

EQIA Submission – ID Number

Section A

EQIA Title

Highway Urban Grass Shrub and Hedge Maintenance Contract Ref CN250567

Responsible Officer

Robin Hadley - GT TRA

Approved by (Note: approval of this EqIA must be completed within the EqIA App)

Helen Rowe - 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

Responsible Head of Service

Helen Rowe - GT TRA

Responsible Director

Andrew Loosemore - GT TRA

Aims and Objectives

The Council has a legal duty to keep roads and pavements clear of vegetation for the safe passage of highway users. The main service areas comprise of urban grass, shrub and hedge cutting to contribute to visual amenity.

The main activities required under this contract comprise:

- Six Programmed Urban Grass Cutting visits
- One Shrub bed maintenance visit
- One Hedge maintenance visit
- Conservation Verge and Wildflower programmed maintenance visits
- Other programmed activities

The Urban Grass, Shrub & Hedge maintenance provision is required to meet a 'Duty of Care' to highway users and comply with the Highways Act 1980. It minimises liabilities to highway users, property and infrastructure.

It contributes to KCC's strategic objectives through:

1. Fewer people killed or seriously injured on Kent's roads.
2. Customer satisfaction by providing 'the right services in the right way for the right people'
3. Cost effective statutory and discretionary services by commissioning well and being commercially astute.
4. Growth and economic prosperity through an efficient highway and transport infrastructure.
5. People can travel safely, efficiently and pleasantly to employment, education, social and cultural opportunities.
6. Maximising lifespan and minimising lifecycle costs of the highway and its assets and improving maintainability by embedding asset management principles into everything we do
7. Maximise inward investment into Kent.
8. Retaining a motivated workforce with high levels of job satisfaction.

The overall aim of the procurement is to guarantee service delivery and continue to meet KCC's obligations as the Highway Authority with sound grounding in asset management principals.

H&T delivers services that are used by most, if not all, residents in Kent and those who travel through it.

Our primary focus is to ensure everyone can travel as safely as possible on our highway network.

The intended beneficiaries are the travelling public in Kent such as residents, communities and businesses, now and in the future as the highway infrastructure is maintained to a safe standard and improved wherever possible.

Outcome

- No major change - no potential for discrimination and all opportunities to promote equality have been taken. I have found the Adverse Equality Impact Rating to be: Low

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?

No

Have you consulted with stakeholders?

Not Applicable

Who have you involved, consulted and engaged with?

The service being procured is for compliance with Kent County Council's 'Duty of Care' to highway users and Statutory obligation under the Highways Act 1980.

Information relating to the potential impact of the works are contained in the Highways Customer Service Module(CSM) where all enquiries relating to the service have been logged since the early 2000's.

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.
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 management of roadside nature reserves
4. Highway infrastructure/assets not degraded by soft landscape asset resulting in a safer highway which provides positive impacts for all groups. (streetlights/signage/visibility/street cleansing)
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