

Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Kiely (referred from the Metropolitan District of Limerick held on 21st June, 2021)

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that we phase out the use of glyphosate / roundup, that we seek clarification on the extent of use of this chemical from any contractors who provide weed control / spraying to Limerick City and County Council and that of our own staff members also, given the possible health implications of its use on wildlife, domestic pets and people.

REPLY:

In 2020, we carried out a full review of where, how and why we use herbicide in the Council, the quantities we use and the role of subcontractors. The objective was to identify opportunities to reduce usage. The review found that glyphosate is not used in large quantities, and only on hard surfaces for cleansing purposes and in our parks.

Since the review, it has been agreed that glyphosate will no longer be used in Council parks. It's use in green space is being reviewed, however the cost implications of moving to alternative methods of control such as strimming will need to be factored in. We are also considering the use of steel wire brushes on the street cleaning vehicles in certain situations in the city. At present there is no viable alternative to weed killer on hard surfaces.

While it may not fully eliminate the use of Glyphosate in the short to medium term, we believe there is scope to reduce its use significantly.

Nuala Gallagher
Director of Service
Planning, Environment & Place Making
27 September 2021

Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor C. Slattery (referred from the Metropolitan District Meeting September 2021).

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that the Council do a Feasibility Study on a large green area at the back of the Old Cork Road that runs the length of 4 housing estates to determine if a community facility such as a dog walking park can be established in the area.

REPLY:

The Council would like to advise that a dog run area is currently being piloted in Mungret Park. The purpose of the pilot is to gauge interest from the public in a dog park and also to establish any issues that may arise with dog parks. This will be reviewed after the initial pilot with a view to determining the feasibility of rolling out dog parks in other Council parks and open spaces.

The Council will arrange an inspection of the site at the back of the Old Cork Road. The site will be considered for community use and its suitability as a possible dog park.

Nuala Gallagher
Director
Planning, Environment & Place Making
27 September 2021