

Request under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request for information which we received on 06 June 2022.

I am pleased to confirm the following.

What is your policy for weed control in the hospital's grounds?

The trust uses a specialist contractor to undertake weed control on a quarterly basis.

Do you use herbicides containing glyphosate eg Roundup, Weedol etc If yes, what do you use What areas have been sprayed with herbicides containing glyphosate?

Yes

What is your policy on the use of glyphosate?

Hardstanding areas and ground not normal to bare vegetation only, applied to areas covered under a mutually agreed site plan.

What precautions were taken ahead of its use?

Trained operative, Weather checked, PPE checked and worn, applied to agreed locations only.

For the calendar years 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022, please can you tell me: The volume of these herbicides you have used the cost?

Our contractor does not have exact records of the volumes used however it is approximately 4litres applied 4 times per year.

The cost of weed control across the trust is commercially sensitive and is therefore withheld. A site is knapsack sprayed periodically 4 individual times in a calendar year.

Weather conditions will determine the number of weeds germinating/growing however we apply at a rate of 250ml per 10L water approximately 160L water used per treatment. We are moving toward use of ULV technology application methods which will reduce Herbicide usage by 1/2 current quantities used.

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If you are unhappy with the information received in response to this request, please address your complaint to the Patient Affairs Office at Milton Keynes Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Standing Way, Eaglestone, Milton Keynes MK6 5LD. If, after exhausting our internal process, you are still unhappy with the information received, you may write to the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

If you need any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at the address above.

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Co-ordinator
For and on behalf of Milton Keynes Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

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