

APSE Seminar

Plant Biosecurity In Practice

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The Highland Council

The Highland Council Area



To Cover



Considering plant biosecurity in our operations



Current issues with invasive plant species



Reducing our herbicide usage and its impact



Awareness training for operatives



Questions

Considering Plant Biosecurity



- Invasive species
- Non-native
- Costs

Plant Biosecurity Strategy for Great Britain 2023 to 2028
Highland Nature Biodiversity Action Plan 2021 2026

Highland Nature Biodiversity Action Plan (2021 – 2026)



Action Four – Invasive non-native invasive species are controlled



8 commitments made



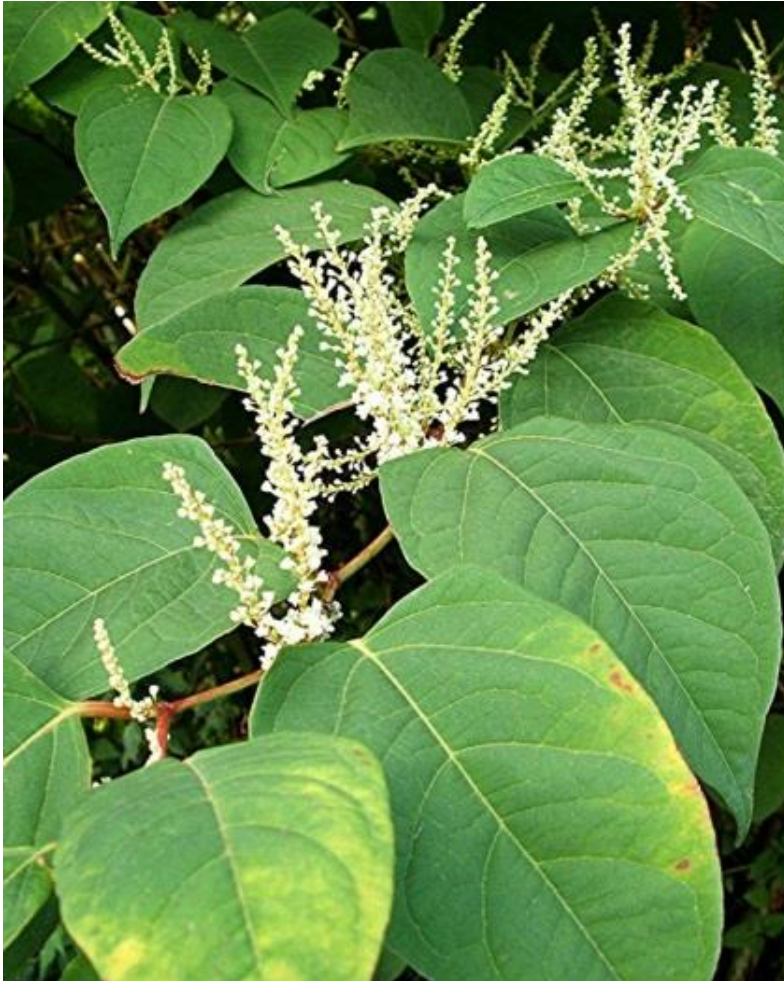
50- year vision

