

COUNCIL – 26TH APRIL 2021

9. MOTIONS ON NOTICE

9(A) Glyphosate-Based Herbicides in Open Spaces, Playgrounds and Parks

The following motion on notice has been submitted by the Labour Group in accordance with Full Council Procedure Rule 9.12:

“This Council notes that:

- The use of glyphosate in public and open spaces is banned in a number of European countries, including France and Italy. EU member states relicensed glyphosate in 2017, with the additional condition that member states ‘minimise use in public spaces such as parks, public playgrounds and gardens’. Currently there is no legislation to reflect this in the UK. However, a number of local authorities in the UK have taken voluntary action to stop their own use of glyphosates, the nearest example being Erewash.
- Glyphosate is shown to have a detrimental impact on soil and plant health, beneficial insects (such as bees) and earthworms, aquatic micro-organisms and amphibia, as well as on pets who ingest grass that has been sprayed with the substance, such as dogs, cats or horses. In 2015, the International Agency for Research on Cancer declared glyphosate to be genotoxic (causes DNA damage), carcinogenic to animals and a ‘probable’ carcinogenic in humans.
- There are numerous design, mechanical and cultivational practices as well as non-chemical herbicides that can be used as an alternative to glyphosate herbicides.

This Council believes that:

- The use of chemical herbicides such as glyphosate is neither advisable, appropriate or necessary in our public spaces.

This Council resolves to:

- Stop the use of glyphosate-based herbicides in public parks and gardens, playgrounds and open spaces managed directly by Charnwood Borough Council, or by third parties on the Council’s behalf.

To adopt the use of the aforementioned non-chemical practices that can be used as an alternative to glyphosate herbicides as soon as possible.”