

# SALISBURY CITY COUNCIL

## Report

**Subject** : Use of Glyphosate  
**Committee** : Services Committee  
**Date** : 21 September 2021  
**Author** : David Bradley Environmental Services Manager

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### 1. Report Summary:

- 1.1. Salisbury City Council declared a climate emergency on the 17 Jun 2019. This declaration was supported by an Environmental Policy and an associated action plan. One of the identified actions was the review of the council's herbicide policy.
- 1.2. This report sets out recommendations concerning the use of herbicides, in particular, glyphosates, by the City Council across its estate.

### 2. Background:

- 2.1. Officers (Environmental Services and Parks Managers) have considered the use of herbicides by the Council across its estate. In particular the use of products containing glyphosate which is a broad-spectrum systemic herbicide and crop desiccant.
- 2.2. The use of glyphosate containing herbicides is currently controversial with some studies showing that this compound may be carcinogenic. However, the product is still available in the United Kingdom and may be legally used.
- 2.3. Further details are available at Annex A (Doc 57564).

### 3. Current Use by the Council:

- 3.1. The Council does use herbicides containing glyphosate subject to the following conditions:
  - 3.1.1. It is used in minimal quantities, only where necessary, and only on areas of hard surfacing.
  - 3.1.2. It is used only by operators trained in the use of herbicides and in accordance with the agreed procedures
- 3.2. Usage has continued to decline to a point where it is now only used in very small amounts - at the Crematorium (around the Building Line) and some of the city centre tree pits.
- 3.3. The current usage were discussed and agreed by this Committee on 17 Oct 2016. The report viewed by that committee at this meeting is Annex A to this report (Doc 57564).
- 3.4. This policy covers only the use of glyphosate by SCC. Other agencies may use glyphosates in the city, for example Wiltshire Council

3.5. The committee may wish to consider two options; to continue with current practice or to cease the use of herbicides containing glyphosate.

**4. Recommendation:**

It is recommended that the Committee agree a revised use of glyphosate policy. .

**5. Wards Affected:** All

**6. Background Papers:** Annex A – Report to Services Committee 17 Oct 2016  
(Doc 57564)

**7. Implications:**

7.1. **Financial:** None in relation to this report

7.2. **Legal:** None in relation to this report

7.3. **Personnel:** None in relation to this report

7.4. **Environmental Impact:** Cessation of the use of herbicides containing glyphosate if this is agreed..

7.5. **Equalities Impact Statement:** None in relation to this report