

From: Rainey, Sean
Sent: Friday, 18 October 2019 3:16 PM
To:
Subject: TRIM: Official information request: Cost of roadside spraying & weed control

I refer to your official information request we received on 20 September 2019 requesting the following:

*I'm interested to know how much Council spends on roadside spraying per annum. Are you able to provide information for the different chemical herbicides used?
If possible, I'd also like to know the annual calendar of weed control in rural communities, for example: how often are culverts and roads signs sprayed and how often playgrounds and parks.*

Council Response

I'm interested to know how much Council spends on roadside spraying per annum. Are you able to provide information for the different chemical herbicides used?
Roadside spraying across the city indicatively costs \$600K per annum (additionally \$41,706 on Banks Peninsula in the past financial year). Note this includes spraying and other duties are carried out at the same time of servicing ie general gardening ,pruning etc (the chemical built into the complete cost for maintaining the asset). Our program is carried out based on an annual projection and then adjusted on a month-by-month basis dependent on seasonal growth demands and is Citywide.

Glyphosate 360 is used exclusively for roadside spraying on Banks Peninsula.

Chemicals used for Christchurch City general weed /hardwood vegetation control within the Road landscape (City) contract are as follows:

Vigilant
Wet and Forget
Verstatil
Ignite
Meturon
Pulse
Terminate
Bio Blast
Glyphosate 360

If possible, I'd also like to know the annual calendar of weed control in rural communities, for example: how often are culverts and roads signs sprayed and how often playgrounds and parks.

Playgrounds are never sprayed, they are hand weeded as required. Weeds within amenity gardens are scheduled to be sprayed where required monthly. The product used is organic, from local company Kiwi Care called Bio Weed Blast. All ornamental gardens are hand weeded.

On Banks Peninsula, our annual calendar for spraying is:

- Full network touch up over winter (Jul- Sept)
- Full network spray in spring (Oct- Nov)
- Urban areas touch up pre-Christmas (Nov- Dec)
- Full network touch up new year (Jan- Mar)
- Full network touch up pre winter (Apr- May)

You have the right to request the Ombudsman to review this decision. Complaints can be sent by email to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz, by fax to (04) 471 2254, or by post to The Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Kind regards,

Sean Rainey
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