19 June 2019

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – 803/19

Dear Sir/Madam

Your request for information has now been considered and the information requested is provided below.

Request / Response:

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

Answer:
Yes. By grounds maintenance contractors and by Council officers at one cemetery site.

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.

Answer:
Residential streets, public open spaces (including play areas), car parks, closed churchyards, one cemetery and grounds of other council assets.

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

Answer:
For most sites, this is delivered by a contractor. The planned use is two sprays per annum, however additional sprays may be arranged. The quantities used are unknown. The cemetery site is managed in-house, for which spraying takes place when required. Again, the quantities used are unknown.

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

Answer:
Weed prevention

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.

Answer:
No. Glyphosate remains the most effective and viable weed prevention method.
6. If answering no to question one, why is glyphosate not used and what alternative weed killer is used?

Answer:
Not Applicable

You are free to use any documents supplied for your own use, including for non-commercial research purposes. The documents may also be used for news reporting. However, any other type of re-use, for example by publishing the documents or issuing copies to the public will require the permission of the copyright owner, where copyright exists. Such a request would be considered separately in accordance with the relevant Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005 and is not automatic. Therefore, no permission is implied in the re-use of this information, until such a request to re-use it has been made and agreed, subject to any appropriate conditions. Any request to re-use the information should be made to me at the address below.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please contact the Head of Corporate Governance, Rutland County Council, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6HP

You can also complain to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House, Water lane
Wilmslow, Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 01625 545700

Yours faithfully

FOI Administrator
Business Support Team
Rutland County Council