

Date Provided: 25 January 2019

Glyphosate

Ref: FOI / 8284

Information Request and Response by Lewes District Council

1. *Does the council or its contractors currently use glyphosate-based weed killers?*

Yes, although its use is very limited

2. *Does the council have any internal guidance on where and how glyphosate-based weed killers should be used? If yes please attach a copy of the guidance to your return email.*

The council is committed to reducing the use of pesticides in general, including the use of glyphosate. Wherever possible we will use hot foam as our preferred weed control method. A new joint policy on pesticide use is currently being drawn up with Eastbourne Borough Council.

3. *Can you give me all addresses or types of location (e.g. park, school playing field etc.) where glyphosate-based weed killers are used by the council?*

The use of glyphosate is very limited. It is primarily used where there is an invasive weed problem such as Knot Weed, or in areas where our hot foam machine cannot gain access. We DO NOT use glyphosate in children's play areas or cemeteries and we are developing pesticide free parks.

4. *How much has the council spent on glyphosate-based weed killers for the financial years:*

This is not available as it is purchased through a contractor.

5. *How many complaints has the council received for its use (or its contractors' use) of glyphosate-based weed killers in the financial years:*

2014-15
2015-16

2016-17

2017-18

Lewes District Council has a policy to reduce the use of all pesticides wherever practical and to continue to look at alternative methods. The use of glyphosate has been reduced by approximately 90% over the last year. The majority of weed killing on hard surfaces is carried out using Foam Stream. There have not been any specific complaints re. glyphosate; however, a petition was received from the public in 2016.