

Equality Impact Assessment - head of service review

Reference: EQIA156687700

Submitted: 13 November 2019 09:21 AM

Executive summary

Title of policy or decision: Procurement of contractor to deliver A130/A127 Fairglen Interchange Scheme

Describe the main aims, objectives and purpose of the policy (or decision): 1. To procure a construction contract with a Principal Construction Contractor (PCC) through either a restricted OJEU process or through the use of an infrastructure lot within a new Crown Commercial Services (CCS) framework for the construction works of the A127/A130 Fairglen Interchange scheme. Both routes will be undertaken by using a competitive mini competition tendering process to ensure value for money. The final contractor will be appointed by the Director for Capital Investment and Delivery.

2. Recommendations

2.1 Agree to procure a Principal Construction Contractor through either:

- (a) a restricted procedure complying with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015; or
- (b) through the use of an infrastructure lot within a new Crown Commercial Services (CCS) framework.

for the construction works in the area of the A127/A130 Fairglen Interchange, using a competitive mini competition process.

2.2 To Authorise the Director, Capital Investment and Delivery to select 2.1 (a) or (b) and to award the contract to the successful Principal Construction Contractor, providing that:

- the total project cost is within the approved budget,
- a satisfactory planning permission has been received; and
- land options have been agreed with all identified landowners and the Director is satisfied that the ownership of any other land is not material to the scheme or can be resolved by compulsory purchase order.

3. Summary of issue

3.1 The A127 corridor is a vitally important primary route for the South Essex area which connects the M25, Basildon and Southend (including London Southend Airport). It also provides access to the wider areas of Basildon, Brentwood, Billericay, Canvey Island, Rochford and Wickford and has strategic links to the A130, A129, A13 and A12.

3.2 The A127/A130 Fairglen interchange is the primary interchange to and from the Southend Central Area. Every weekday, the interchange carries over 110,000 vehicles in a 12-hour period and suffers significant congestion and journey time delays during peak periods. The interchange comprises of the Fairglen roundabout at the junction of the A127 and the A1245 to the north of the site, and the Rayleigh Spur roundabout at the junction of the A130 and the A1245 to the south of the site.

3.3 The main reasons for the requirement of the A127/A130 Fairglen Interchange scheme is to

- Facilitate the future housing and jobs growth across South Essex (up to 90,000 homes between 2014 - 2037 as identified in the South Essex Housing Market Assessment addendum May 2017 along with up to 62,675 jobs

over the same period).

- To manage congestion and improve journey time reliability.
- To provide additional capacity at the main interchange and extend the life of the junction.

3.4 There are two schemes in this project:

- the A127/A130 Fairglen Interchange upgrade
- the New Link Road which will include a left turn slip from the A130 southbound to the A1245 heading eastbound onto the A127. Additionally, the lead-in slip to the A127 eastwards will be lengthened. The scheme also includes additional lanes at the Rayleigh Spur roundabout and dedicated slip lanes on the Fairglen roundabout.

3.5 The new link road will alleviate traffic flows at Fairglen by avoiding the need for vehicles travelling from Chelmsford, southwards down the A130, to complete two sides of the 'Fairglen triangle' south of the A127 to access the A127 heading eastbound towards Southend. This will save time and shorten journeys by approximately 1km.

What outcome(s) are you hoping to achieve?: Enable inclusive economic growth, Help create great places to grow up, live and work

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Enable inclusive economic growth: Enable Essex to attract and grow large firms in high growth industries, Target economic development to areas of opportunity

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Help create great places to grow up, live and work: Help secure sustainable development and protect the environment, Facilitate growing communities and new homes

Is this a new policy (or decision) or a change to an existing policy, practice or project?: a new policy (or decision)

Please provide a link to the document / website / resource to which this EqlA relates:

https://cmis.essex.gov.uk/essexcmis5/ForwardPlans/tabid/100/ctl/ViewCMIS_ForumPlanItem/mid/528/forward_pl

Please upload any documents which relate to this EqlA, for example decision documents:

https://cmis.essex.gov.uk/essexcmis5/ForwardPlans/tabid/100/ctl/ViewCMIS_ForumPlanItem/mid/528/forward_pl

Assessing the equality impact

Use this section to record how you have assessed any potential impact on the communities likely to be affected by the policy (or decision): N/A - No affect on communities as a whole. Individuals affected by land purchase have been engaged via ECC's land agent

Does or will the policy or decision affect:

Service users: Yes

Employees: No

The wider community or groups of people, particularly where there are areas of known inequalities: No

Which geographical areas of Essex does or will the policy or decision affect?: Basildon, Castle Point, Rochford

Will the policy or decision influence how organisations operate?: No

Will the policy or decision involve substantial changes in resources?: No

Is this policy or decision associated with any of the Council's other policies?: No

Description of impact

Description of Impact. If there is an impact on a specific protected group tick box, otherwise leave blank.

You will be given the opportunity to rate identified impacts as positive, negative or neutral on the next page: No impact on any of the above groups

I confirm that I have considered the potential impact on all of the protected characteristics: I confirm that I have considered the potential impact on all of the protected characteristics

Describe any actions that have already been taken to mitigate negative impacts on any of the protected characteristics: N/A

Action plan to address and monitor adverse impacts

Does your EqlA indicate that the policy or decision would have a medium or high adverse impact on one or more equality groups?: No

Details of person completing the form

I confirm that this has been completed based on the best information available and in following ECC guidance: I confirm that this has been completed based on the best information available and in following ECC guidance

Date EqlA completed: 13/11/2019

Name of person completing the EqlA: Kris Corbett

Email address of person completing the EqlA: Kris.Corbett@essex.gov.uk

Your function: Infrastructure & Environment

Your service area: Infrastructure Delivery

Your team: Infrastructure Delivery (Highways)

Are you submitting this EqlA on behalf of another function, service area or team?: No

Email address of Head of Service: ben.finlayson@essex.gov.uk