Appendix I – APSE Weed Management Survey

This information is taken from the APSE report that is saved on the Member's Portal.

APSE present the following trial results from other councils within their membership:

Method	Positives	Negatives	Results/recommendations
Foam	none	Requires considerable setup & running costs and heavy goods vehicle to transport. Slow, very little control of areas treated during application. Restricted to certain sites.	Impractical for normal use as the vehicle cannot access certain areas. With lack of control of application, it can damage flora and fauna in surrounding areas and would impact biodiversity in the soil because of volume.
Manually Removing weeds	Good publicity, reduces the days lost through poor weather.	This method is very time consuming and labour intensive, scraping weeds will not completely kill the weed as the root will still be in the ground and the weed will simply grow back.	Instant improvement of the appearance of the highway pavement but very short lived, this is due to not killing the plant. This is definitely something I would recommend continuing but not wholesale as a replacement to Glyphosate
Volunteers removing weeds Manually	Good publicity and community engagement	This method is very time consuming and labour intensive, scraping weeds will completely kill the weed as the root will still be in the ground and the weed will simply grow back.	Instant improvement of the appearance of the highway pavement but very short lived, this is due to not killing the plant. This is definitely something I would recommend continuing but not wholesale as a replacement to Glyphosate. Due to the inexperience of the volunteer's damage to the infrastructure of the path or harm to an individual

Method	Positives	Negatives	Results/recommendations
Alltrec electric heat	Electric Vehicle. Changeable implements	Very expensive, Heavy, and slow. Restricted to certain areas of use. High maintenance costs for Battery	Impractical for cost and limited usage.
Maxwind Pedestrian steam	Able to be used in ornamental areas	Very very slow, heavy for pedestrian use and limited to water capacity	Impractical for speed of application needing multiple treatments. Only suitable for very small, limited areas.
Johnston CN101 1m2 Sub-compact sweeper (carbon fibre brushes)	Very good machine for clearing paths of leaves and detritus. Multi use	Very slow, small holding take, very little effect on larger weeds.	Impractical for highway pavements. Costly and would not be suited for the job required

Method	Positives	Negatives	Results/recommendations
'Vinegar' 20% Acetic Acid	Effective within a few days. Natural way of removing weeds	The effectiveness of the acid does not last long, new growth quickly appears. Really pungent smell. Limited knowledge of its safe use.	This method of weed treatment is widely used across Europe as an alternative to Glyphosate use. Look to develop the use of this in our Parks, trialling it on hard surfaces

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