

PART A - Initial Impact Assessment

Proposal Name: Glyphosate Reduction Trial Update - Highways

EIA ID: 2340

EIA Author: David Wain

Proposal Outline: On 22nd September 2021 in response to a public petition, the Cooperative Executive agreed a suite of trial changes to operations across both Parks and Highways teams with a view to reducing the overall amount of the weed killer Glyphosate used by Sheffield City Council. Point 8 of this initial decision was for highways to report back after the trial period and lay out a forward looking plan for continual reduction in Glyphosate use. As the trial projects have yielded significant reductions in the use of this weed killer, the update is that the projects will continue in the same manner through until 2025 at which point the license of Glyphosate is up for review and a further paper will be submitted if required

Proposal Type: Non-Budget

Year Of Proposal: 23/24

Lead Director for proposal: Richard Eyre

Service Area: Waste and Streetscene

EIA Start Date: 9/12/2023

Lead Equality Objective: Understanding Communities

Equality Lead Officer:

Decision Type

Committees:

Policy Committees

- Waste & Street Scene

Portfolio

Primary Portfolio:

Neighbourhood Services

EIA is cross portfolio:

No

EIA is joint with another organisation:

No

Overview of Impact

Overview Summery:

Glyphosate based weed killers will still be used on hard surfaces (i.e. pavements and roads) As such no impact is expected upon the usability of the general public realm - i.e. paths, roadways and parking spaces. The change only applies to verges where a non-glyphosate based chemical will be used. There is a risk of additional weed growth or larger weeds establishing which may cause minor discomfort to some people who are unable to see them clearly (such as those with visual impairments) if they were diverting from the formal footpath network and taking short cuts across verges etc if the weeds they were encountering were particularly spiky or pernicious (such as thistles).

Impacted characteristics:

- Disability

Consultation and other engagement

Cumulative Impact

Does the proposal have a cumulative impact:

Yes

Full public consultation on Glyphosate use was undertaken throughout the entirety of 2022 via Citizenspace - the overwhelming result was in support of maintaining reduction in the use of Glyphosate. The secondary "ask" was that the Council do more to educate the community on what they can do to help the Council further reduce our reliance upon chemical weed killers - which is covered in the report by means of a communications / press package.

Impact areas:

Year on Year

Initial Sign-Off

Full impact assessment required:

No

Review Date:

9/12/2023

Action Plan & Supporting Evidence

Outline of action plan:

Mitigation will include community education programme as to how the public can help us manage weeds without chemical control Mitigation will also include Amey's routine grass cutting cycle to verges to manage the growth and size of weeds in areas which are not on footpaths.

Action plan evidence:

Changes made as a result of action plan:

Mitigation

Significant risk after mitigation measures: No

Outline of impact and risks:

Review Date

Review Date: 9/12/2023