

ROADS — WEEDS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

6353. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Transport

Regarding weed management on roads under the management of the Department of Transport (department), I ask —

- (1) What was the annual cost of the weed management program in the past five years?
- (2) How does the department supervise contractors regarding the application of herbicide?
- (3) How much glyphosate has the department used for weed management on main roads and other properties through own employees or contractors in the past five years annually?
- (4) Has herbicide resistance been an issue in the weed management program?
- (5) If yes to (4), please provide details?
- (6) If no to (4), what strategies does the department have to address anticipated future herbicide resistance of weeds?
- (7) What other herbicides have been used in the past financial year through employees and contractors? (Please provide details to herbicide, amount and cost).
- (8) Given that the application of herbicide on roadsides has a serious negative impact on the biodiversity, what guidelines does the department provide to contractors or own weed management staff for minimising the negative effects on environmental values?
- (9) Please provide details of such guidelines for staff and contractors on the application of herbicide along verges of main roads, for example quantity, width of application, duration, and alternative weed management methods?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

The Department of Transport advises:

The Department of Transport has no responsibility for weed management.

(1)–(9) Not applicable.