

Senior Officer Decision

Consultative meeting: Cabinet

Consultative meeting date: 30th March 2022



Exempt from publication

No

Title: Chemical Review Audit (Herbicides) - Streetscene

Links to:

- (i) **Officer report to consultative meeting**
[Agenda for Cabinet – Wednesday 30th March 2022, 6.00 pm – Item 202](#)
- (ii) **Recording of consultative meeting**
[Cabinet meeting YouTube](#)
- (iii) **Minutes of consultative meeting**
[Minutes 300322 Cabinet](#)

Recommendation:

Senior Officers

1. approve the ban of glyphosate based herbicides by September 2022 as set out in the report recommendation section along with banning the use of woody weed killers.
2. endorse the replacement of glyphosate and other chemicals with an integrated weed management approach which included the use of the RHS vinegar based weed control and manual control methods.
3. endorse bids being placed in the 2023/24 capital programme for 2 x Hotfoam machines (circa £67k investment), required to supplement other integrated weed control methods.

REASON:

One of Streetscene's objectives this year included as part of its service plan (2021/22) was to undertake a review of chemical usage across its service. Specifically herbicides that were used across the public realm and in the council's green spaces.

Streetscene Service Plan Objective 5 – Review of chemical usage

- Investigate and trial more sustainable alternatives to herbicides for weed control.
- Reduce the use of glyphosate and other chemicals across sports pitches, green spaces and public realm areas.
- Produce a report to Cabinet on alternatives – to include withdrawing from weed spraying in some areas, including Highways around town centres, which we do although it is not in our remit.
- Cost physical alternatives and project resourcing requirements.

Authority

Decision of Council on 26th July 2021 to delegate decision making to officers until 23.59 17th January 2022 ([Minutes 26th July 2021 Council Meeting](#)). Senior Officer Decision of 10th December to extend the arrangements until 23.59 on 10th May 2022 ([Senior Officer Decision Record 10th December 2021](#)). Senior Officer Decision of 4th May 2022 to extend the arrangements until 23.59 on 31st October 2022 ([Senior Officer Decision Record 4th May 2021](#)).

Officer Decision

Consultations:

I was present at / ~~have watched the recording of~~ the consultative meeting which considered this item

Yes ☒ No ☐

Detail any other consultations carried out:

Provide details otherwise state 'N/A'

Other considerations:

Do the legal and finance comments and equalities impact, climate change and risk assessments as detailed in the officer report remain the same?

Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, provide the updated assessment below;

Legal Implications

A member of the legal team must provide comments.

Financial Implications

A member of the finance team must provide comments.

Equalities impact Low Impact

If choosing High or Medium level outline the equality considerations here, which should include any particular adverse impact on people with protected characteristics and actions to mitigate these. Link to an equalities impact assessment form using the [equalities form template](#).

Climate change Medium Impact

Risk: Low Risk; Click here to enter text on risk considerations relating to your report.

Decision:

To approve the recommendations made at Cabinet, minutes of the meetings and recommendations contained therein as detailed in the Recommendation section above.

Reasons for decision:

The consultative meeting of Cabinet reviewed the officer report and recommended that it, with the recommendations contained therein, be approved. There is nothing I am aware of that suggests any alternative decision should be taken.



Signed

..... Dated 17/05/22

Senior Officer job title and name: Andrew Hancock, Service Lead - StreetScene

For Democratic Services use.

Website publication Date: