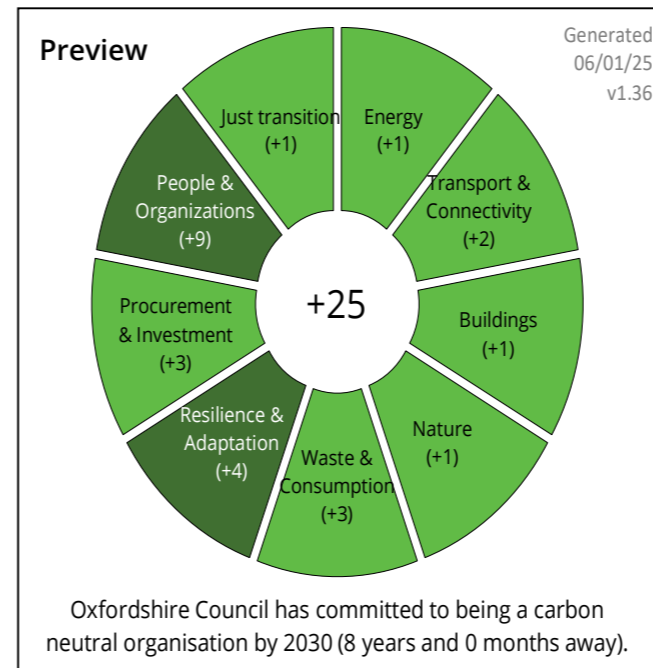


Climate Impact Assessment

Summary

Directorate and Service Area	Environment & Highways - Highways Maintenance
What is being assessed	The governance in place and associated activities to enable the successful transition from the existing to new highways maintenance contract due to commence on 1st April 2025.
Is this a new or existing function or policy?	Existing function
Summary of assessment	Oxfordshire County Council's existing highways maintenance contract with Milestone is set to expire on 31st March 2025 with no opportunity for extension. Following a robust procurement exercise a preferred bidder has been selected and comprehensive Demobilisation and Mobilisation programmes have begun to manage the transition from the new contract to the old.
Completed by	Conor O'Sullivan
Climate action sign off by	Franco Gonzalez
Director sign off by	Paul Fermer
Assessment date	45663



Detail of proposal

Context / Background	<p>The existing M-Group Infrastructure (Milestone) highways maintenance contract is set to expire on 31st March 2025 with no option to extend the contract further. For Oxfordshire County Council to meet their obligations under the Highways Act 1980 a new contract needs to be tendered, or service brought in house.</p> <p>Following a robust procurement exercise a preferred bidder has been selected and comprehensive Demobilisation and Mobilisation programmes have commenced to manage the transition from the new contract</p>
Proposal	<p>It is proposed a governance structure is established to monitor the progress of the Demobilisation and Mobilisation programmes; the two key governance groups will meet on a bi-weekly basis. The governance structure will also include reporting from those two key groups up to the Council's Highways Operations Board for escalation and decision-making purposes. Formal terms of references, set agendas and risk registers are in place for both steering groups. Each workstream has a lead from the Council and a lead from the preferred bidder.</p>
Evidence / Intelligence	<p>As part of the procurement exercise bidders were required to provide a clear, comprehensive, and robust mobilisation plan that provided details of the key activities, processes, and services to be undertaken to deliver a successful and seamless mobilisation in accordance with the requirements of the Scope. Bi-weekly highlight reports produced by workstream leads will provide a Red Amber Green (RAG) grading on the status of each workstream for discussion during the meetings.</p>
Alternatives considered / rejected	<p>There are no alternatives as the Demobilisation and Mobilisation proposals by other bidders have already been rejected through the procurement process. The preferred bidder fulfilled the scope Oxfordshire County Council outlined during the tender process.</p>

Category	Impact criteria	Score (-3 to +3)	Description of impact	Actions or mitigations to reduce negative impacts	Action owner	Timeline and monitoring arrangements
Energy	Increases energy efficiency	N/A	New highways maintenance contract will not impact energy efficiency			
Energy	Promotes a switch to low-carbon or renewable energy	1	The contract has included provisions for the electrification of power tools and plants in highway maintenance operations.			
Energy	Promotes resilient, local, smart energy systems	N/A	This contract does not impact on local, smart energy systems.			
Transport & Connectivity	Reduces need to travel and/or the need for private car ownership	N/A	This contract does not reduce the need to travel or need for private car ownership.			
Transport & Connectivity	Supports active travel	1	This contract will be responsible for the maintenance of existing and in some cases construction of new active travel infrastructure.			
Transport & Connectivity	Increases use of public transport	1	This contract will maintain assets used by public transport providers			
Transport & Connectivity	Accelerates electrification of transport	1	This contract will maintain assets used by electric and autonomous vehicles. The contractor will establish a pathway for the decarbonisation of their fleets during the duration of the contract.			
Buildings	Promotes net zero new builds and developments	N/A	This contract does not impact on new builds and developments.			
Buildings	Accelerates retrofitting of existing buildings	1	This contract has provisions for contributing to the retrofit of OCC's Highways Maintenance Depots.			
Nature	Protects, restores or enhances biodiversity, landscape and ecosystems	1	This contract will aim to protect restore or enhance biodiversity where possible.			
Nature	Develops blue and green infrastructure	N/A	This contract does not impact on blue or green infrastructure.			
Nature	Improves access to nature and green spaces	N/A	This contract will not improve access to nature or green spaces.			
Waste & Consumption	Reduces overall consumption	1	This contract will look to embrace latest technologies within the sector including the optimisation of materials and reduction of waste.			

Waste & Consumption	Supports waste prevention and drive reuse and recycling		1	This contract will look to reduce waste in terms of materials used and promote the recycling of materials where possible.
Resilience & Adaptation	Increases resilience to flooding		1	Where applicable this contract may be used to build flood alleviation assets
Resilience & Adaptation	Increases resilience to other extreme weather events (e.g., storms, cold snaps, heatwaves, droughts)		1	Where applicable this contract may be used to respond to other events
Resilience & Adaptation	Increases resilience of council services, communities, energy systems, transport infrastructure and/or supply chains		2	This contract will look to maintain and improve transport infrastructure.
Procurement & Investment	Procurement practices prioritise low-carbon options, circular economy and sustainability		1	This contract will look to adopt and promote latest industry innovations including low carbon alternatives to traditional maintenance techniques
Procurement & Investment	Investment being considered supports climate action/ is consistent with path to net zero		1	This contract will look to adopt and promote latest industry innovations including low carbon alternatives to traditional maintenance techniques
People & Organizations	Drives behavioural change to address the climate and ecological emergency		3	The contract will continue to influence the supply chain through our highways contractor so it can motivate its own subcontractors to adopt carbon reduction plans.
People & Organizations	Drives organizational and systemic change to address the climate and ecological emergency		3	This contract will continue to improve PAS2080 processes, set science-based targets and improve reporting to monitor progress. PAS2080 is the gold standards for carbon management in infrastructure.
Just transition	Promotes green innovation and job creation		1	This contract will look to adopt and promote latest industry innovations including low carbon alternatives to traditional maintenance techniques
Just transition	Promotes health and wellbeing	N/A		This contract will not look to promote health and wellbeing
Just transition	Reduces poverty and inequality	N/A		This contract will not look to reduce poverty and inequality
Just transition	Promotes inclusion and participation	N/A		This contract will not impact inclusion and participation