



## Socially Responsible Procurement: A short guide for suppliers to the new law

On 25 March 2026 new rules on public procurement in Wales came into force. The procurement duties in the Social Partnership and Public Procurement (Wales) Act (SPPP Act) 2023 require certain public bodies to carry out their procurement in a way that improves social, environmental, economic and cultural well-being.

Over £10 billion is spent on public procurement in Wales each year. The socially responsible procurement duties in the SPPP Act govern the whole process, from early planning right through to contract management. Suppliers should expect to be asked about how they achieve well-being outcomes and manage risks during procurement, and as contracts are managed.

Contracting Authorities are public bodies listed in [Schedule 1](#) of the SPPP Act. Although the Act only places duties on these bodies, as a supplier you should expect to see changes to the questions you are asked and the way contracts are managed.

Contracting Authorities will have to publish Objectives, Procurement Strategies, and a Contracts Register. They will also have to consider including model clauses in all outsourcing services and major construction contracts and apply these throughout supply chains. If they decide not to include and apply the clauses they will have to notify Welsh Ministers, with reasons.

Suppliers:

- in the construction sector should familiarise themselves with the model clauses designed to ensure that payment is protected and flows quickly through supply chains, and that well-being outcomes included in prime contracts are tracked through supply chains;
- of outsourcing services should familiarise themselves with the model clauses which protect the terms and conditions of transferring workers and new joiners;
- should prepare for implementation of the clauses.

Contracting Authorities will also be required to publish an Annual Report which contains well-being information on their suppliers. If you are awarded a public contract, you may be asked to include your answers to a set of questions about your





business in your Supplier Profile in Sell2Wales. Information on Sell2Wales can be found [here](#).

The new duties will be applied proportionately; Contracting Authorities should focus on the well-being risks and opportunities that are most relevant to each procurement, especially for lower-value contracts.

Please visit our [webpage](#) for more information.

