

# A perspective from the UK and Public Procurement Law Review

Professor Sue Arrowsmith



## Background: Public Procurement Law Review

- Founded 1992
- 6 issues each year
- Publisher: Sweet & Maxwell (Thomson Reuters)



# Background

- Focus : issues relating to public procurement regulation
  - Mainly legal but some economic, business etc
- Focus: global coverage
  - About half coverage and readership is UK/EU



# Background

- News and Analysis
  - Mainly current issues (but some other brief comments)
  - Around 1000-3000 words
  - No peer review
- Articles
  - Around 4000-12000 words
  - Peer review
  - 70% accepted (50% of these after revision)



# Organisation

- Editor
  - Sue Arrowsmith (overall supervision and strategy; makes team appointments; decides content for each issue; some language and content editing; marketing)
- Assistant editors
  - Steen Treumer (academic – soliciting content, advice etc)
  - Adrian Brown (technical – and also organises European court case reporting)



# Organisation

- Editorial Board
  - Around 20 members
  - Global but reflect coverage i.e. more UK and EU
  - Requirement for *active* membership
  - Specific responsibilities
    - Reporting on specified areas
    - Soliciting material
    - Peer review
    - Marketing
  - No meetings

# Organisation

- Review editors
  - Annamaria La Chimia: Foreign language books
  - Sope Williams-Elegbe: English language books
- Pro-active approach needed



# Role of publisher

- Takes the profits!
- Technical editing only
  - No assistance on content or peer review (no automated system)
- Sales and distribution
- Marketing (in theory)



# Some lessons

- Importance of “the team”
  - Need to be active and pro-active
  - Need to cover all roles (writing, soliciting, editing, some reviewing)
  - Make expectations very clear
  - Early-career staff are often more effective at many tasks
  - Need regular review of team membership?



# Some lessons

- Automated processes can assist?
  - But most suitable for large volume of material
- Standardised documents on style, dealing with general queries etc



# Some lessons

- Marketing
  - Importance of significant academic input into this specialist area
  - Needs work!