

**Working to be the  
greenest borough in  
Britain**

**Cllr Wesley Harcourt  
Cabinet Member for the  
Environment**

# Chemical-Free Weed Removal in Hammersmith & Fulham

Provide an effective non-chemical weed removal service for highways, open spaces and estates.

244 Km pavement

618 hectares of open space

Using 2 different methods:

- hot water on our streets
- foam on our open spaces and estates

# Foam



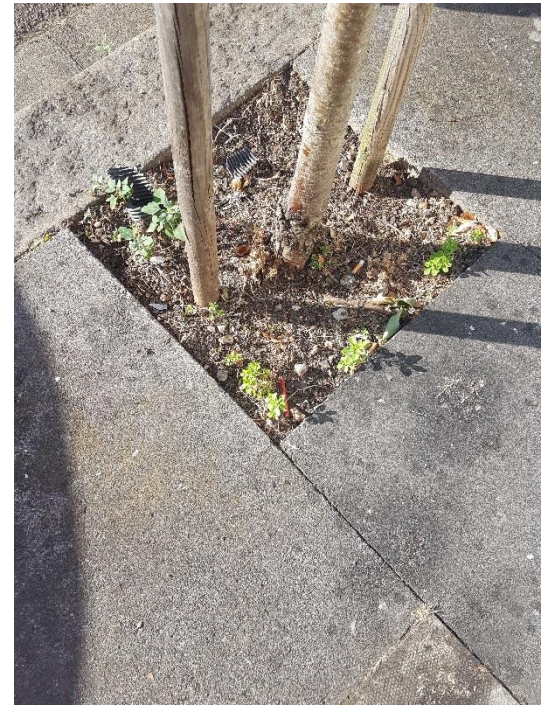
# Hot Water



Before



After



Regrowth 1 week

# Our experience so far

- The optimum frequency of treatment will take some time to determine
- Need to map weed growth and complaints to develop smarter ways of treating
- Have developed a way of rating weed growth in a similar way as we do for litter and detritus
- Treatment frequency may have to alter according to weather conditions and surface type

# Year 1 Findings

- **Seasonal variations affects growth**
- **Growing season is lengthening**
- **Affects pavement type differently**



# Year 1 Findings

- Will take multiple applications over 3 years
- Woody growth is challenging
- Increase in tree basal shoots



# Next Steps

- Combination trials being undertaken to give comparative results
  - steam method with immediate manual removal;
  - Steam method with routine manual removal within 7 days according to usual street cleansing regime
  - steam method with mechanical removal
- Improved comparative data collection
- Create a grading system similar to NI195
- Create an app to record weed growth
- Feedback from sweepers
- Innovation challenge to contractors
- Meeting 4 weekly to examine results

- Questions?