



Cherwell
DISTRICT COUNCIL
NORTH OXFORDSHIRE



Cherwell District Council and Oxfordshire County Council Equality Impact Assessment

September 2020

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Section 1: Summary details

Directorate and Service Area	Community Operations- Highways Maintenance
What is being assessed (e.g. name of policy, procedure, project, service or proposed service change).	Change in process and policy
Is this a new or existing function or policy?	Existing function
Summary of assessment Briefly summarise the policy or proposed service change. Summarise possible impacts. Does the proposal bias, discriminate or unfairly disadvantage individuals or groups within the community? (following completion of the assessment).	Highway Routine and Reactive Maintenance - Improved process, greater efficiency through longer planning period for pothole repairs, and tighter compliance to repair criteria (1) Defect Repair process (Method, durations/better route planning, lost time) (2) Summer cleansing of all known drainage flooding hot spots.
Completed By	Sean Rooney
Authorised By	Paul Fermer
Date of Assessment	19 October 2020

Section 2: Detail of proposal

<p>Context / Background</p> <p>Briefly summarise the background to the policy or proposed service change, including reasons for any changes from previous versions.</p>	<p>The repair of defects is an essential function and forms part of our statutory duty to maintain the highway network.</p> <p>In order to maximise the available resources further development to a first time fix and a greater focus on risk based planned approach to repair is being considered.</p> <p>Currently we have repair times dealing with emergencies and more planned approach for repairs to be completed 28 days. The move to a longer period of repair to 2 or 3 months for some defects will be developed to allow a more cost effective and longer-term repair approach, moving away from a reactive methodology on those parts of the network that offer the least risk to the road user and hence liability to the Council for third party claims for damage or injury.</p> <p>Making improved use of resources and reduce active work, through an increased planned drainage programme over the summer months. This should also provide greater resilience during winter months.</p>
<p>Proposals</p> <p>Explain the detail of the proposals, including why this has been decided as the best course of action.</p>	<p>To help delivery cost efficiencies and achieve greater customer satisfaction through improved repair and reduced re-occurrences.</p>
<p>Evidence / Intelligence</p> <p>List and explain any data, consultation outcomes, research findings, feedback from service users and stakeholders etc, that supports your proposals and can help to inform the judgements you make about potential impact on</p>	<p>Use of advice and guidance from National Code of practice will feed into the review. Through the various networking and best practice groups we will also learn from other authorities' experience in adopting this kind of regime in terms of an enhance risk-based approach which build upon that which we already adopt.</p>

<p>different individuals, communities or groups and our ability to deliver our climate commitments.</p>	
<p>Alternatives considered / rejected</p> <p>Summarise any other approaches that have been considered in developing the policy or proposed service change, and the reasons why these were not adopted. This could include reasons why doing nothing is not an option.</p>	<p>To achieve improved cost efficiency and greater customer satisfaction then change is required.</p> <p>The cost to repair defects continues to grow and a different approach to maintaining the network on a risk-based approach is essential.</p> <p>The issue of poor drainage and the impact on not only the users of the network but the condition of the network itself is recognised to contribute to deterioration of condition and increased risk to the user.</p>

Section 3: Impact Assessment - Protected Characteristics

Protected Characteristic	No Impact	Positive	Negative	Description of Impact	Any actions or mitigation to reduce negative impacts	Action owner* (*Job Title, Organisation)	Timescale and monitoring arrangements
Age	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Disability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Gender Reassignment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Marriage & Civil Partnership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Pregnancy & Maternity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Race	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Sex	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Sexual Orientation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Religion or Belief	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Section 3: Impact Assessment - Additional Community Impacts

Additional community impacts	No Impact	Positive	Negative	Description of impact	Any actions or mitigation to reduce negative impacts	Action owner (*Job Title, Organisation)	Timescale and monitoring arrangements
Rural communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Some repairs may take longer to be fixed but should be fixed with a better repair.	Ensure strong communications at that commitments are delivered on.	Sean Rooney, Head of Highways Maintenance, Oxfordshire County Council	6 months
Armed Forces	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Carers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Areas of deprivation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Section 3: Impact Assessment - Additional Wider Impacts

Additional Wider Impacts	No Impact	Positive	Negative	Description of Impact	Any actions or mitigation to reduce negative impacts	Action owner* (*Job Title, Organisation)	Timescale and monitoring arrangements
Staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Other Council Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Providers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will enable greater forward visibility for resilient planning of works and help provide greater volume stability.		Sean Rooney, Head of Highways Maintenance, Oxfordshire County Council	Quarterly
Social Value ¹	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				

¹ If the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 applies to this proposal, please summarise here how you have considered how the contract might improve the economic, social, and environmental well-being of the relevant area

Section 4: Review

Where bias, negative impact or disadvantage is identified, the proposal and/or implementation can be adapted or changed; meaning there is a need for regular review. This review may also be needed to reflect additional data and evidence for a fuller assessment (proportionate to the decision in question). Please state the agreed review timescale for the identified impacts of the policy implementation or service change.

Review Date	20th October 2020
Person Responsible for Review	Sean Rooney
Authorised By	Paul Fermer (Assistant Director)