

# GovProcure 2026

Driving public value through innovative & optimised procurement

10-12 MARCH 2026 | SYDNEY CENTRAL HOTEL

Speakers include:



**Racheal Kuczma**  
First Assistant Secretary -  
Commercial Division  
**Defence Australia**



**Coretta Bessi**  
Chair - Government  
Procurement Board  
**ACT Government**



**Tod Cooper**  
Director Procurement  
**Department of Corrections  
NZ**



**Dr Benjamin Marx**  
Principal Officer -  
Corruption Prevention  
**Independent Commission  
Against Corruption (ICAC)**



**Fern Lees**  
Director - Procurement &  
Contracting  
**IP Australia**



**Andre Harvey**  
Chief Procurement Officer -  
Commercial Services  
**Seqwater**



**Michelle Robinson**  
Manager - Procurement and  
Contracts  
**City of Ryde**



**Juliet Payne**  
Senior Manager -  
Procurement Governance  
and Enablement  
**Australian Securities and  
Investments Commission  
(ASIC)**



**David Hurrell**  
Associate Director  
Procurement  
**Infrastructure NSW**



**Laura Spikula**  
Head of Procurement &  
Supply Chain  
**TasNetworks**



**Madeleine Taylor**  
Senior Director - Property,  
Procurement & Programs  
**ACT Courts & Tribunals**



**Luke Kenny**  
Chief Executive Officer  
**Local Government  
Procurement**



**Erin Flynn**  
Senior Director - Office  
for Women & Youth  
Engagement  
**ACT Government**



**Nicole Croak**  
Head of Procurement &  
Supply Chain  
**Endeavour Energy**



**Geoff Fietz**  
Director - Procurement  
and Contracts  
**ACT Courts and Tribunals**

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# Australia's leading **Government Procurement** event returns!

**GovProcure 2026** brings government procurement leaders together to drive value, build capability, and prepare for the future.

Through real-world case studies, skills-focused sessions, and insights from leaders across all levels of government, you'll explore technology, collaboration, supplier engagement, category management, contracts, and the skills needed for the next generation of procurement. You'll leave with practical tools to transform processes, elevate your commercial capabilities, and redefine procurement's role in delivering better outcomes for the public.

“ For those who want real life examples of challenging the status quo in public sector procurement to take your function to the next level, come to GovProcure and walk away confident and supported in your new direction.

Chief Procurement Officer, Auckland City Council (past attendee)

## Top 8 Reasons to Attend:

- 1 Optimise cost management through smarter negotiation & supplier evaluation
- 2 Turn CPR reforms into practical wins by simplifying workflows, cutting red tape & boosting supplier participation
- 3 Explore government case studies on using AI to increase efficiency & solve procurement challenges
- 4 Build climate-resilient procurement processes to maintain service continuity amidst disruptions
- 5 Mitigate modern slavery risks with improved due diligence, contracting & ongoing monitoring
- 6 Learn how to harness analytics & dashboards to manage supplier risks, price volatility & compliance challenges
- 7 Future-proof your team with a guide to hiring strategies, training programs & leadership development
- 8 Master how to use high level supplier & market insights to make better procurement decisions

“ Attending GovProcure not only helps through the immediate knowledge download, it also helps develop strong relationships with key leaders in the procurement field.

Strategic Procurement Advisor, Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service (past attendee)



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# Additional Speakers



**Kerry Ellis**  
Deputy Ombudsman -  
Corporate  
**Victorian Ombudsman**



**Mohsen Mousavi**  
Faculty of Science &  
Engineering  
**Macquarie University**



**Rozana Sabrin**  
Procurement Specialist  
**City of Ryde**



**Dr Rob Halsall**  
Managing Director  
**The Executive Athlete**



**John Lambert**  
Category Manager -  
ICT Procurement  
**TAFE NSW**



**Fern Lees**  
Director - Procurement &  
Contracting  
**IP Australia**



**Anuj Saraogi**  
Senior Executive Leader -  
Customer Engagement  
Services  
(Digital Data & Technology)  
**ACT Government**



