

EQIA Submission – ID Number

Section A

EQIA Title

Re-tender of Highways Weed Control Contracts 2023-2026 - Ref SC22137

Responsible Officer

Robin Hadley - GT TRA

Type of Activity

Service Change

No

Service Redesign

No

Project/Programme

No

Commissioning/Procurement

Commissioning/Procurement

Strategy/Policy

No

Details of other Service Activity

No

Accountability and Responsibility

Directorate

Growth Environment and Transport

Responsible Service

Highways Asset Management

Responsible Head of Service

Andrew Loosemore - GT TRA

Responsible Director

Haroona Chughtai - GT TRA

Aims and Objectives

The current Highways Weed Control Contract is due to end on 31 March 2023. The council is required to re-tender the contract under OJEU regulations due to the total value of works over the contract period. This contract ensures that Kent County Council highway assets are maintained in a safe condition.

Aims and Objectives

Continuity of Weed Control provision across the County. Weed Control services are required to meet 'Duty of Care' to highway users and comply with the Highways Act 1980.

It contributes to KCC's strategic objectives through:

- Fewer people killed or seriously injured on Kent's roads
- Everyone can choose to travel safely, efficiently and pleasantly to employment, education, social and cultural opportunities
- Customer satisfaction by providing 'the right services in the right way for the right people'
- Maximising lifespan and minimising lifecycle costs of the highway and its assets and improving maintainability by embedding asset management principles into everything we do
- Cost effective statutory and discretionary services by commissioning well and being commercially astute.

Section B – Evidence

Do you have data related to the protected groups of the people impacted by this activity?

Yes
It is possible to get the data in a timely and cost-effective way?
Yes
Is there national evidence/data that you can use?
Yes
Have you consulted with stakeholders?
Yes
Who have you involved, consulted, and engaged with?
<p>1. In 2022 Market Engagement was undertaken with Service Providers, Kent Wildlife Trust, Plan Bee, Other Councils .</p> <p>2. The Highway Customer Service Module provides information annually regarding the impacts of weed control on customers and feedback on the service.</p> <p>The maintenance of the asset is highly variable as they are spread inconsistently around the county. Depending on the assets position, this will determine if there is a need to make local adjustments. The Customer Service Module provides data on requests to deal with weeds. If the customer identifies as being disabled or other characteristic, then this will be assessed as to the action that is needed.</p>
Has there been a previous Equality Analysis (EQIA) in the last 3 years?
No
Do you have evidence that can help you understand the potential impact of your activity?
Yes
Section C – Impact
Who may be impacted by the activity?
Service Users/clients Service users/clients
Staff No
Residents/Communities/Citizens Residents/communities/citizens
Are there any positive impacts for all or any of the protected groups as a result of the activity that you are doing?
Yes
Details of Positive Impacts
<p>The positive effects of maintaining the asset impact the whole population. Locally it may have a greater impact on age or disability, but this will only be identified at the time.</p> <p>Positive impacts include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unrestricted access for protected characteristics of age and disability 2. Increased Highway safety for all groups as a result of less trip hazards/obstructions 3. Increased biodiversity for all groups through the control of noxious weeds such as Japanese Knotweed 4. Highway infrastructure not degraded by weed growth resulting in a safer highway which provides positive impacts for all groups.
Negative impacts and Mitigating Actions
19.Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Age
Are there negative impacts for age?
No. Note: If Question 19a is "No", Questions 19b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval

Details of negative impacts for Age
Not Completed
Mitigating Actions for Age
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for Mitigating Actions – Age
Not Completed
20. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Disability
Are there negative impacts for Disability?
No. Note: If Question 20a is "No", Questions 20b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Details of Negative Impacts for Disability
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Disability
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for Disability
Not Completed
21. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Sex
Are there negative impacts for Sex
No. Note: If Question 21a is "No", Questions 21b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Details of negative impacts for Sex
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Sex
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for Sex
Not Completed
22. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender
Are there negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender
No. Note: If Question 22a is "No", Questions 22b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender
Not Completed
23. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Race
Are there negative impacts for Race
No. Note: If Question 23a is "No", Questions 23b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Race
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Race
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Race
Not Completed
24. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Religion and belief
Are there negative impacts for Religion and belief
No. Note: If Question 24a is "No", Questions 24b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval

Negative impacts for Religion and belief
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Religion and belief
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Religion and Belief
Not Completed
25. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation
Are there negative impacts for Sexual Orientation
No. Note: If Question 25a is "No", Questions 25b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Sexual Orientation
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation
Not Completed
26. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity
Are there negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity
No. Note: If Question 26a is "No", Questions 26b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity
Not Completed
27. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Are there negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
No. Note: If Question 27a is "No", Questions 27b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Not Completed
28. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities
Are there negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities
No. Note: If Question 28a is "No", Questions 28b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for Carer's responsibilities
Not Completed