

Scottish Parliament fact-finding visit on:

The Procurement Reform (Scotland) Bill



11.00am - 1.00pm
Tuesday 19th November 2013
FREE

The Albany
Learning and Conference Centre
44 Ashley Street, Glasgow G3 6DS

GCVS is delighted to be hosting a fact-finding session with the Scottish Parliament's Infrastructure and Capital Investment Committee on Tuesday 19th November.

The focus of the Committee's event will be The Procurement Reform (Scotland) Bill and Committee members are keen to hear the views of the Third sector as part of this important discussion.

This is your chance to talk to MSPs about how an important Bill could affect *your* sector and *your* organisation, and GCVS will be delighted if you can take a few hours to attend on 19th November.

Background

Some £9 billion per year is spent by the public sector on goods and services across Scotland. Now, the Scottish Government has introduced this bill, seeking to establish a national legislative framework for a public procurement process that supports Scotland's economic growth.

The Bill places a number of duties on contracting authorities, including a sustainable procurement duty and a duty to prepare and review a procurement strategy and publish annual reports. It also outlines community benefit requirements and sets standards on procurement of recyclable and reusable materials.

The Committee is to examine the Bill and report its views to the wider Scottish Parliament. Infrastructure and Capital Investment Committee Convener Maureen Watt MSP said: "The Bill has the admirable and logical goal of seeking to use the public sector spend to support Scotland's economic growth. We want to hear from organisations and businesses on the key areas of the Bill that aim to improve procurement in Scotland and support innovation. At this point, we are looking for evidence to see if the Bill addresses the issues faced by those compiling tenders and those bidding for contracts and whether it will assist smaller businesses, social enterprises and third sector bodies to play a greater role in public sector contracts."

MSPs - through the Infrastructure and Capital Investment Committee - now invite Glasgow's Third Sector organisations to this important meeting at the Albany Centre on 19th November, so that they can register their views on public sector procurement.

These views will be taken into account before the Committee makes its recommendations to Parliament, early in 2014.

Booking places:

To book places email john.robertson@gcvs.org.uk

Please state your name, organisation and any access needs.

Please book quickly as this fact-finding visit will be popular.