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Contract

## **R083 - Local Plan Legal Support**

Middlesbrough Council

UK7: Contract details notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-004358

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-0608bb

Published 19 January 2026, 1:45pm

### **Scope**

### **Reference**

R083

### **Description**

Middlesbrough Council is preparing a new statutory development plan, known as the Local Plan, which will set out the planning framework for the borough. It is forward looking, setting out development proposals until 2041, and will include planning policies that will be used in the consideration of development proposals and planning applications.

As part of the plan making process, the Local Plan has been submitted to the Secretary of State who has appointed Planning Inspectors to undertake an Independent Examination, which is now underway. Part of the Examination process is the Public Hearing sessions, of which we have been advised to programme approximately 12 days for the hearings themselves. Hearing statements will also need to be prepared ahead of this during January 2026.

In order to support the Council it is necessary to seek expert support through the

procurement of a legal advocate, most likely a barrister who has experience of supporting local planning authorities through the examination process. The legal advocate will help to ensure the Council is in the best position to have the local plan found sound and legally compliant and be able to progress to adoption. Appointing appropriate counsel will minimise any delays in this overall process and help reduce associated overall risk, cost and operational uncertainty.

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## **Contract 1**

### **Supplier**

- Cornerstone Chambers Limited

### **Contract value**

- £91,666 excluding VAT
- £110,000 including VAT

Below the relevant threshold

### **Date signed**

12 January 2026

### **Contract dates**

- 12 January 2026 to 30 June 2026

- 5 months, 20 days

## **Main procurement category**

Services

## **CPV classifications**

- 79000000 - Business services: law, marketing, consulting, recruitment, printing and security

## **Contract locations**

- UKC12 - South Teesside

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## **Procedure**

### **Procedure type**

Below threshold - without competition

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## **Supplier**

### **Cornerstone Chambers Limited**

2-3 Gray's Inn Square, England

London

WC1R 5JH

United Kingdom

Email: [clerks@cornerstonebarristers.com](mailto:clerks@cornerstonebarristers.com)

Website: <https://cornerstonebarristers.com/>

Region: UKI31 - Camden and City of London

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1

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## **Contracting authority**

### **Middlesbrough Council**

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PLJH-5252-HJDM

PO Box 500

Middlesbrough

TS1 9FT

United Kingdom

Email: [procurement@middlesbrough.gov.uk](mailto:procurement@middlesbrough.gov.uk)

Website: <http://www.middlesbrough.gov.uk>

Region: UKC12 - South Teesside

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government