**Charlotte Payne**  
General Manager  
**CIPS Australia & New  
Zealand**



**Erin Flynn**  
Senior Director - Office  
for Women & Youth  
Engagement  
**ACT Government**



**Geoff Fietz**  
Director - Procurement &  
Contracts  
**ACT Courts & Tribunal**



**Teresa Scott**  
Executive Director  
**Australian Procurement &  
Construction Council**



**Marea Getsios**  
Procurement &  
Contracts Manager  
**Inner West Council**



**Deb Barwick**  
Chairperson &  
Executive Officer  
**NSW Indigenous Chamber  
of Commerce (NSWICC)**



**Tranquility Clinton**  
National Lead for Probity,  
Procurement & Integrity  
Services  
**RSM**



**Heike Rietzschel**  
Procurement Manager  
**Scenic Rim Regional  
Council**



**Mathew Baldwin**  
Partner  
**Thomson Geer**



**Bronwyn Williams**  
Keynote Speaker  
Mentor & PhD Researcher



**Dave Timm**  
Chief Executive Officer  
**Red Marble AI**



**Daniel O'Halloran**  
Commercial Director  
**COS**



**Kimberly Randle**  
Co-Founder and CEO  
**Fair Supply**



**Travis MacLachlan**  
Commercial Solutions  
Manager  
**Flow Power**



**Glenn Gunstone**  
Sales Director  
**Winc Australia**



**Luke Tindale**  
Chief Executive Officer  
**Finsbury Green**





08:15 Registration & Welcome Coffee  
08:50 Opening Remarks from the Chair

**Charlotte Payne**  
General Manager  
**CIPS Australia & New Zealand**

## Modernising Procurement with New Tools & Innovative Processes

09:00 **CASE STUDY: Procurement transformation in practice: smarter policies, stronger tools, better outcomes**  
Join the Director of Procurement at Corrections NZ for an in-depth examination of how the department has transformed its procurement operations, the tools and policies introduced to develop a best-in-class procurement function, and the impact such changes can have on supplier relationships. Attendees will gain practical insights into replicable elements they can take back to their own organisations to improve efficiency, compliance, and overall results.

**Tod Cooper**  
Director Procurement  
**Department of Corrections NZ**

09:30 **Social Procurement Strategies**  
 **Glenn Gunstone**  
Sales Director  
**Winc Australia**

09:50 **Making CPR reforms work for you: simplifying workflows, cutting red tape & boosting supplier participation**  
• Interpreting CPR updates in plain language and applying them in practical ways that reduce, rather than add, complexity  
• Examining real world examples of agencies that have removed duplication, aligned workflows, and designed faster approval pathways while maintaining probity  
• Spotlighting how reforms can modernise evaluation criteria, encourage innovation, and open doors for SMEs and Indigenous suppliers

**Racheal Kuczma**  
First Assistant Secretary - Commercial Division  
**Defence Australia**

10:20 Morning Tea & Networking

10:50 **PANEL DISCUSSION: How can government procurement teams cut red tape without losing probity?**

**Coretta Bessi**  
Chair - Government Procurement Board  
**ACT Government**  
Managing Director  
**CT Procurement Solutions**

**Tranquility Clinton**  
National Lead for Probity Procurement & Integrity Services  
**RSM**

**Rozana Sabrin**  
Procurement Specialist  
**City of Ryde**

**Ben Smith**  
Managing Director  
**Procurement Integrity Services**

11:30 **Reducing Red Tape at Scale: How Shared Procurement Models Enable Faster, Safer Government Outcomes.**

**Julie Wiggins**  
General Manager - Local Government  
**Procurement Australia**

11:50 **CASE STUDY: Coordinating complex cross-government procurement programs**  
The ACT Government's Free Period Products Program is a highly complex, multi-agency initiative combining legislative change, budget allocation, procurement & supply chain management, and community engagement, all across multiple departments and suppliers. Erin Flynn will share the challenges faced, lessons learned, and takeaways for other government procurement teams.

