

Country case: Verbal debriefing in the United Kingdom

Description

Regulations in the United Kingdom require departments to debrief candidates for contracts exceeding European Union procurement thresholds. They also recommend debriefing for contracts below the thresholds.

Debriefing discussions are held face to face, by telephone or videoconference, within a maximum of 15 days following the contract award. The sessions are chaired by senior procurement personnel who were involved in the relevant procurement.

The topics for discussion during the debriefing depend mainly on the nature of the procurement. However, the session follows a predefined structure. First, after introductions, the procurement selection and evaluation process is explained. The second stage concentrates on the strengths and weaknesses of the supplier's bids to improve their understanding. After the discussion, the suppliers are asked to describe their views on the process and raise any further concerns or questions. At all stages, it is forbidden to reveal information about other submissions. Following the debrief, a note of the meeting is made for the record.

Effective debriefing may reduce the likelihood of legal challenge if suppliers are thereby convinced that the process has been carried out correctly and according to rules of procurement and probity.

Source: OECD (2016), [Towards Efficient Public Procurement in Colombia: Making the Difference](#), OECD Publishing, Paris.

Public Procurement
Principle: **Participation**

Procurement Stage:
Tendering

Audience: **Policy Maker,
Procuring Entity, Private
Sector**