

## **Writing for the PPLR**

There are three sections of the PPLR – articles, news & analysis, and book reviews.

### **Articles**

Anyone may submit an article to the articles section.

Our articles section is subject to peer review, so that when we receive your article we will need to have it reviewed before we can give a final decision on publication. However, we do ask our reviewers to complete these reviews within about 3 weeks and some manage to do it even sooner (although we have to admit that there occasionally longer delays). Thus we hope to get back to you very soon after receiving any contribution. Usually we can publish an article within the one or two issues after acceptance.

There are no particular deadlines for articles – the earlier we receive them the earlier they can be processed and published within the system! We consider what we have for each issue once it is time to put the issue together and in doing that take into account many factors – the need to be together a balanced and interesting issue, when pieces were received, and the topicality of the subject. However, as stated above, normally publication takes place within the next two issues after acceptance.

Articles are generally between 4 000 and 10 000 words, and should in all cases be no longer than needed to cover the subject matter. Whilst relevant background needs to be explained to make pieces accessible, such explanations should be as succinct as possible; contributors are discouraged from including lengthy background explanations that merely cover well-trodden ground and go beyond what is needed in this respect. Articles should refer to relevant key literature.

All articles must explain clearly at the start what is the contribution they provide to scholarship in public procurement – for example, if you are covering a topic already addressed in several articles you need to explain at the start how your article is different (for example, that it include analysis of new case law not previously examined, or offers a different interpretation of the legal rules from previous articles).

Articles should be sent by e-mail to [sue.arrowsmith@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:sue.arrowsmith@nottingham.ac.uk). You are welcome to email in advance of sending an article to enquire about the suitability of the subject matter (though this should be a brief enquiry about the general subject matter only; as explained below we do not look at drafts or papers that are not in the form of final submissions).

### **News & Analysis**

There is also a news and analysis section of the PPLR for shorter pieces, which is not subject to review: pieces considered suitable for this section by the editor are normally published without delay in the next available issues.

This section mainly covers new developments in legislation and case law i) at European Union level, and ii) in the United Kingdom, and also covers key international developments on procurement – for example, in UNCITRAL and the WTO. Notes on these topics are done by a designated team of contributors from the editorial board who are responsible for covering all developments in a particular area, and they have “first refusal” on the relevant notes. This is a system we have to make sure everything is always covered in a timely manner. However, if they have not already written the relevant note they are often very happy to use notes offered by others, so if you are interested in contributing a note please email the editor ([sue.arrowsmith@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:sue.arrowsmith@nottingham.ac.uk)) who will forward your email to the relevant person on the editorial board.

We also welcome contributions for the news and analysis section on matters not referred to above that will be of interest to our readers. This includes judicial decisions/legislation from jurisdictions not mentioned above that are of wide interest (for example, because they raise a novel point or offer a particularly interesting solution to, or perspective on, an issue), or any international agreements on procurement. If you are interested in contributing such a note please send it by e-mail to [sue.arrowsmith@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:sue.arrowsmith@nottingham.ac.uk).

### **Book reviews**

We are always pleased to receive books for review or to receive offers from anyone willing to review books for us. If you have a book to send for review or would like to review a book, you should first contact the books reviews editor: [Annamaria.LaChimia@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:Annamaria.LaChimia@nottingham.ac.uk)

There is a separate guide on writing a book review for PPLR available on the on the Public Procurement Research Group website ([www.nottingham.ac.law/pprg](http://www.nottingham.ac.law/pprg))

### **Submission conditions and requirements**

We do not consider articles or notes in draft form or in the form of student theses/dissertations that have not been drafted in proper article form: please send us only a version that you consider from your perspective to be the final version for submission to PPLR (as good as you can make it!). However, we may ask for later revisions to take accounts of the comments of reviewers.

Note also that submission to PPLR implies that the article has not been submitted to any other journal and will not be submitted elsewhere until our review process is complete.

All pieces should be submitted in our house style, in accordance with the Style Guide. This can be found on the Public Procurement Research Group website at ([www.nottingham.ac.law/pprg](http://www.nottingham.ac.law/pprg))