**Erin Flynn**  
Senior Director - Office for Women & Youth Engagement  
**ACT Government**

12:20 Lunch & Networking

## Rethinking & Achieving Supplier Diversity

13:20 **Tackling verification challenges and protecting the integrity of supplier diversity programs**  
• Understanding what black cladding looks like in practice and how it undermines trust, competition, and real Indigenous participation  
• Improving program integrity by strengthening verification reforms,  
• Taking practical steps to verify claims, manage contracts, and ensure diverse suppliers are included in delivery, not just in the bid

**Kate Russell**  
Chief Executive Officer  
**Supply Nation**

13:50 **Building genuine supplier diversity and strengthening trust in government procurement**  
• Supporting Indigenous businesses, social enterprises, & diverse suppliers to scale up and compete for complex government contracts  
• Using strong verification processes to prevent fraudulent claims of ownership & ensure diversity programs deliver benefits  
• Improving awareness of qualified suppliers, expanding networks & lowering barriers to entry for small businesses

**Michelle Robinson**  
Manager - Procurement and Contracts  
**City of Ryde**

14:10 **Breaking Barriers The responsibility and capability of business.**  
 **Daniel O'Halloran**  
Commercial Director  
**COS**

14:30 **PANEL DISCUSSION: How can procurement teams overcome the most challenging obstacles to partnering with Indigenous suppliers?**

**Madeleine Taylor**  
Senior Director - Property, Procurement & Programs  
**ACT Courts & Tribunals**

**Deb Barwick**  
Chairperson & Executive Officer  
**NSW Indigenous Chamber of Commerce (NSWICC)**

**Fern Lees**  
Director - Procurement & Contracting  
**IP Australia**

**Heike Rietzschel**  
Procurement Manager  
**Scenic Rim Regional Council**

**Daniel O'Halloran**  
Commercial Director  
**COS**

15:10 Afternoon Tea & Networking

## Interactive Working Roundtables

Share ideas, test approaches, and gain practical tips from your peers facing the same challenges. Each roundtable is designed to give you insights you can take straight back to your day-to-day role. You will be able to choose three of the below to attend with each roundtable running concurrently over three time slots.

**Round 1 15:30 - 16:00** **Round 2 16:00 - 16:30** **Round 3 16:30 - 17:00**

Roundtable 1 **Mitigating modern slavery risks in procurement**

Roundtable 2 **Climate-resilient procurement for the Australian public sector**

Roundtable 3 **Using supplier and market insights to make better decisions**

**Laura Spikula**  
Head of Procurement & Supply Chain  
**TasNetworks**

Roundtable 4 **Building confidence for presentations, meetings & negotiations**

**Madeleine Taylor**  
Director of Transition Programs and Engagement  
**Defence Australia**

Roundtable 5 **Value Erosion and the 10 Pitfalls of Contracting**

**Sharon Morris**  
Group Regional Head - APAC  
**World Commerce & Contracting**

Roundtable 6 **As procurement evolves, so must we-which skills do we need to strengthen or acquire to keep delivering excellence?**

**Teresa Scott**  
Executive Director  
**Australian Procurement & Construction Council**

Roundtable 7 **Embedding supplier diversity into day-to-day procurement decisions**

**Marea Getsios**  
Procurement & Contracts Manager  
**Inner West Council**

17:20 Closing Remarks from the Chair & end of Day 1

17:25 Networking Drinks

# REGISTER TODAY!



08:15 Registration & Welcome Coffee  
08:50 Opening Remarks from the Chair

**Charlotte Payne**  
General Manager  
**CIPS Australia & New Zealand**

## The Future of Government Procurement

09:00 **FIRESIDE CHAT: What the future holds for government procurement**  
Procurement is being asked to step into a broader role than ever before, from delivering savings and innovation to driving social, environmental, and resilience outcomes. In this candid discussion, senior leaders will share their perspectives on the biggest shifts shaping the future of procurement and how to adapt to meet a new expanded mandate.

Facilitator: **Rob Halsall**  
Managing Director  
**The Executive Athlete**

Special Guests:  
**Luke Kenny**  
Chief Executive Officer  
**Local Government Procurement**

## Strengthening Governance, Ethics and Integrity

09:40 **Lessons from Operation Hector**  
Operation Hector was an ICAC procurement investigation involving two public authorities, many different companies and two very different procurement approaches. As a result, it provides a broad sweep of procurement corruption risks and risk factors.

