

63334 Glyphosate Usage

I am writing to request environmental information relating to the local authority's use of glyphosate-based herbicides on land owned, managed or maintained by the council.

Please provide information for the financial years 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/26, together with any available information for 2026/27 to date.

Quantity purchased and used

Please provide, for each year:

- a. The total quantity of glyphosate-based herbicide products purchased by the council and/or its contractors on the council's behalf.
- b. The product name(s) and quantity purchased (in litres or other recorded units).

The following information is held by our Parks and Greenspace service:

2023: 280 litres - Nomix Duel

2024: 1,170 litres - Nomix Duel

2024: 400 litres – Rosate

2025: 900 litres - Nomix Duel

2026: 800 litres - Nomix Duel

- c. The total quantity applied, where this is recorded.

This information is not collated and recorded centrally. Each application is manually recorded by individual staff in their own logbooks. It is not possible to collate this data.

Areas of application

If recorded, please provide a breakdown of glyphosate use by location type, including:

- Public parks and public greenspaces.
- Children's play areas.
- School grounds.
- Pavements, verges, roadsides and highways.
- Housing estate communal areas.

If the council records these locations under different categories, please provide the information in the form in which it is held.

Since 2023 Parks and Greenspace have ceased the use of Glyphosate products within all locations maintained by the service. Glyphosate use was only continued for the treatments of weeds on the road network. The only exception to this is the treatment of invasive weeds.

Application schedule

Please provide any policy, guidance, maintenance schedule or operational instruction which sets out:

- The frequency with which glyphosate applications are normally carried out.
- Any criteria used to determine where and when applications take place.

[Please refer to the attached committee report which outlined City of Edinburgh Council's reduction in glyphosate use. This document outlines the Council's approach to the use of glyphosate.](#)

Policy, assessment and decision-making

Please provide copies of any documents held that inform the council's approach to the use of glyphosate-based herbicides, including where available:

- Policies.
- Strategies.
- Risk assessments.
- Equality impact assessments.
- Environmental impact assessments.
- Committee reports.
- Briefing papers.
- Guidance documents.

[Please refer to the attached Risk Assessment document.](#)

Please also provide any documents which discuss or assess the use of alternative weed control methods.

[Please refer to the attached documents.](#)

Delivery of services

Please confirm whether herbicide applications are carried out:

- By council employees;
- By external contractors; or
- Through a combination of both.

Where external contractors are used, please provide the name of the contractor(s).

[All treatments are carried out by City of Edinburgh Council qualified staff.](#)

Health and safety measures

Please provide any risk assessments, safe systems of work, method statements, or guidance documents relating to the handling and application of glyphosate-based herbicides, including information on the personal protective equipment (PPE) required for operators.

[Please refer to the attached Risk Assessment.](#)

Glyphosate reduction or phase-out plans

Please confirm whether the council:

- Has a formal policy, target or timetable to reduce or phase out glyphosate use.
- Is currently undertaking, or has undertaken within the requested period, any trials of alternative weed-control methods.

If so, please provide details of the methods trialled (for example, hot foam, steam, flame treatment, mechanical brushing or manual removal), the locations involved, and any evaluation reports or findings held.

[Please refer to the attached documents.](#)

Complaints and representations

Please provide, for the period covered by this request:

- a. The number of complaints, enquiries, objections or representations received by the council relating to the use of glyphosate-based herbicides.

Where recorded, a breakdown by year.

- b. Copies of any reports, summaries, briefing notes or correspondence which analyse concerns raised by residents, community groups, elected members or other stakeholders regarding glyphosate use.

(If extracting individual correspondence would engage the cost provisions of the Regulations, I would be content to receive any summary reports, complaint logs, briefing notes or other information held which records the nature and number of concerns raised.)

[Neither Parks and Greenspace nor Street Care hold information on complaints and representations in a format that can be summarised or collated. There are no such summaries or briefing notes held.](#)

[Third party personal information has been redacted from the documents provided in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018.](#)