

E petition: Make Guildford Pesticide Free

Areas of weed control

The areas of herbicide use are listed in the table below to provide an overview of the different areas of activity and consideration of alternative options.

Highways contract

Target	Herbicide	Estimated usage	Alternative methods
Signage, footpaths	Glyphosate	360 litres (check if this is diluted)	Used: targeted spray for weeds around gullies and obstacles. Considered: acid, foam based and electrocution: Cost, other environmental impacts.

Assets and infrastructure

Target	Herbicide	Estimated usage	Alternative methods
Fence lines where we receive numerous complaints	Glyphosate	Less than 1 litre Active ingredient	Used: Do nothing in most scenarios. Considered: Do nothing triggers complaints in some areas. Regular (2 weekly hand weeding is not possible within resources).
Infrastructure: Benched, signs, bollards etc	Glyphosate	4 litres Active ingredient	Used: Spraying around benches not applied in Countryside, car park closures (not popular) were risk to damage to cars Considered: Strimming: Increases visits and vehicle traffic, increase health risk for workers, damage to property. Acid, foam based and electrocution: Cost, other environmental impacts.
Footpaths and hard surfaces	Glyphosate		Used: Scraping/ sweeping on hard surfaces. Most footpaths in Countryside are not sprayed were weeds do not cause issues. Considered: Some gravel paths cannot be scrapped off and

Target	Herbicide	Estimated usage	Alternative methods
			would require change to tarmac which is currently not considered appropriate in countryside. Alternatives would be not providing surfaced paths. Acid, foam based and electrocution: Cost, other environmental impacts.
Sports Pitches and	Praxys (fluroxypyr, clopyralid, florasulam) 2,4-D Prompt (mecoprop-P, dicamba)	14 litres chemical 60 litres chemical 20 litres chemical	Used: A tank mix is applied once a year to help irradiate broadleaf weeds and knotgrass in conjunction with mechanical and cultural methods. Considered: Increase cultural and mechanical methods which will require additional resources, tractors, fuel, machinery, labour.
Bowling greens	Fungicide (Exteris Stressgard) Trifloxystrobin 5.44 litres 2,4-D 1.09 litres Moss killer on ditch faces: Enclean (Nonanoic acid)	5 Litres chemical 1 litre chemical 2 litres chemical	Used: Applied to reduce/prevent fungus, broadleaf weeds and moss which would have a detrimental effect on the fine playing surface. This is done in conjunction with mechanical and cultural methods. Considered: Increase cultural and mechanical methods which will require additional resources, fuel, machinery, labour.
Shrub/ Flower beds	Glyphosate in parking areas	10 litres Active ingredient	Used: Hand weeding, hoeing, close planting, Permeable membrane, and chemical application. Considered: - Only use cultural methods which will increase costs, labour, vehicles, fuel, hand tools, tipping fees.
Heritage Asset at Chilworth and Tank Traps, protect the asset	1 2x per year	1 litre Active ingredient	Used: Considered: Hand weeding of grass is very labour intensive

Trees that cause subsidence and other property issues

Target	Herbicide	Estimated usage	Alternative methods
Stump Treatments	Glyphosate	Variable	Used: Hammer in Glyphosate plugs. Considered: No real alternatives available.

Control of Invasive Non-Native Species and legally controllable species

Application to eliminate injurious weeds and INNS which threaten native habitats.

Target	Herbicide	Estimated usage	Alternative methods
Oak Processionary moth	We do not use chemicals at present. This is against current national policy.	n/a	Used: Nest removal by hand Considered: Please note that Forestry Commission continues to spray our trees and considers different approaches as non-compliant with statutory plant health notices. We are attending several working groups to influence and resolve the position.
Skunk Cabbage	Glyphosate	75ml (1X per year)	Used: Considered: No real alternatives as aim is eradication. Soil removal. Cannot be eradicated as seed bank is off GBC land.
Japanese Knotweed	Glyphosate ⁷	1.5 litre Active ingredient	Used: Glyphosate injected into the stems. Considered: No real alternatives as aim is eradication. Alternative is large scale contaminated soil removal.
Crassula Helmsii	Glyphosate	135ml 1 X per year Active ingredient	Used: Mechanical removal, covering with plastic Considered: -
Giant Hogweed	Glyphosate	100ml 1 X per year Active ingredient	Used: Considered: No alternatives as aim is eradication
Laurel/Rhododendron Stump treatment	Glyphosate		Used: -

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			Considered: No alternatives as aim is eradication. Possible discouraging through planning system.
Ragwort Control (Spot Spray, weed wiping)	2-4-D & MCPA	15 litres Active ingredient	Used: Hand pulling by volunteers, staff and contractors. Produces high volumes of green waste for disposal, very expensive with current volumes. Do nothing where species occurs in low levels. Considered: legal obligation to prevent spread. Currently unachievable in some areas without herbicide. Electrocutation creates grassland fires.
Thistle Control	Blaster Pro	4-5 litres Active ingredient	Used: Mowing, do nothing. Considered: Mowing reduces other species, do nothing triggers complaints, is not desired for the habitat if species takes over and legal obligation to prevent spread.

Habitat Management

Represents majority of use in countryside. Application to maintain habitat structure and prevent spread of invasive weeds or scrub.

Target	Herbicide	Estimated usage	Alternative methods
Bracken Control	Glyphosate or Asulox	3.5 litres Active ingredient	Used: - Considered: alternative methods (rolling, mowing) have greater impact on ground nesting birds and reptiles.
Scrub Control (Stump Treatment)	Glyphosate	300ml Active ingredient	Used: Not used where regrowth is part of management, cattle grazing reduces amount of scrub treatment required Considered: Reduction will require increase need to cut and burn.

Target	Herbicide	Estimated usage	Alternative methods
Scrub Control by spot spraying	Grazon/ Garlon	1.5 litres Active ingredient	Used: Cut and burn, mulching Considered: Used alternatives are north always achieving the desired outcome as it opens sward and increases re-growth.
Gorse Control (spot spray and weed wiping)	Grazon	1.5 litres Active ingredient	Used: Cut and burn, mulching Considered: Used alternatives are north always achieving the desired outcome where heather is establishing, and sward closure is desired.
Duckweed Control	Bacteria mixture and barley straw mixture		Used: Current method used is assessed as biological and non-toxic.