This presentation will provide an overview of the:

- corrupt scheme in Operation Hector and how it evolved over time
- systemic issues that were conducive to corrupt conduct at each authority
- root causes of systemic issues in each authority.

**Dr Benjamin Marx**  
Principal Officer - Corruption Prevention  
**Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC)**

## Harnessing AI & Automation to Transform Procurement

10:10 **Procurement Integrity Services (PISA)**  
**Ben Smith**  
Managing Director  
**Procurement Integrity Services (PISA)**

10:40 Morning Tea & Networking

11:00 **CASE STUDY: Using AI and automation to increase procurement efficiency and reduce bottlenecks**  
This session deep dives into the AI-enabled procurement automation program at Blacktown City Council, which received a grant as part of NSW's Early Adopter Grant Program to utilise AI in its systems. The presentation demonstrates how AI and automation tools can be applied to RFX drafting, supplier scoring, and contract management to cut cycle times, reduce admin burden, and free staff for higher-value work.

**Mohsen Mousavi**  
Faculty of Science & Engineering  
**Macquarie University**

11.30 **PANEL DISCUSSION: How can procurement leaders harness new technologies to solve procurement challenges & deliver real value?**

- Which emerging technologies are proving most useful in addressing day-to-day procurement challenges, and why?
- How can tools like AI or automation reduce bottlenecks without adding new risks or complexity?
- What obstacles make it difficult for procurement teams to adopt new tech, and how can they be overcome?
- Where should procurement leaders focus first to get the most value out of digital tools?

Moderator:  
**Charlotte Payne**  
General Manager  
**CIPS Australia & New Zealand**

**Anuj Saraogi**  
Senior Executive Leader - Customer Engagement Services (Digital Data & Technology)  
**ACT Government**

**Travis MacLachlan**  
Commercial Solutions Manager  
**Flow Power**

Panellists:  
**Andre Harvey**  
Chief Procurement Officer - Commercial Services  
**Seqwater**

**John Lambert**  
Category Manager - ICT Procurement  
**TAFE NSW**

12:10 Enabling Government agencies to shift from tactical to strategic procurement

**Luke Tindale**  
Chief Executive Officer  
**Finsbury Green**

12:30 Lunch & Networking

13:30 **Using analytics and dashboards to manage risks and track supplier performance**

- Gaining visibility into supplier risks, price volatility, and compliance in one place through predictive analytics and real time dashboards
- Learning how to anticipate problems early and monitor delivery performance with greater accuracy
- Discovering how integrated reporting tools can simplify fragmented requirements and strengthen decision making across procurement teams

**David Hurrell**  
Associate Director Procurement  
**Infrastructure NSW**

## Future-Proofing Procurement Teams

14:00 **Building capability for the next generation of procurement professionals**

- Building stronger teams by applying targeted hiring strategies that attract and retain skilled professionals
- Developing staff capability through tailored training programs that lift confidence and performance
- Creating future ready procurement functions by investing in leadership pathways and succession planning

**Nicole Croak**  
Head of Procurement & Supply Chain  
**Endeavour Energy**

## Smarter Cost and Contract Management

14:30 **Optimising cost management to deliver more with less**

- Applying total cost of ownership methods to uncover savings beyond the initial purchase price
- Analysing supplier spend to identify opportunities for efficiency and better value outcomes
- Designing evaluation frameworks that reward innovation and transparency while avoiding lowest cost defaults

**Kerryn Ellis**  
Deputy Ombudsman - Corporate  
**Victorian Ombudsman**

15:00 Afternoon Tea & Networking

15:30 **Strengthening negotiation skills to manage supplier costs with confidence**

- Managing price escalation with confidence to protect budgets and maintain value in contracts
- Pushing back on unfavourable terms by applying proven negotiation strategies tailored to government settings
- Strengthening your position at the table by using market insights to inform tactics and outcomes

