



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

WRITTEN STATEMENT BY THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

TITLE Wales Consultation on Public Procurement Secondary Legislation:
Part 1 and Part 2 – Welsh Government’s Consultation response

DATE 14 November 2023

BY Rebecca Evans MS, Minister for Finance and Local Government

I am pleased to publish today a summary of responses to the Welsh Government’s Consultation on Public Procurement Secondary Legislation.

The changes being introduced by the Procurement Act and associated Regulations will create a simpler, more flexible set of rules, making public procurement more accessible to businesses including Welsh SMEs and increase transparency.

The first part of the consultation sought views on whether the technical detail of the drafting was accurate and achievable. It focused on areas of the Procurement Act which require lists, calculations or further definitions to be used in practice.

The second part of the consultation predominantly focused on the transparency notices which allow contracting authorities to progress procurement processes through the procurement lifecycle in an open, transparent and informative manner.

The consultation was split into two parts, which ran for a period of six weeks each between 19 June and 28 July 2023. We were pleased to receive responses from a wide range of organisations from across Wales, including the WLGA, the Higher Education sector, the social housing sector, the Fire and Rescue Service, government bodies including WGSBs, and academia and the private sector.

We have carefully considered all responses and, today, have published a summary of responses, available [here](#) and [here](#). All responses and the matters raised will inform the further development of our secondary legislation. We will continue to engage with our stakeholders in preparation of the new regime.

My officials and I will continue to work closely with the UK Government on their respective statutory instruments (SIs) to ensure there is maximum alignment between the legislation and to minimise any risk of potential divergence. Securing maximum alignment between the procurement rules as they apply in Wales and England will have the effect of ensuring a level playing field for buyers and suppliers on both sides of the border. As a result, changes may be required to the draft Welsh SI following our analysis of the UK Government's response to their consultation, to ensure consistency continues whilst also allowing for devolved differences where appropriate.