

# Ground Maintenance & Grass Cutting Contract 2023 - 2026

## Questions raised & responses given

(as at 23rd January 2023)

For the information of all wishing to tender for the above contract, the following questions have been raised, and responses given:

Q Can you advise if there is a measurement for the weed spraying for all the footways and tarmac footpaths through the residential curtilage of the town?

A Copy of the footway measurements within the curtilage of Stotfold is provided ('Streets Stotfold') in Excel format – please note, only CBC and FW (footway) routes fall within this contract.

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Q Is there any maintenance of play equipment required?

A There is no maintenance of play equipment required, only grounds maintenance/grass cutting around the items.

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Q Would the council consider majority weeding through a combination of hand weeding and hoeing, and only in a small number of cases use a mixture of household goods to eliminate weeds – to meet our biodiversity and environmental improvement plan?

A The reason we have requested use of weed sprays is for time and therefore cost reducing measures. However, we are also committed to considering biodiversity, and as such we would welcome your tender if it also includes hand weeding. It should be noted, that not all of our weeding requirements will involve use of sprays, as the shrubberies are usually hand pulled anyway, due to the amount of plants contained within them.

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Q Does TUPE apply to this contract?

A As the tender is for a supplier of services to the council and the company provides the staff and equipment, you would remain the employer and are responsible for pay, hours, tax and NI, etc, we therefore do not see any requirement for the council to be involved in any employer/employee arrangements.

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Q Does the Real Living Wage apply to this contract?

A Whether you pay that to your staff is a requirement for your company, and it is not a mandatory requirement.