

# UK Regulatory | Public Procurement

It takes experience to see opportunities where others see obstacles. Our experience is founded in helping governments, global utility companies and national and international contractors to navigate projects and tenders through the procurement process, find solutions to procurement problems and resolve procurement challenges. However we help you, our priority is to ensure that the procurement rules are a facilitator, not an impediment: a means to achieving your strategic goals.

The team are widely acknowledged experts in public procurement law and regulation. As lawyers, we know that clients come to us when they need advice to support a decision-making process. We understand the importance of really listening when clients tell us what they need and what they want to achieve. If you work with us already you'll know that we provide advice that is strategic and commercial, with technical excellence as its foundation. If you don't know us yet, we'd be delighted to show what we can do to help you with procurement.

We design (and help run) efficient processes for highly complex procurements that comply with the legal requirements without being dictated by them. We advise on procurement strategy, draft robust and effective tender documents and evaluation methodologies, and advise contractors on maximising their tender scores. We also help to structure procurements to minimise the impact of the rules, making full use of available exemptions and case law interpretations.

We are a "go-to" team for clients bringing/defending challenges, with a strong track record of success before both the UK and EU courts, including on the complex procurement regimes applicable to EU institutions, NATO, the EBRD, etc.. We have handled a number of the highest profile public procurement claims heard in the High Court in England in recent years.



## Examples of our UK experience

- Representing **the Met Office** in its £1.2bn procurement of supercomputing capability, advising on every stage of the tender process – from helping develop procurement strategy to drafting the tender documentation. This novel procurement will result in the first ever procurement in the UK of supercomputing capability “as a service.”
- Defending **European Global Navigation Satellite System Agency (GSA)**, the EU agency responsible for the Galileo satellite navigation project, against a claim brought before the EU General Court by French satellite operator Eutelsat arising from GSA's handling of a €1.5 billion tender.
- Acting as sole external legal advisor to **the Gambling Commission** on all aspects of the 4th National Lottery Licence Competition.
- Acted for **Alliance Medical Limited** in High Court proceedings challenging the manner in which NHS England ran a £100 million-plus procurement for PET-CT scanning services.
- Assisting **London Legacy Development Corporation** with the procurement and State aid aspects of its project to redevelop an area of land in Hackney Wick on the edge of the former Olympic Park site.
- Successfully defending Barcelona-based **Fusion for Energy** in two procurement challenges at the EU General Court in relation to the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor project.
- Acting for **ALSTOM** in a UK challenge to Eurostar's award to Siemens of a £600m contract for Channel Tunnel rolling stock, a highly political case involving the French and German Governments and the European Commission.
- Assisting **Argent LLP and Related Inc** on their successful joint bid to lead the £3bn regeneration of the Brent Cross area of London.
- Advising French rail network operator **Reseau Ferre de France** in relation to the Tours-Bordeaux and Nimes-Montpellier high-speed rail concession contracts.



## Clients say ...

“Go-to contentious practice for many of the biggest public sector organisations and bidding parties.”

*Chambers UK, 2021*

“They're the sort of firm you want on your side to support you in heavy litigation.”

“...an unrivalled pedigree in public procurement”

*Chambers UK, 2021*

“They have some really fantastic public procurement lawyers and a very strong client base.”

*Chambers UK, 2020*

“...secures widespread recommendations”

*Who's Who Legal, 2020*



## Recognized for excellence

### Chambers UK Public Procurement

Ranked in Band 1 since 2016

Procurement team with the most ranked individuals of any UK firm

### Who's Who Legal Government Contracts

A “leading firm”, led by a “Global Elite Thought Leader”



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