

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL –PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Peter Osborne, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

DECISION NO:

25/00089

For publication

Key decision: YES

Subject Matter / Title of Decision: Procurement and award of contract/s for Highway Emergency Tree Works Contract

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Highways & Transport, I agree to give:

1. **APPROVAL** to **procure** and **award** a new Emergency Tree Works contract for up to five years with an opportunity to extend this for up to three further years,
2. **DELEGATE** authority to the Director of Highways and Transport to take relevant actions to facilitate the required procurement activity,
3. **DELEGATE** authority to the Corporate Director of Growth, Economy and Transport, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport to take relevant actions including but not limited to awarding, finalising the terms of and entering into the relevant contracts or other legal agreements, as necessary, to implement the decision and
4. **DELEGATE** authority to the Corporate Director of Growth, Economy and Transport, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, to award extensions of the contract in accordance with the relevant clauses within the contract.

Reason(s) for decision:

The Council has a legal duty to keep roads and pavements clear of vegetation for safe passage of highway users.

The Highway Emergency Tree Works Contract is currently delivered by two Contractors, one serving the West of the County and the second the East. These Contracts expire on 31st March 2026. There are no further extension options, and a new contract is therefore required to be in place for 1st April 2026.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The proposed decision is being considered by Members of the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee at their meeting on 4 November.

Any alternatives considered and rejected:

1. Split the contract into three lots (West, Mid and East) – higher risk of best value not being achieved.
2. Countywide delivery - discounted due to the high-risk nature of this model.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

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signed

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date