

GovPROCURE 2026

Driving public value through innovative & optimised procurement

10-12 MARCH 2026 | SYDNEY

Speakers include:



Racheal Kuczma
First Assistant Secretary -
Commercial Division
Defence Australia



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



Carla Teteris
Senior Corruption
Prevention Officer
**Independent Commission
Against Corruption (ICAC)**



Emma Molloy
Chief Procurement Officer
iCare



Coretta Bessi
Chair - Government
Procurement Board
ACT Government



David Hurrell
Associate Director
Procurement
Infrastructure NSW



Nicole Croak
Head of Procurement &
Supply Chain
Endeavour Energy



Andre Harvey
Chief Procurement Officer -
Commercial Services
Seqwater



Laura Spikula
Head of Procurement &
Supply Chain
TasNetworks



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



Lace Wang
Assistant Secretary -
Modern Slavery & Human
Trafficking Branch
**Attorney General's
Department**



Kate Russell
Chief Executive Officer
Supply Nation



Alex Araujo
Executive Director -
Procurement
HealthShare NSW



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



Byron Crawford
Deputy Strategy &
Capability and Chief Risk
Officer
Triple Zero Victoria

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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)**



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



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



Lorna Elisei
Contract Management
Specialist
Victoria Legal Aid



Mathew Baldwin
Partner
Thomson Geer



Bronwyn Williams
Keynote Speaker
Mentor & PhD Researcher



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)



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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 Partner presentation

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?**

- Where do procurement teams face the most unnecessary duplication or delays in current workflows, and how can they be reduced?
- What practical approaches have agencies and departments used to simplify approvals without undermining probity or transparency?
- How can technology or data tools help streamline compliance tasks while improving oversight?

Moderator:



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

Panellists:



Emma Molloy
Chief Procurement Officer
iCare



Lorna Elisei
Contract Management
Specialist
Victoria Legal Aid



Rozana Sabrin
Procurement Specialist
City of Ryde

11:30 CASE STUDY: **Breaking silos: how the ACT is aligning departments & suppliers to deliver a complex multi-agency procurement project**
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

12:00 Lunch & Networking

Rethinking & Achieving Supplier Diversity

13:00 **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
Director - Sourcing
Transport for NSW

13:30 Partner Presentation

13:50 PANEL DISCUSSION: **How can procurement teams overcome the most challenging obstacles to partnering with Indigenous suppliers?**

- How can you balance compliance requirements with the flexibility smaller or emerging suppliers often need?
- What support structures or partnerships make the biggest difference in building Indigenous supplier capability?
- How can procurement teams ensure supplier diversity initiatives translate into measurable community and economic impact?

Moderator:



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

Panellists:



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

14:30 **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

15:00 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 15:40 - 16:10

Round 2 16:10 - 16:40

Round 3 16:40 - 17:10

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



Lace Wang
Assistant Secretary - Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking Branch
Attorney General's Department

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



Byron Crawford
Deputy Strategy & Capability and Chief Risk Officer
Triple Zero Victoria

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
Senior Director - Property, Procurement & Programs
ACT Courts & Tribunals

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



Sharon Morris
Group Regional Head - APAC
World Commerce & Contracting

Roundtable 6 **Managing ethical and governance risks in procurement**



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

17:10 Closing Remarks from the Chair & end of Day 1

17:15 Networking Drinks



AGENDA DAY 2 Thursday, 12 March

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



Alex Araujo
Executive Director - Procurement
HealthShare NSW

Strengthening Governance, Ethics and Integrity

09:40 **Reinforcing ethics and governance in government procurement while mitigating risk**

- Safeguarding integrity in procurement by applying practical behaviours that reinforce probity in every decision
- Strengthening governance frameworks to reduce risks of misconduct and protect organisational reputation
- Upholding the highest ethical standards to maintain public trust and ensure long term credibility in government procurement



Carla Teteris
Senior Corruption Prevention Officer
Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC)

Harnessing AI & Automation to Transform Procurement

10:10 **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

10:40 Morning Tea & Networking

11:00 **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



Panellists:
Andre Harvey
Chief Procurement Officer - Commercial Services
Seqwater



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



John Lambert
Category Manager - ICT Procurement
TAFE NSW

11:40 Partner presentation

12:00 **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

12:30 Lunch & Networking

Future-Proofing Procurement Teams

13:30 **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

14:00 **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

14:30 Partner presentation

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



REGISTER TODAY!



PRE-CONFERENCE MASTERCLASSES

Tuesday, 10 March

**SEPARATELY
BOOKABLE**

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

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

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

Masterclass A:

Mastering Negotiation Skills – the Cornerstone of Procurement Success

Whether you're securing a high-stakes deal, advocating for a promotion, or navigating the complexities of cross-functional collaboration, negotiation is a fundamental business skill that can shape your career trajectory.

Through practical strategies, real-world scenarios, and expert facilitation, this highly interactive session will equip you with the tools to advocate for yourself and your ideas, unlock new opportunities, and drive better outcomes for your organisation and career.

Learning Outcomes:

- Examining the core principles of effective negotiation and how to apply them in both formal and informal settings
- Exploring proven techniques for managing nerves, overcoming imposter syndrome, and approaching negotiations with calm self-assurance
- Developing strategies to handle pushback, conflict, and high-pressure discussions with professionalism and poise
- Learning how to assess what you bring to the table, identify leverage points, and position your value to others persuasively
- Discovering how to achieve your goals while maintaining respect, trust, and collaboration with peers and stakeholders
- Identifying your personal negotiation style, adapting it to different scenarios, and building a flexible toolkit that works across contexts

By the end of this masterclass, you'll walk away with a renewed sense of confidence, a clear set of actionable strategies, and a framework for approaching every negotiation, big or small, with purpose and skill.

Facilitator:

Bronwyn Williams

Keynote Speaker, Mentor & PhD Researcher



Masterclass B:

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



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** or **+61 (0) 478 195 857** to discuss how we can help you connect with your ideal audience.

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One pre-conference masterclass

All networking sessions

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11-12 March

Full access to the 2-day main conference session

All networking sessions

Register on or before 12 December
\$1,495 (Save \$800)

Regular price \$2,295

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11-12 March

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All networking sessions

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10 March

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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

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Please note, any eligible group discounts will be applied automatically once the final delegate registration has been completed.

Call our account executives with any questions or to discuss the best discount options for you.

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