



INFORMATION REQUEST

INFORMATION REQUEST #: IR-09-25

REQUESTED BY: Councillor Tokar

TOPIC: Weed steamer

DATE OF REQUEST: Prior to GPC Meeting 2025

DATE OF RESPONSE: November 17, 2025

QUESTION:

Page 245 talks about the weed steamer business case. Do we have a sense for how much we will save on herbicides and manual labour as a result of having this tool?

Response

Our cost on herbicides will be reduced by \$500 a year roughly.

What it does is allows us to have seasonal labourers control the weeds without a need for an applicator license or controlled products. The real benefit we have is we are able to use the steam in any weather condition and without oversight of a full time staff on site.

The City also has areas where we can not use chemicals such as beside fish bearing waters and in our edible garden areas.

We estimate 12,800 hours were spent in 2025 for all methods of weed control.

Other uses will be for graffiti removal on hard surfaces which has become very prevalent in the last 2 years.

We estimate that productivity will be doubled vs mechanical weeding methods.

Background

Further information available in the capital profile.

Financial Implications/Taxation Impact

As identified in the capital profile.

Contact: Dean Carnduff, Director, Public Works