

9 June 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT Request: 2022-34**

Thank you for your email of 16 May 2022 to the Carterton District Council (Council) requesting the following information:

*"...Use by Carter District Council of Organic Weed Control including those provided by Weedtechnics.*

*I am researching the use of pesticides in New Zealand and note that your council is identified as a customer of Weedtechnics. ...*

- 1. Why did you decide to use organic weed control including the services of Weedtechnics?*
- 2. How long have you been using them for?*
- 3. If you use Weedtechnics still, what exact services do they provide?*
- 4. Whether you have been able to reduce pesticide use as a consequence of using organic weed control methods or Weedtechnics services?*
- 5. What feedback have you had from your residents?*

*In the last 12 months OR for the 20/21 Financial Year please provide the following information:*

- 6. A list of all pesticides (including herbicides, insecticides, fungicides and rodenticides) used by the council, its agencies and contractors.*
- 7. The volume of each of these pesticides used*
- 8. Purpose of each product and where they are used*

*Please also provide any and all documentation used to support the use of organic weed control as well as pesticides. "*

Your request has been considered under the Local Government Official Information and Meeting Act 1987 (the Act).

My response to your request is in the number order below.

**1. Why did you decide to use organic weed control including the services of Weedtechnics?**

Council uses organic weed control and the services of Weedtechnics to reduce the use of toxic agrichemicals.

**2. How long have you been using them for?**

For organic weed control Council has been using this for 3 years, and Weedtechnics for over 4 years.

**3. If you use Weedtechnics still, what exact services do they provide?**

Council refers to Weedtechnics for their services on advice and parts.

**4. Whether you have been able to reduce pesticide use as a consequence of using organic weed control methods or Weedtechnics services?**

Council has reduced the use of pesticides by using organic weed control and Weedtechnics.

**5. What feedback have you had from your residents?**

From the date that your request was received, Council has received positive feedback on using organic weed control from residents.

**Question 6**

In the last 12 months, the Council used the following pesticides:

- Agpro Terminate
- Kiwicare Bio Weed Blast
- Dow Versatill
- 30 seconds moss and mould killer
- Talon Rodenticide
- Lion/Tordon Roundup G2 Glyphosate

**Question 7**

In the last 12 months, the volume of pesticides used per annum is:

- Terminate - 200L
- Kiwicare bioweed blast - 500L
- Versatill 5L
- 30 Seconds - 60L
- Talon – 2kgs
- Roundup G2 – 25L

**Question 8**

In the last 12 months, the purpose of each product and where they are used follows:

- Terminate is used as general weed control on large wasteland areas, large hard surfaces, car parks.

- Kiwicare bioweed blast is used as a general herbicide within parks and reserves throughout the district.
- Versatill is used for selective broadleaf control in turf on civic lawns and playing fields.
- 30 Seconds is used on paths and surfaces, for example decks.
- Talon is used for rodent control around Council sheds and buildings.
- Roundup G2. Glyphosate has low toxicity to wildlife and soil organisms, and breaks down fast, it is used to desiccate the water weeds.

For reference, the documents that the Council uses to support the organic weed control as well as pesticides are publicly available and can be found in the following links:

- [MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET \(30seconds.co.nz\)](https://www.30seconds.co.nz/)
- [Bio-Weed-Blast-SDS.pdf \(kiwicare.co.nz\)](https://www.kiwicare.co.nz/Bio-Weed-Blast-SDS.pdf)
- [sds-agpro-terminate-h2axh.pdf](https://www.agpro.co.nz/sds-agpro-terminate-h2axh.pdf)
- [EHS L TEXT\(CED-U00 \(syngentappm.com\)](https://www.syngentappm.com/EHS_L_TEXT(CED-U00)) (Talon)
- [Versatill Powerflo SDS Oct 2021 \(corteva.co.nz\)](https://www.corteva.co.nz/Versatill-Powerflo-SDS-Oct-2021.pdf)
- [Crystal Reports ActiveX Designer - MSDS 9.RPT \(nufarm.com\)](https://www.nufarm.com/Crystal-Reports-ActiveX-Designer-MSDS-9.RPT) (Lion)
- <https://www.corteva.co.nz/content/dam/dpagco/corteva/au/nz/en/products/sds/Tordon-PastureBoss-SDS-NZ-Oct-2021.pdf>

The safety data sheet is provided with the purchases. Council also follows instructions on the container.

Also, you may like to view the Council's Reserve Management Plan 2021 that has the information on hazardous substances, safety, risk management and park closure, which is publicly available in the Council's website here: <https://cdc.govt.nz/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Final-Reserve-Management-Plan-2021.pdf>, refer to page 39.

As such, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. You can do this by writing to [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely



Geoff Hamilton  
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Carterton District Council