

WALGA Convention – Procurement Network Forum Agenda

Managing Procurement Risk in an Uncertain World

Wednesday 24 September 2025, 9.30am–4pm

Meeting Rooms 1-2, Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre

8.00–10.00	Supplier Exhibition Open to PNF Attendees	
9.15–9.30	Registration Opens	Outside Meeting Room 8
9.30–10.30	Setting the Scene with WALGA	
9.30	<p>Welcome and Managing Procurement Risk</p> <p>With over 23 years in public service, Willem Bouwer is an experienced governance and procurement expert currently serving as a Procurement Specialist at WALGA. His multidisciplinary qualifications span Politics, Psychology, Communications, Education, Defence Studies, Management, Procurement and Law.</p> <p>Willem has held key roles in Defence procurement, where he managed policy frameworks, tendering and contracting templates, professional development initiatives and was the CIPS ACT Regional Chair. Willem continues to champion best practices in governance and procurement, helping Local Governments navigate complex regulatory landscapes and improve operational integrity and effectiveness.</p>	<p>Willem Bouwer, Procurement Specialist, WALGA</p>
9.50	<p>Economic Briefing Update</p> <p>Daniel Thomson is the Manager Economics in WALGA's policy team. He has a background in economics, development and business management in the Local Government and non-profit sectors.</p>	<p>Daniel Thomson, Manager Economics Policy, WALGA</p>
10.10	<p>Preferred Supplier Program Update</p> <p>Kirsty Martin is the Manager Commercial Management at WALGA and oversees the delivery of the Preferred Supplier Program. Kirsty came to WALGA 3 years ago after a career predominantly in State Government working on large infrastructure projects and more recently Local Government policy and legislation.</p>	<p>Kirsty Martin, Manager Commercial Management, WALGA</p>
10.30–11.00	Morning Tea	Outside Meeting Room 8
11.00–12.00	<p>When Procurement Goes Wrong</p> <p><i>Join legal experts from DLA Piper as they explore the lessons learned from when procurement, tenders and contracts go wrong. They'll dive into a variety of case studies exploring what went wrong, and how legal action could've been avoided by the use of good procurement processes and practices.</i></p> <p>Cameron Maclean advises clients on a variety of civil litigation and insurance related disputes. Cameron has had 25 years professional experience and has acted on some of the most high profile and high value insurance litigation in WA. Cameron is a senior litigation partner at DLA Piper.</p> <p>Simon Hubbard advises clients on a variety of civil litigation and insurance related disputes. These include professional negligence, directors' and officers' liability, defamation, contractual and trade practices claims. Simon practices in State and Federal courts of all levels, in both an advocacy and advisory capacity and in relation to a variety of disputes from straightforward claims to more complex multi-party disputes. Simon also offers advice on all aspects of claims handling and management.</p>	<p>Cameron Maclean, Partner, DLA Piper</p> <p>Simon Hubbard, Special Counsel, DLA Piper</p>
12.00–13.30	<p>Supplier Exhibition</p> <p>Lunch served from 12.30–1.30pm in the Supplier Exhibition</p>	

13.30	<p>Understanding Risk in Contract Management</p> <p><i>Ever had something unexpected occur during the management of a contract? Did you know that if your Local Government steps in to assist the contractor with that issue, that you could be shifting liability from the contractor to the Local Government or altering the terms of the Contract? This presentation is about the risks that can arise during the Contract Management cycle. It is designed to alert you to the issues we are seeing in the sector and provide you with tools to either avoid them or call for assistance.</i></p> <p>Brenton Oakley has been providing advice and court/ tribunal representation to Local Governments for many years. In the last decade, he has provided more than 150 legal opinions on matters related to planning, governance, statutory construction, contract and tender related matters. As a Special Counsel at Moray & Agnew he provides planning, building, procurement, complex contract and governance advice and training to metropolitan and regional Local Governments with an approachable and friendly manner.</p>	Brenton Oakley , Special Counsel, Moray & Agnew
14.00	<p>Using Contractual Approaches to Manage Procurement Risk</p> <p><i>In all walks of life, change happens. In procurement, change often brings risk with it. Those risks can arise at different stages of the procurement life cycle. In this presentation, we will examine some of the critical junctures where 'deviation' risks can arise. We hope to arm you with a new way of thinking about risk management before and after those risks materialise – one we often use when procurement issues land on our desks as lawyers. That approach is a contractual one, focusing on allocation of risk and materiality. We hope to show how the contractual approach can help in the early identification of procurement issues and the crafting of practical solutions.</i></p> <p>Before joining Civic Legal, David Coulter was a partner in a major full-service law firm in Florida, with a focus on commercial dispute resolution. One of his major clients was the City of Miami Gardens. David is now part of the Civic Legal specialist Local Government team. He advises at the procurement stage, and also where contracts fall into dispute. David is conscious of having to resolve legal issues for Local Governments in ways that are appropriate to their status as public authorities.</p>	David Coulter , Senior Associate, Civic Legal
14.30	Afternoon Tea	Outside Meeting Room 8
14.50	<p>Procurement Audit Risks: Local Government Management of Purchasing Cards</p> <p>Aloha joined the OAG in 2002 and was appointed Assistant Auditor General in 2019. Prior to joining the OAG, Aloha held a range of investigation and audit positions with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission and the Australian Taxation Office.</p>	Aloha Morrissey , Assistant Auditor General – Information Systems and Performance Audit, Office of the Auditor General
15.20	Panel Discussion	
15.50	Closing Remarks	Felicity Morris , Manager Governance and Procurement, WALGA
16.00	Formal Close	