



2019, Balerno petition asked CEC for WEEDS TO BE REMOVED -BUT-WITHOUT GLYPHOSATE or any other HARMFUL CHEMICALS.

Residents reported declining health, pet sickness, bee death and property damage -following local applications.

MORE CONCERNS -GLYPHOSATE

- successful high profile lawsuits in US against chemicals
- Dog sickness / illness / sore paws /bee death reported across UK after recent applications
- 2015 , WHO World Health Organisation said Glyphosate was a definite carcinogen in animals and a probable carcinogen in humans
- 100's of scientific studies(free from vested interests and available for public scrutiny) linked Glyphosate to -weakening of the immune system , affecting the endocrine system ,asthma , intolerances , rashes, migraines, neurological issues, stomach problems, chronic cough, epilepsy
- Children reported persistent coughs worsening when Glyphosate was applied /disappeared when spraying was stopped
- Worsening of asthma /Hay-fever/ allergies was noted following applications of Glyphosate
- Reports that Glyphosate was used on windy / rainy days (run off to waterways)
- Speedy quad bike applications , making it impossible to avoid (especially difficult for the elderly,disabled, carers ,parents with prams)
- Concerns for children out playing in areas where Glyphosate being applied
- Concerns for the poisoning of soil insects, affecting local wildlife & biodiversity
- No warning signage and no way to avoid.

Agreement was then made by the Transport and Environment committee -Precautionary Principle should be applied, ending the use of Glyphosate for weed control in Balerno with introduction of viable safe alternatives

"The actions of the people in this village are a real inspiration. Together, with their local authority, they have shown that pesticide-use has no place in our communities."- Bumblebee Conservation Trust

"pesticides even at low concentrations, may be linked to increased cancer risk . Initiatives that reduce public exposure to pesticides may not only help reduce the risk of breast cancer but may help reduce risk of other cancers associated with these chemical pesticide"
Breast Cancer Prevention UK

2021, Foamstream trial

-equipment was faulty or not used to its full capacity. Many avoidable errors during trial resulted in a predictable 'non viable' from CEC. Effective on slabbed areas but positive results were omitted in report.



Glyphosate is costly, up to £200,000.

Apart from the irreversible costs to residents pets and biodiversity health , wouldn't we be better redirecting funds to a sustainable method of weed control like a £20,000 Foamstream machine ? Other U.K. councils like Glastonbury didn't hesitate to replace Glyphosate with Foamstream , as soon as there was any doubt to Glyphosate's safety.

Recently a Freedom of Information request to CEC discovered that CEC bought 20 electrical trimmers , costing a whopping £84,848 .

Considering electrical trimmers , are not golden, cannot reach all areas, are used when weed growth is considered a substantial height, can spread seed spores and can encourage further weed growth -we don't feel like this is the most viable option !

Recent FOI also reveals the decision to spend substantial public funds on electrical trimmers rather than Foamstream or Hot water machines, was made without 1 viability study!

CEC have recently invested in 2 hot water machines , (excellent for use on weeds) but we have been told they are to be used for graffiti use only !

Hopefully council reconsider sharing (as most councils do)and that these hot water machines can also be used to help with further safe weed removal.

Interestingly, councils who have successfully been using safe alternatives such as hot water or Foamstream for many years have reported SAFE ALTERNATIVES work out CHEAPER than glyphosate WHEN USED CORRECTLY and REDUCE WEED COMPLAINTS.

Results of Glastonbury Council's cost analysis of weed control options

	Cost per linear metre
Hand Weeding by contractor	£00.32
Hot water treatment by contractor	£00.26
Glyphosate treatment by contractor	£00.23
Foamstream factoring in costs of diesel, foam, in-house application, van and water. Excluding initial cost of equipment	£00.07

Balerno residents carry on inspiring others WORLDWIDE by removing the strip of weeds outside their homes, helping one other and keeping their street free from excess weeds (and from any toxic chemicals!)

Thank you for letting us know areas of concern that need further attention from CEC

Balerno also have a volunteer weeding group to support residents.

This year , CEC have agreed to use the new electrical 'golden' trimmers , manual / mechanical weed removal , removing street debris and manually removing weeds on communal slabs .

Let us know if you see any of these new golden trimmers' out and about !

Edinburgh petition has over 5000 signatures!
Edinburgh residents DO NOT WANT GLYPHOSATE or harmful chemicals used BUT WANT THEIR WEEDS REMOVED!

Unfortunately, when it comes to streets and pavements and hard standing areas like paving, Edinburgh residents are seeing the city being 'overrun with weeds' this despite still having Glyphosate used!

Whether or not the 'golden' trimmers will save the day...we shall have to see. ...most of the research we have done illustrates that trimmers end up more costly and problematic due to spreading seed spores and promoting weed regrowth and are best only when working alongside other methods.

Weeds need removed but using viable safe alternatives !

AROUND WORLD TABLE	Glastonbury 2015	East Devon 2023
Copenhagen 2007	Stockholm 2016	Madrid 2016
Aberdeen 2015	Bury 2021	



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