Current Issues

Rhododendron Ponticum



Japanese Knotweed



Treatment



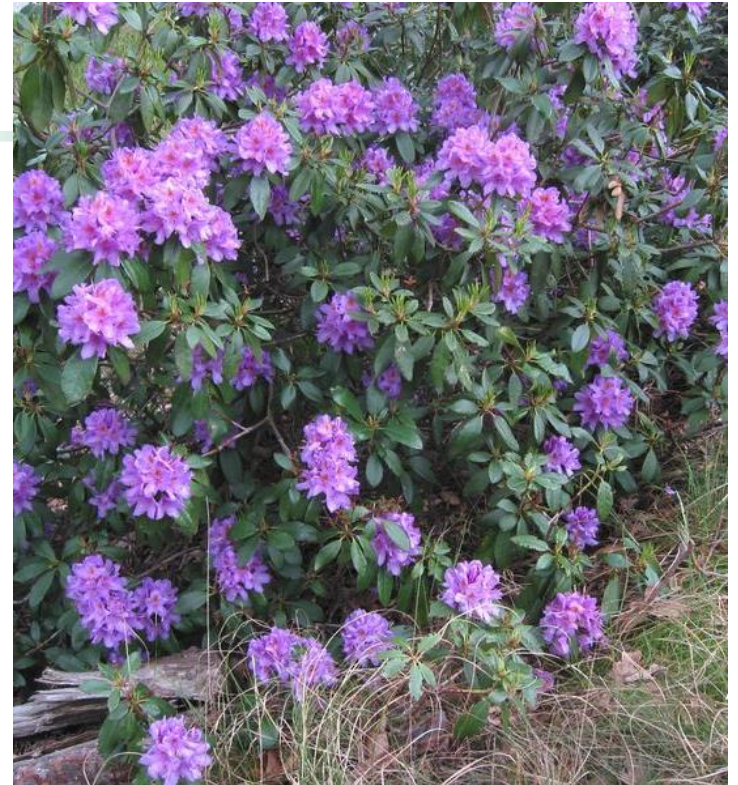
Giant Hogweed



Treatment



Himalayan Balsam



Ash Die Back



Whin Park Pond



Crassula Helmsii



Post Treatment



Reducing Herbicide Usage



- Development of an integrated weed control strategy and action plan
- Council motion to ban glyphosate in June 2019
- NoMix Dual

Total Droplet Control Nomix Dual



Consequences of the Motion



Pesticide Policy, Compliance and Enforcement Workshop

August 2023

Cross service representation

Update on HSE regulations and enforcement

Develop a weed control decision matrix

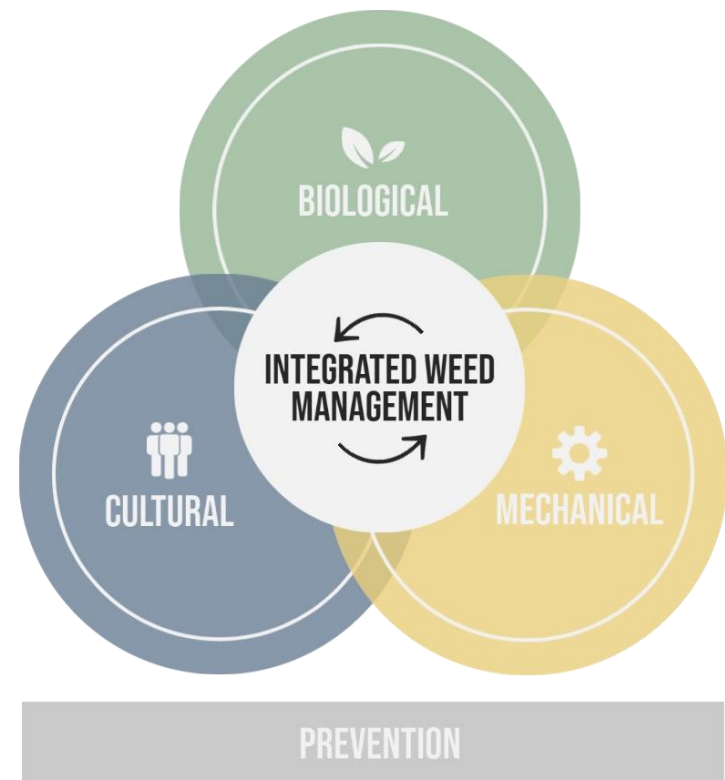
Create an integrated weed control strategy and action plan

