



**SUBJECT: THE PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS
(SUSTAINABLE USE) REGULATIONS 2012**

RECIPIENTS: All Council Services (including schools)

ISSUE DATE: **May 2013**

REF: **HSB19**



New regulations relating to the use of pesticides recently came into force.

This bulletin is for all LCC locations that use pesticides, appoint contractors to manage vegetation, weeds and diseases or control pests on their behalf. If this is the case it is important you comply with the legal requirements and ensure the safe use of pesticides.

The laws requirements apply to those who use or permits others to use pesticides:

- All reasonable precautions are taken to protect human health and the environment.
- The application is confined to the area intended to be treated.
- When used in public spaces the amount and frequency of use is as low as is reasonably practicable.
- Suitable alternative methods of control are considered and used where appropriate to help minimise your use of chemicals.
- Control programmes are overseen by suitably certificated, trained and competent advisors/officers to help reduce the risks to human health and the environment.
- The avoidance of water pollution through inappropriate pesticide use is vital.
- The contractor should know and understand all relevant laws and codes of practice relating to supplying, storing and using of pesticides.

If you carry out amenity management work or use contractors you will need to be satisfied that staff and contractors are competent and have the skills and knowledge to do the job safely.

Some questions you could ask to establish staff or contractor competence:

- 1) What experience does the contractor have and have they had enforcement action taken against them?
- 2) Does the contractor know and understand all relevant laws and codes of practice?
- 3) Does the contractor sub-contract any work? If so are sub contractors suitably experienced and qualified?
- 4) Have they considered alternative methods of control?
- 5) How will they ensure appropriate products are used and the minimum amount of pesticide is applied?
- 6) What records will be kept by the contractor? (e.g. risk assessments, weather conditions, incident data etc)
- 7) Does the contractor have: public liability; professional indemnity; and employer's liability insurance?

If you require further assistance or clarification on the subject please contact:

Your Mouchel Health & Safety Adviser (see George section: Corporate > Information for Working > Risk Management > H&S Advisers)