

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING: 26 MAY 2020

REPORT 7 PUBLIC SPACES: USE OF GLYPHOSATE CHEMICAL HERBICIDE

I am writing to supply supplementary information in relation to Attachment 7.2 of the Council Report item 7 - Public Spaces: Use of Glyphosate Chemical Herbicide. The table included the estimated application cost, however for further clarification City officers have provided Elected Members with the annual budget expenditure estimates, which is outlined as follows:

Please refer to the below tables for estimated comparative costs of broad spectrum weed treatments.

For a broad estimate of cost differences, the verge/kerbside weed control program has been used for a comparison of costs across all products. This is due to the program presently being approx. 100% glyphosate chemical herbicide product.

For the paved alfresco café and restaurant areas, Officers have compared contractor rates for glyphosate chemical herbicide treatment applied by rope wick wand applicator against estimated industry rates (based on communication with other LGs) for hydrothermal (steam) weed treatment.

Please note that the above assumes an equal number of treatments for each product and does not take into account the effectiveness of the product and the associated likelihood that additional treatments would be needed for glyphosate alternatives to achieve the same weed management result.

Verge/Kerbside Weed Control Costs

Staff currently undertake spraying of the City-Wide network treating kerbs, paths, hardstands and traffic islands four times yearly. Spraying also is undertaken along the Mandurah Bypass three times a year from the northern boundary to the Dawesville Bridge and the east side of Pinjarra Road from the Bypass treating unwanted vegetation to verges, embankments and areas from fence to fence.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM DIRECTOR WORKS AND SERVICES

The comparative **annual cost** for treatment of these areas is shown in the table below:

	Proprietary Product 1	Proprietary Product 2	Proprietary Product 3	Proprietary Product 4	Proprietary Product 5	Proprietary Product 6	Proprietary Product 7
	Glufosinate Ammonium	Acetic Acid / Hydrochloric Acid	Nonanoic Acid	Pine Oil	Glyphosate	Hydrothermal	Hand Weeding
Estimated Application Cost	\$284/Ha	\$572/Ha	\$271/Ha	\$284/Ha	\$200/Ha	\$/Ha estimated at a minimum of 1.5 to 2 times the cost of chemical herbicide treatments	Highly expensive treatment estimated to be a significantly higher cost than any other treatment option
Annual Budget Expenditure	\$347,900	\$700,700	\$331,975	\$347,900	\$245,000	\$367,500-490,000	Not practical to measure

Alfresco Dining Area Weed Control Costs

Alfresco Dining Areas currently being treated through the use of rope wick wipers are summarised as follows:

1. Eastern Foreshore – total 15,450m² made up of the following:
2. Seascapes – 900m²
3. Wannanup – 220m²

Total of all areas: 16,570m² or 1.657Ha

The costs provided for sensitive areas such as the alfresco dining areas treated with glyphosate via a rope wick wiper are \$1000/Ha or \$95/hr. 1.657Ha x \$1000/Ha = \$1657 (for single application). We would allow for 6 x applications to provide an annual cost of \$9,942.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM DIRECTOR WORKS AND SERVICES

The comparative **annual cost** for treatment of these areas via hydrothermal is shown in the table below:

	Proprietary Product 1	Proprietary Product 2	Proprietary Product 3	Proprietary Product 4	Proprietary Product 5	Proprietary Product 6	Proprietary Product 7
	Glufosinate Ammonium	Acetic Acid / Hydrochloric Acid	Nonanoic Acid	Pine Oil	Glyphosate	Hydrothermal	Hand Weeding
Estimated Application Cost	\$284/Ha	\$572/Ha	\$271/Ha	\$284/Ha	\$1000/Ha	\$/Ha estimated at a minimum of 1.5 to 2 times the cost of chemical herbicide treatments	Highly expensive treatment estimated to be a significantly higher cost than any other treatment option
Annual Budget Expenditure	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$9,942	\$14,900-19,900	NA

Allan Claydon
Director Works and Services