



EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

THE GRANGE, NUTHOLT LANE,
ELY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE CB7 4EE

Telephone: Ely (01353) 665555

www.eastcambs.gov.uk

Further to your information request FOI/EIR 23/24-245, please find your question and our response below.

Request:

1. Does the council use any pesticides to maintain green areas? If it used to, but has now stopped, when did it stop using them?
2. Please provide the following information on amenity pesticide usage, if the council uses pesticides, or used to in the past 5 years.
 - a. Does the council use Glyphosate?
 - b. Annual quantities of Glyphosate used over the past 5 years. Please provide the quantities for each year separately and include the total amount used both by the council internally and externally through contractors.
 - c. Where is Glyphosate used, i.e., parks, play areas, highway verges and roads, pavements, tree bases, estate-based green spaces, etc.
3. How much has the council spent on purchasing and spraying amenity pesticides over the past 5 years? Please include staff costs of people employed to undertake this (either contractors or council staff).
4. If the council has stopped using pesticides, how much has been spent on maintaining green spaces over the last five years, and what method is used (i.e., no control, manual weeding, mowing and hand pulling, propane/flame gun, etc.) Please include staff costs of people employed to undertake this (either contractors or council staff).
5. If the council has stopped spraying, has it had any complaints for not well-maintained green spaces (i.e., invasive and pernicious weeds) in the past 5 years and how many? Please provide the number of complaints for each year separately.
Please provide the above in a CSV format.
6. Has the council made any pledge to reduce or stop the usage of pesticides and if so, what strategies does the council have in place to reduce/stop the use of these pesticides? Please provide details on the action plan including dates and costings where possible.

Response:

1. The council does not use pesticides to maintain green areas.
2. The council does not use pesticides (for insects) but does use herbicides for weed controlment.
 - a) Yes
 - b) The council has used 7200 ml of Glyphosate this year to date. In previous years the numbers are 2022 - 8400ml, 2021 - 8500ml.
 - c) Glyphosate is used in Car parks and plant borders where normal management of weed control will not work.
3. The council have used £54 of chemical product this year.
4. The council use a reduced spraying regime to benefit the wildlife as we are increasing wildflower areas to eliminate spraying where possible.
5. No applicable as we have not stopped spraying.
6. The council use a reduced spraying regime to benefit the wildlife as we are increasing wildflower areas to eliminate spraying where possible.

This concludes your request FOI/EIR 23/24-245.

If information has been refused, please treat this as a Refusal Notice for the purposes of the Act.

If you disagree with our decision or are otherwise unhappy with how we have dealt with your request in the first instance you may approach foi@eastcambs.gov.uk and request a review. A request for review

must be made in no more than 40 working days from the date of this email.

Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have a right under s50 of the Freedom of Information Act to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow SK9 5AF.