

Michelle van Straalen

From: Michelle van Straalen
Sent: Monday, 4 November 2019 16:14
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: official information
Subject: LGOIMA 19296: Weed Control

Kia ora

Further to your information request of 5 October 2019, in respect of weed control , I am now able to provide Hamilton City Council's response.

You requested:

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, for example: how often are culverts and road signs sprayed and how often playgrounds and parks.

Our 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?

- Council , through the Transportation Unit/IA allows for vegetation control costs of approximately \$250k per annum
- Out of the \$250k per annum spent on roadside spraying only approximately 5-8% is spent on material i.e. herbicide purchase. The rest of the cost is labour, Traffic management, Vehicles, overheads etc. We do not breakdown cost further to this.
- We do very minor weed control with some of the other garden activities but this is not quantifiable and not always "roadside"
- The list herbicides and fungicides used at Hamilton City Council sites is available on our website [here](#). Hamilton City Council's website provides information on our process and options for no spray areas and no spraying notifications. The website is up to date and reviewed annually.
- We erect signage when spraying and strictly follow our Herbicide use policy.

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

Main Roads that contain gardens are visited approximately every 6-8 weeks. If they require herbicide use then these are treated during this time.

Local Roads that have been identified in Schedule 3 of the Streetscape and Beautification Policy are gardened approximately every 8 weeks and if they require herbicide use, these are treated during this time.

Other areas of the City i.e. streets that don't contain specific garden areas are visited approximately every 6 months and herbicide is used as required.

Other Roads and areas contained in Schedule 1 & 2 of the Streetscape and Beautification Policy have higher frequency visits due to high amenity value and are dependent on the season and plant selection/garden type.

Weed control timing in parks and road signs varies due to differing uses and maintenance expectations along with changing weather conditions which can limit the number of applications.

For example:

- We carry out Onehunga weed control on sports fields and some amenity parks 1x per year,
- Higher profile areas within Parks may have 3-4 applications per year,
- Some Parks are on reactive weed control programmes so weed control spraying only occurs on request.
- If areas are not requiring vegetation control then we do not spray at all.
- We do not spray playground sites with agrichemicals for weed control and have opted instead for natural based products.
- We spray weekly on a cycle that allows for the streets to be visited 6 monthly. If areas are not requiring vegetation control then we wouldn't spray. We comply with our Herbicide use management Policy and the NZ Standard 8409/2004.

The definition of the different areas can be found at <https://www.hamilton.govt.nz/our-council/policies-bylaws-legislation/policies/Documents/Streetscape%20Beautification%20and%20Verge%20Maintenance%20Policy.pdf>.

Kind regards,

Michelle van Straalen

Official Information Advisor | Legal Services | Governance Unit

DDI: 07 974 0589 | Michelle.vanStraalen@hcc.govt.nz



Hamilton City Council | Private Bag 3010 | Hamilton 3240 | www.hamilton.govt.nz

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From: official information

Sent: Monday, 7 October 2019 8:41 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: official information <officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz>

Subject: LGOIMA 19296: Weed Control

Kia ora,

I write to acknowledge your information request of 5 October 2019 in respect of weed control.

Please be advised that your request has been passed on to the relevant team within Council and you will be informed of the outcome.

The Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 requires that we advise you of our decision on whether the Council will provide the requested information or not “as soon as reasonably practicable”, no later than 20 working days after the day we received your request. We will respond to you no later than 4 November 2019.

Kind regards,
Ngaa mihi,

Amy Viggers

On behalf of the Privacy Officer

DDI: 07 8386727 | Email: amy.viggers@hcc.govt.nz



Hamilton City Council | Private Bag 3010 | Hamilton 3240 | www.hamilton.govt.nz

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From: Hamilton City Council <do.not.reply@hcc.govt.nz>

Sent: Saturday, 5 October 2019 1:55 PM

To: official information <officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz>

Subject: HCC Website - Official Information Request ref: HCC-QF-191005-82FF6-ZYT

HCC Website - Official Information Request

Reference: HCC-QF-191005-82FF6-ZYT

Attachment: not attached

Name: [REDACTED]

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone number: [REDACTED]

Detailed Description of Request

Dear Sir or Madam,

Please supply the following information under the [Official Information Act (OIA) / Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (LGOIMA)]:

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, for example: how often are culverts and road signs sprayed and how often playgrounds and parks.

If you need any more information from me please let me know as soon as possible.

I understand that a decision on a request for information under the [OIA/LGOIMA] should be made within 20 working days of receiving that request.

If you do not normally deal with official information requests, or you need advice on dealing with this request, guidance is available from the Ombudsman at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

Organisation: not supplied