

	<p style="text-align: center;">Title: Pesticide Free Barnet</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Date: 13 September 2018</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Title</p>	<p>Pesticide free Barnet</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Report of</p>	<p>Chairman of the Environment Committee</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Wards</p>	<p>All</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Status</p>	<p>Public</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Urgent</p>	<p>No</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Key</p>	<p>No</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Enclosures</p>	<p>None.</p>
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Summary

The Council takes an integrated approach to weed control which includes chemical and non-chemical solutions such as mulching of shrub and rose beds in our Parks and Highways. This includes the use of glyphosate on a minimal and targeted basis to control weeds in parks and on the highways.

The Council recognises the importance of closely managing the use and distribution of pesticide and herbicides, and all staff and contractors employed on work which requires the use of chemicals are fully trained and issued with the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).

In accordance with European Union Commission and UK standard guidance, the Council will continue to monitor the advice in respect of the use of Glyphosate. In addition it will continue to review an approach which is in line with industry and technological development for the treatment and management of weeds and invasive species.

Officers Recommendations

- 1. Environment Committee note the guidance issued by the EU Commission and UK bodies in relation to the use of Glyphosate, which will be monitored by Officers in line with good practice in relation to the treatment and management of weeds and invasive species.**

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 The following motion was carried at Full Council on the 31 July 2018; Agenda Item 14.2 - Administration amendment in the name of Cllr Dean Cohen:

Pesticides in Barnet:

- 1.2 Council notes that pesticides and herbicides like Glyphosate that are used in our parks and public spaces divide opinion, and some residents believe they can cause harm to people, animals and the environment. However Council notes that residents' complaints about weeds consistently outweigh those about pesticides.
- 1.3 Council notes that LB Hammersmith & Fulham have gone pesticide free, and other councils are now taking the pesticide free route, but that the European Union authorised a further five-year lease on the use of Glyphosate in November 2017.
- 1.4 Council requests that the Environment Committee monitor the legislative status of Glyphosate, regardless of the United Kingdom's relationship with the European Union in 2022, as well as cost-effective and results-paritive alternatives.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Council takes an integrated approach to weed control which includes chemical and non-chemical solutions such as mulching of shrub and rose beds in Parks and Highways. The local use of pesticides is based on legislative guidance which is reviewed and monitored.
- 2.2 On the 15th March 2017, the European Union (EU) Risk Assessment Committee stated;
 - There is no evidence to link glyphosate to cancer in humans, based on available information.
 - Glyphosate should not be classified as a substance that causes genetic damage or disrupts reproduction.
- 2.3 The same conclusion was also reached by other organisations which includes the;
 - European Food Safety Authority
 - National Authorities outside the EU (Canada, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand)
- 2.4 On the 16th May 2017 the Commission agreed that the discussions with member states about possible renewal of the glyphosate licence could restart. Subsequent to which on the 20th July 2017 the Commission restarted the discussion with member states, with an objective to have those discussions finalised in the Autumn before proceeding to vote.
- 2.5 On 12 December 2017 the Commission adopted the act to renew the approval of glyphosate for 5 years.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

- 3.1 The option of the Council continuing its current practices without due regard to EU guidance and good practice is not recommended.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 The Council will continue to monitor EU and UK guidance in relation to the use of Glyphosate.
- 4.2 The Council will also continue to review the working practises of other London Boroughs, such as LB Hammersmith and Fulham and their learnings in respect pesticide free treatment of weeds and invasive species.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.1.1 The Corporate Plan 2015 – 20 is based on the core principles of fairness, responsibility and opportunity to make sure Barnet is a place:

- Of opportunity, where people can enhance their quality of life
- Where people are helped to help themselves, recognising that prevention is better than cure.
- Where responsibility is shared, fairly.
- Where services are delivered efficiently to get value for money for the taxpayer.

- 5.1.2 The Council recognises the importance of closely managing the use and distribution of pesticide and herbicides, which is connected to ensuring that services are efficiently and safely delivered to maintain a quality of life.

5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 5.2.1 None.

5.3 Social Value

- 5.3.1 None.

5.4 Legal and Constitutional References

- 5.4.1 Article 7 of the Council constitution states Environment Committee has the;

- (1) Responsibility for all borough-wide or cross-constituency matters relating to the street scene including, parking, road safety, lighting, street cleaning, transport, waste, waterways, refuse, recycling, allotments, parks, trees, crematoria and mortuary, trading standards and environmental health.

5.4.2 The use of pesticides and its legislative status will be monitored by the Environment Committee in respect of its responsibilities under the constitution and where applicable future reports will be presented to Committee for consideration.

5.4.3 The current EU wide licence of Glyphosate expires in 2022. It remains to be seen whether the UK will mirror the existing EU pesticide regulation regime in its domestic legislation once the UK leaves the EU, although this is likely in the short term.

5.5 Risk Management

5.5.1 The Council will monitor guidance issued, which will be conducted as part of working practise operations on an annual basis, or where an update to legislation and guidance is issued.

5.6 Equalities and Diversity

5.6.1 The Equalities and Diversity Act 2010, outlines the provisions of the Public-Sector Equalities Duty which requires Public Bodies to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010
- Advance equality of opportunity between people of different groups
- Foster good relations between people from different groups

5.7 Consultation and Engagement

5.7.1 None.

5.8 Insight

5.8.1 A statement from the Amenity Forum;
<http://amenityforum.co.uk/amenity-forum-responds-to-glyphosate-verdict-in-the-usa/>

The Amenity Forum is an Industry Led Voluntary Initiative;
<http://amenityforum.co.uk/about/>

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 <https://barnetintranet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=162&MId=9452&Ver=4>