



Information Governance

Coventry City Council
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Please contact Information Governance
Direct line 024 7697 5408
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Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)
Request ID: REQ05861**

Thank you for your request for information relating to glyphosate weed killer.

Your request and our responses are outlined below:

1) Is the weed killer glyphosate used by the council in any capacity?

Yes – Both Contractor and the Council make use of glyphosate-based weed killers.

2) If answering yes to question one please specify what areas it is used in. For example, public playgrounds, public parks, residential streets, school grounds.

Highways & Footpaths citywide are sprayed by the contractor, areas of open space and parks are sprayed by in house grounds teams.

3) If answering yes to question one please specify in what quantities it is used and how frequently.

1179.75 litres were used by the contractor during the year 2018/19 as part of a twice yearly weed spraying program.

4) If answering yes to question one please specify the reason for use. For example weed prevention, invasive plants.

We use weedkiller through our contractor to treat existing weeds on highways and footpaths as part of a twice yearly weed spraying program.

5) If answering yes to question one, is the council considering stopping the use of glyphosate? If yes then what is the reason for this.

Over the last few years Coventry City Council has reduced its use of weed spraying activities and we will continue to look at practicable and economically viable alternative solutions for the City.

The none treatment of weeds has two major effects on the City:

1. In the short-term it will make the City look unkempt.
2. In the long-term it will cause greater harm to highway and public structures

Coventry City Council is obviously monitoring this situation closely, but we have not received any guidance from Central Government nor the HSE to advise us to stop or restrict the use glyphosate in public places. If we are advised to withdraw or restrict the use of this product then this will be done immediately.

6) If answering no to question one, why is glyphosate not used and what alternative weed killer is used?

Not applicable.

The supply of information in response to a freedom of information request does not confer an automatic right to re-use the information. You can use any information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research without requiring further permission. Similarly, information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting. An exception to this is photographs. Please contact us if you wish to use the information for any other purpose.

Should you wish to make any further requests for information, you may find what you are looking for is already published on the [Council's web site](#) and in particular its [FOI/EIR Disclosure log](#), [Council's Publication Scheme](#), [Open Data](#) and [Facts about Coventry](#).

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: infogov@coventry.gov.uk

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email casework@ico.org.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

Information Governance