Establish a working group to deliver actions

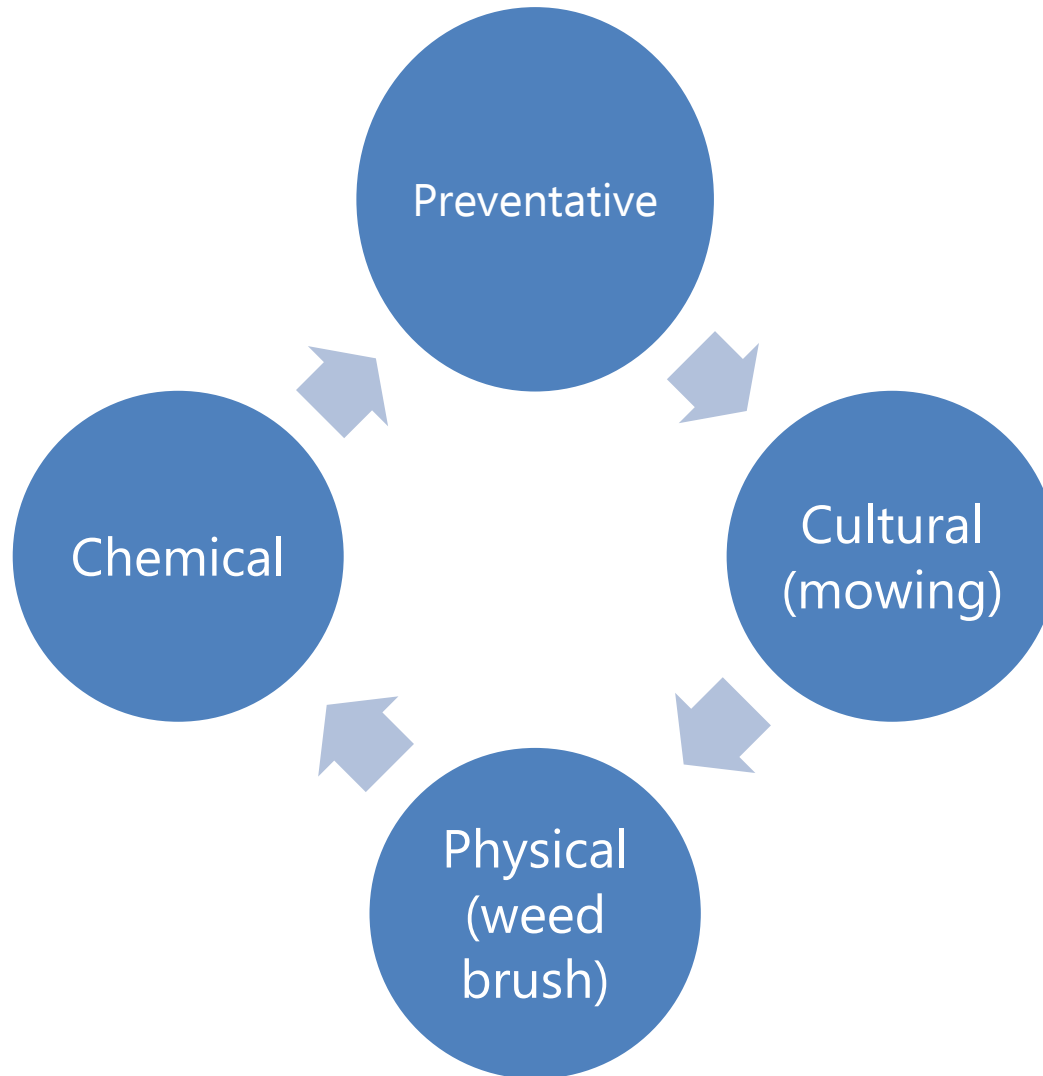
Integrated Weed Control

Long-term management approach using;