**Geoff Fietz**  
Director - Procurement & Contracts  
**ACT Courts & Tribunal**

16:00 **Managing performance and disputes in major government contracts**

- Monitoring supplier performance more effectively to detect early signs of under delivery
- Addressing scope changes and disputes quickly to minimise disruption and protect project outcomes
- Leveraging contract tools and clauses to resolve issues and safeguard value for money

**Mathew Baldwin**  
Partner  
**Thomson Geer**

16:30 Closing Remarks from the Chair & End of GovProcure 2026

 **Great calibre of speakers who did not hesitate to share a wealth of knowledge and experience for the betterment of all.**

Strategic Procurement Specialist, Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC) (past attendee)



# PRE-CONFERENCE MASTERCLASS

## Tuesday, 10 March

**SEPARATELY  
BOOKABLE**

Available to book separately or as a part of your 3-day conference pass

The pre-conference masterclass provide attendees with morning and afternoon tea breaks and a 1-hour lunch break allowing for extra networking opportunities and in-depth learning.

The masterclass start at 9:00 and finish at 16:30.

### Masterclass:

#### AI Toolbox for Procurement Professionals

Procurement professionals are increasingly being asked to understand and apply artificial intelligence, yet many feel unsure where to start. With so much hype around AI, the challenge is to separate what is useful from what is unrealistic, and to build confidence in using AI-enabled tools for everyday procurement tasks.

This one-day masterclass provides a practical, hands-on introduction to AI concepts, demonstrates their applications in the procurement lifecycle, and equips attendees with the skills to experiment safely and confidently.

#### Learning Outcomes

- Examining the main categories of AI tools relevant to government procurement
- Analysing how AI can support tasks such as drafting RFx documents, identifying supplier risks, automating scoring, and streamlining reporting
- Working through demonstrations of accessible AI applications, giving attendees a chance to experiment with tools in a guided environment
- Understanding common pitfalls, including data quality issues, bias, and over-reliance on automation, while learning to use AI responsibly
- Building a set of techniques and recommended tools that can be immediately applied to everyday procurement activities

By the end of this masterclass, attendees will have the knowledge and confidence to engage with AI, identify where it can make their work easier, and use it in ways that add value while staying compliant with government standards.

Whether you are drafting documents, evaluating suppliers, or reporting on contract performance, this session will reveal how AI can become a trusted part of your procurement toolbox.

Facilitator:

**Dave Timm**  
Chief Executive Officer  
**Red Marble AI**



Great calibre of speakers who did not hesitate to share a wealth of knowledge and experience for the betterment of all.

Strategic Procurement Specialist, Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC) (past attendee)

## Sponsorship & Exhibition Opportunities

**GovProcure 2026** is the meeting place for engaged and enthusiastic leaders in the procurement space from across all levels of government throughout Australia. The event attracts senior leaders and decision-makers who are looking for solutions to improve their procurement processes and outcomes. The event offers a platform to interact, build relationships and position your organisation as a solution provider of choice.



There are numerous sponsorship and exhibition opportunities available with packages designed to help you meet your marketing and sales targets. Contact **Milad Etemadi** on [milade@questevents.com.au](mailto:milade@questevents.com.au) or **+61 (0) 478 195 857** to discuss how we can help you connect with your ideal audience.

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**3 DAY GOVERNMENT PACKAGE**  
**10-12 March**

Full access to the 3-day main conference session  
One pre-conference masterclass  
All networking sessions  
**Regular price \$3,295**

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**11-12 March**

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**Regular price \$2,295**

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**11-12 March**

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All networking sessions  
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**10 March**

One pre-conference masterclass  
**Regular price \$2,195**



All prices are inclusive of GST

\*Government pricing is available to Local, State, and Federal Government departments, agencies, and statutory authorities, including government-owned corporations and other publicly operated entities. All other attendees must book at the standard price, including vendors, consultants and solution providers.

Important: please familiarise yourself with our cancellation policy and all other terms and conditions before registering for the event. If you have any questions, please call the booking hotline on +61 (0)2 9977 0565

**GROUP DISCOUNTS**

- 15%** 3-6 delegate package
- 20%** 7-10 delegate package
- 25%** 11+ delegate package

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