

EQIA Submission – ID Number

Section A

EQIA Title

Re-tender of Highways Arboriculture Term Works Contract_ 2024 - 2029 Ref SC22272

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/Soft Landscape Team

Responsible Head of Service

Andrew Loosemore - GT TRA

Responsible Director

Haroona Chughtai - GT TRA

Aims and Objectives

The current Highways Tree Works Contract is due to end on 31 Sept 2024. 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.

Continuity of term tree works provision for the highway tree asset. Professional tree works 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?

No
It is possible to get the data in a timely and cost effective way?
No
Is there national evidence/data that you can use?
Yes
Have you consulted with stakeholders?
Yes
Who have you involved, consulted and engaged with?
1. Market Engagement conducted Spring 2023 with Contractors and stakeholders
2. The Highway Customer Service Module provides information annually regarding the impacts of tree works on customers and feedback on the service.
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 trees. If the customer identifies as being disabled or other characteristic, then this will be assessed as to the action that is needed.
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 Staff/Volunteers
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
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.
Positive impacts include:
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/visibility issues
3. Increased biodiversity for all groups through the planting of new street trees
4. Highway infrastructure/assets not degraded by tree asset resulting in a safer highway which provides positive impacts for all groups.(streetlights/signage/safety cameras/bus routes)
Negative impacts and Mitigating Actions
19.Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Age

Are there negative impacts for age?
No
Details of negative impacts for Age
Not Applicable
Mitigating Actions for Age
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for Mitigating Actions – Age
Not Applicable
20. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Disability
Are there negative impacts for Disability?
No
Details of Negative Impacts for Disability
Not Applicable
Mitigating actions for Disability
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for Disability
Not Applicable
21. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Sex
Are there negative impacts for Sex
No
Details of negative impacts for Sex
Not Applicable
Mitigating actions for Sex
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for Sex
Not Applicable
22. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender
Are there negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender
No
Negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender
Not Applicable
Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender
Not Applicable
23. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Race
Are there negative impacts for Race
No
Negative impacts for Race
Not Applicable
Mitigating actions for Race
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Race
Not Applicable
24. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Religion and belief
Are there negative impacts for Religion and belief
No
Negative impacts for Religion and belief
Not Applicable
Mitigating actions for Religion and belief

Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Religion and Belief
Not Applicable
25. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation
Are there negative impacts for Sexual Orientation
No
Negative impacts for Sexual Orientation
Not Applicable
Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation
Not Applicable
26. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity
Are there negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity
No
Negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity
Not Applicable
Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity
Not Applicable
27. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Are there negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
No
Negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Not Applicable
Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Not Applicable
28. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities
Are there negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities
No
Negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities
Not Applicable
Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for Carer's responsibilities
Not Applicable