current/ new Act.



March & October 2024 (V)

UPDATED: Intermediate Level - Getting on and Mastering Procurement Delivery

This event has been designed to support practitioners with two-and-five years' experience develop practical understanding of procurement provisions and tender procedures.



March, July & October 2024 (V)

NEW: Guide to Completing New Notices under the Procurement Act 2023

Research suggests Contracting Authorities do not complete notices correctly, which could expose the organisation to immediate legal challenge. The future will require multiple notices to be issued.



April & November 2024 (V)

UPDATED: Advanced Level – Excelling with Procurement Outcomes

This event will be suitable for experienced public sector practitioners seeking to move into senior procurement leadership roles.



May & August 2024 (V)

NEW: All Change Before You Sign the Contract – Notices and Assessment Summary

This event will cover key changes as part of contract award formalities, including content of the new award notices and Assessment Summary.



May 2024 (V)

UPDATED: Making Sense of Construction Procurements in the Public Sector

Different approaches to procuring construction contracts that can help deliver value for money, support net zero targets and achieve quality outcomes.



June 2024 (V)

NEW: Designing the New Competitive Flexible Tendering Procedure

Ahead of new legislation, this event will help contracting authorities design the new competitive flexible procurement procedure.



June 2024 (V)

UPDATED: Assessing Financial Health and Viability of Suppliers

This event will help practitioners assess commercial viability and financial health of suppliers as part of the SQ stage and ongoing contract management under the new procurement rules.



July 2024 (V)

Managing TUPE and Pensions Pitfalls in Tenders & Insourcing

This event will help practitioners understand the often complex and tricky issues relating to TUPE and pensions when involved in tenders, insourcing services, or when setting up new trading companies.



July 2024 (V)

NEW: Common Assessment Standard & PAS91 - Which one should you be using?

This event has been developed to support public contracting authorities develop a better understanding of the New Common Assessment Standard.



September & November 2024 (V)

NEW: Understanding Standards Forms of Contract – NEC and JCT

Events to support practitioners understand the NEC4 and the new JCT suite of standard construction and facilities management contracts.



September 2024 (V)

NEW: All you need to know about Framework Agreements and Dynamic Markets

This event will cover key compliance issues when setting up new Framework Agreements (closed & open) and Dynamic Markets under the Procurement Act.



October 2024 (V)

NEW: New Look at Contract Management and KPI's

This workshop will focus on helping you secure the best commercial outcomes from your contracts and write effective KPI's to meet new Procurement Act obligations.



October 2024

NEW: Maximising Opportunities under the Updated Light Touch Regime

Event will cover key stages of managing and designing a compliant Light Touch Regime procurement process under the Procurement Act.



November 2024

Pitfalls in Setting up 'Teckal' Trading Companies, Joint Ventures & Limited Liability Partnerships

Event to support public bodies understand the nuts and bolts in setting up 'Teckal' trading companies, joint ventures and LLP's, as well as an overview of the complex area of subsidy control and competition law.



November 2024

Settling the Score – Tender Evaluation and Moderation - Popular

This event will cover the tricky issue of evaluating tenders and conducting moderation meetings. Evaluating tenders is a critical part of the procurement process. Get it wrong and risk the award decision being challenged and set aside.



December 2024

The Price is Right – Are you Using the Correct Pricing Formula in Tenders?

This event will take a detailed look at the mechanics and accuracy of using traditional approaches to evaluating and scoring price in tenders.



January 2025

Contract Management in Waste Contracts

The event has been specially developed to provide detailed knowledge, understanding, and practical know-how to effectively manage one of the most complex and competed contracts for public sector organisations.



February 2025

Completing New Procurement Notices

This event will help contracting authorities complete the several new notices that will be required under the new Procurement Act.

Full details of these events will be available at www.cipfa.org/events or contact the advisor for further details.

Further support

On-site delivery

Most CPCN events are available for on-site delivery or tailored webinar. Contact Mohamed for further information.

CIPFA Essentials

Our 'Introduction to ...' Essentials programme is designed to help support those who may be new to the sector, or perhaps working in a new role, and may also benefit non-finance staff and elected Members. These interactive workshops are a great way to help develop knowledge and awareness of a specific service area and are proving increasingly popular with staff development programmes.

Specialist support

Our Advisors can act as Independent Chair to moderate complex tender evaluations or provide tailored support for tenders, drafting contract procedure rules or update standards terms and conditions. Please contact Mohamed for further information.

Please contact [Mohamed](#) for further information

Our networks

Looking for more support from our networks?


We offer a number of other networks across a range of topics. We also offer corporate subscriptions for your organisation allowing you and your colleagues to access events and support across multiple CIPFA networks according to your needs.

For any other network enquiries, or for details about our corporate network support package, please contact:

customerservices@cipfa.org

Our current networks are:

- Better Governance Forum
- Benefits and Revenues Service
- Social Care Finance Advisory Network
- Finance Advisory Network
- Pensions Network
- Police and Fire Network
- Procurement and Commissioning Network
- Treasury Management Network



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