GDPR & ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE CONFERENCE PROGRAMME
11th December 2026 | 09:25 – 16:00

09.25 **Welcome**

09.30 – 10.15 **Procuring Public Sector AI Governance: The things you need to be considering now**

As artificial intelligence becomes embedded in public services, procurement teams face complex governance challenges. This session examines the key legal, ethical, and regulatory considerations councils and public bodies must address when procuring AI solutions, ensuring accountability, transparency, and compliance in an evolving legislative landscape.

Yashpreet Panesar, Associate, Trowers & Hamlins
Tayler-Mae Porter, Associate, Trowers & Hamlins

10.15 – 10.30 **Break**

10.30 – 11.15 **Keeping Pace with AI-Driven Demand: Practical AI for Public Sector Legal Teams**

Public sector legal teams are seeing a new kind of pressure. Residents, families and businesses now use AI tools to draft complaints, Freedom of Information requests, data protection requests and appeals, and these submissions are often longer, more detailed and more legally complex than before.

This practical session looks at how AI can help legal teams cope with that rising volume while maintaining the quality, accuracy and accountability that public law demand with examples drawn from typical day-to-day work of solicitors, monitoring officers and data protection teams.

Using legally trained AI tools, we'll show how teams can summarise lengthy submissions, identify the legal issues and statutes raised, check citations, and draft responses that are accurate and defensible. We'll also cover how to verify AI-generated content and spot where it may be unreliable, so that efficiency gains don't come at the cost of accuracy.

Delegates will leave with worked examples they can adapt to their own authority, a clearer view of where AI fits into their workflows, and practical next steps for their teams.

Tim Coles, Practical Law Senior Specialist Legal Editor, Thomson Reuters
Rachel Price, Sales Leader, Thomson Reuters

11.15 – 11.30 **Break**

11.30 – 12.15 **Super Intelligence vs the Human Race: Why We Need to Think Beyond 'Human in the Loop**

Effective AI governance and oversight that supports organisational outcomes is a key priority for public bodies implementing AI. Drawing on our AI project experience, our own AI journey and workshops with AI leaders, this session will explore how organisations can combine human judgement and AI capabilities to improve public service delivery. Using real-world examples, including social care, we will challenge whether traditional approaches to human oversight are sufficient and examine the implications for accountability, decision making, and governance. We will also consider the practical legal challenges surrounding AI procurement, deployment, contract management, and governance, highlighting the key questions local government legal teams should be asking.

James Arrowsmith, Partner, Browne Jacobson
Dmitrije Sirovica, Partner, Browne Jacobson
David R Hill, Partner, Browne Jacobson

12.15 – 13:15 **Lunch**

13.15 – 14.00 **Data Protection & AI: Statutory Changes, Case Law and Risk Management**

Andrew Latham will cover recent statutory changes and case law in data protection law. We will also consider managing the legal risks arising from the deployment of AI both by organisations, and individuals that local authorities may be interacting with.

Andrew Latham, Partner, Capsticks

14.00 – 14.15 **Break**

14.15 – 15.00 **Artificial Intelligence & Planning Law: What Happens When AI Meets the Planning System?**

AI is entering the planning system from three directions: councils using it to assess applications, the public using it to object and advisers using it to draft evidence. This session tests whether existing public law principles can cope. It covers the Planning Inspectorate's guidance, the risk of hallucinated authorities, and how a challenge to an AI-assisted decision might look in practice.

Joel Semakula, Barrister, Landmark Chambers

15.00 – 15.15 **Break**

15.15 – 16.00 **Data management and considerations for councils**

Councils hold vast amounts of sensitive data, creating significant legal obligations and operational risks. This session explores best practice approaches to data management, covering compliance with UK GDPR, data sharing frameworks,

retention policies, and the practical steps local authorities should take to safeguard personal information and maintain public trust.

Matt Whelan, Senior Associate, Trowers & Hamlins
Kelly Marum, Associate, Trowers & Hamlins

16.00 **Close**