

## Equality Impact Assessment

Reference: EQIA204834176

Submitted: 07 May 2020 13:38 PM

### Executive summary

**Title of policy or decision:** Sourcing Strategy for Major Schemes – Eastern Highways Alliance

**Describe the main aims, objectives and purpose of the policy (or decision):** ECC is a founding member of the EHA which was established in 2012 and is a formal collaboration between ten local authorities across the East of England. Its purpose is to share best practice, achieve best value through leveraging combined spending power with resulting economies of scale and to further support and embed partnership working across the member authorities.

Following the decision taken by Cabinet on the 23 July 2019 (FP/400/03/19) for the re-procurement of the Eastern Highways Framework 3 ("EHF3"), this EQUIA relates to the updating and / or establishment of the following associated agreements between Essex County Council ("ECC") and the Eastern Highways Alliance ("EHA") members : -

- Inter Authority Agreements ("IAA")
- Joining Agreements ("JA")
- Access Agreement("AA")

The existing IAA and JA require updating to reflect changes and updates needed including the change in lead authority from Cambridge County Council to ECC but there is no AA in place to enable other Authorities an opportunity to join the EHA.

These agreements enable the EHA to make the Framework available to be used by other contracting authorities that are not EHA members via an Inter Authority Agreement to be entered into between ECC and the Alliance members.

The CMA outlines in more detail the background to these agreements.

**What outcome(s) are you hoping to achieve?:** Transform the council to achieve more with less

**Which strategic priorities does this support? - Transform the council to achieve more with less:** Limit cost and drive growth in revenue

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

### 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):** It is not considered that this decision will have any impact on specific communities.

**Does or will the policy or decision affect:**

**Service users:** No

**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?:** All Essex

**Will the policy or decision influence how organisations operate?:** Yes

**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

**Is the new or revised policy linked to a digital service (website, system or application)?:** No

**Please describe the steps you have taken to meet the digital accessibility requirements:**

**Please describe the steps you have taken to test the accessibility of the website, system or application:**

**Please describe the steps you have taken to maintain accessibility once it has gone live:**

## **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

## **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:** 07/05/2020

**Name of person completing the EqlA:** Nick Blackall

**Email address of person completing the EqlA:** Nick.Blackall@essex.gov.uk

**Your function:** Corporate and Customer Services

**Your service area:** Procurement Services

**Your team:** Place

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

**Email address of Head of Service:** Laura.Lee@essex.gov.uk