- Physical control
- Chemical control
- Organic control
- Thermal control



Proposed Matrix



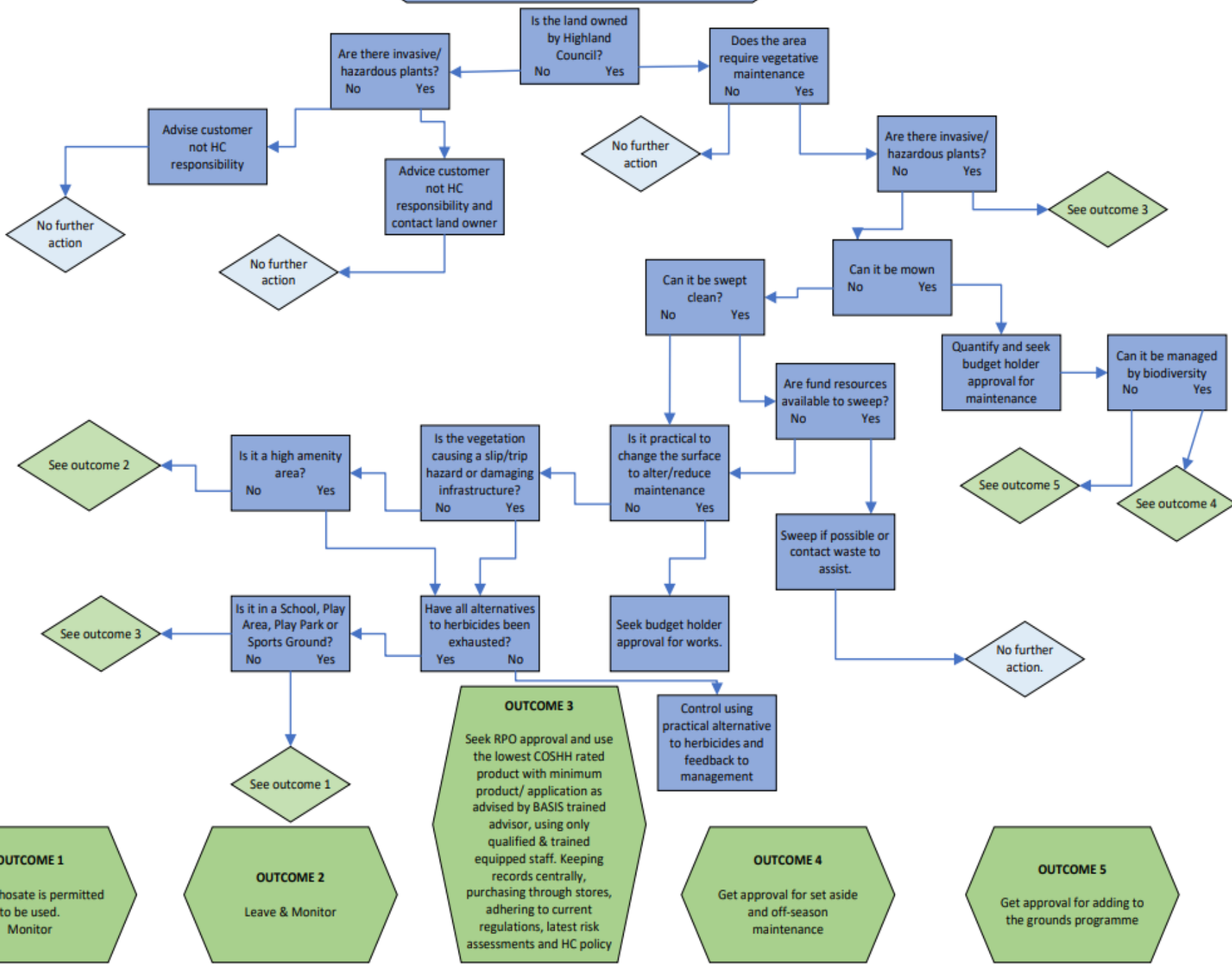
Decision Matrix

Developed to allow a consistent approach across Areas and Services

Five Outcomes of the Matrix

- No glyphosate permitted
- Leave and monitor
- Lowest COSHH product used
- Set aside, off-season maintenance
- Add to programme

Weed Control Decision Matrix



OUTCOME 1
No Glyphosate is permitted to be used. Monitor

OUTCOME 2
Leave & Monitor

OUTCOME 3
Seek RPO approval and use the lowest COSHH rated product with minimum product/ application as advised by BASIS trained advisor, using only qualified & trained equipped staff. Keeping records centrally, purchasing through stores, adhering to current regulations, latest risk assessments and HC policy

OUTCOME 4
Get approval for set aside and off-season maintenance

OUTCOME 5
Get approval for adding to the grounds programme

Awareness Training

- Annual Health and Safety Refreshers
- Toolbox Talks
- Apps



Prevent Spreading

Highland is least contaminated part of the UK

Ask public to prevent spreading

- Notify us
- Maintain wild buffer
- Avoid planting invasive species
- Dispose responsibly

Summary



Facing similar issues



Ongoing effort to manage INNS



Reduced glyphosate use will have an impact



Operatives need to be involved



Public assistance

Thank You

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