



Reference: EIR3111

**Request:**

1. On the road verge network you are responsible for maintaining, are you or your services contractor implementing a mowing regime to benefit wild flowers?

If yes, can you outline your management practices (e.g. cutting verges later in the year, cutting them less often, collecting the arisings). If not, are you or your contractor planning on implementing one from 2021 or beyond?

**Yes. The cutting regime of road-side verges varies across the borough. Within the urban areas some are included within the regular "let fly" cutting regime. Others are cut once or twice per year. Cuttings are not collected. Some parts of verges have been sown with wildflower mixes, these improvements continue year on year. Arisings are not collected.**

2. If you or your contractor are implementing such a scheme, what has prompted you to do so (eg. cost savings, reduced CO2 emissions, the impacts of the pandemic)?

What benefits, if any, have you seen? And what, if any, problems have you encountered?

**Minimal cost savings, increased biodiversity, reduced emissions. Increased biodiversity - wildflowers**

3. If you or your contractor have not implemented one, what, if any, reasons are preventing you (eg, safety concerns, lack of information, resident views)?

**N/A**

4. What is your approach to using glyphosate for weed control?

**Glyphosate is used for weed control. The overall amount of herbicide used on hard surfaces has been reduced by up to 80% due to the introduction of targeted infra-red technology. The infra-red technology identifies individual weeds and applies herbicide directly to the weed rather than applying herbicide to the entire hard surface.**