Brownfield Risk & Remediation 2017

About the event

Developing a time- and cost-effective remediation strategy that is “fit for purpose” and satisfies new planning and regulatory requirements is vital in successfully developing brownfield land. Where contamination is present, having confidence in the information provided by a rigorous and justifiable risk assessment is essential to avoid unnecessary costs. Setting realistic remediation targets and evaluating all of the remedial options available, including new technologies, can save both time and money, whilst achieving greater certainty of results.

This popular annual event, held in London on 13th & 14th September will bring together regulators, consultants, remediation contractors and other industry experts working across the whole of the brownfield sector to discuss a wide range of issues within contaminated land risk assessment and remediation, effective risk assessment and remediation. The inter-linked nature of these two topics means that delegates attending both days of the conference will benefit from the most holistic view, however it is also possible to attend just day One or Two.

Join us and benefit from hearing regulatory updates and sharing first-hand experiences with your peers, enabling you to develop practical and cost-effective solutions to current remediation challenges.

Why attend?

Expert speakers
This event brings together a mix of regulators, practitioners and consultants to review and discuss key policies and practical solutions to a number of remediation and brownfield challenges

Current thinking
Written by you, for you, the programme has been written based on research with your peers within the industry to ensure it focuses on those issues most pertinent to you now.

Case studies
Learn from hands-on experience of complex technical and project challenges in a series of case studies providing practical guidance and examples of best practice which can be adapted and applied within your own organisation.

Time efficiency & focus
Remove yourself from day-to-day distractions for two days and benefit from a series of focussed presentations designed to address key issues, offer new ideas and present practical guidance and solutions.

Q&A panel discussions
In addition to expert-led presentations, there will also be a number of Q&A discussion sessions throughout the day giving you the opportunity to address your specific questions and challenges and share your opinions with others.

Networking
Meet and mingle with senior professionals in your sector - an invaluable networking and knowledge-sharing opportunity.

Who should attend?

Local Authorities
✔ Contaminated Land Officers
✔ Environmental Health Officers
✔ Planning Officers
✔ Scientists / Scientific Officers

Consultants
✔ Land Quality / Land Remediation Managers
✔ Environmental Directors / Managers
✔ Technical Directors
✔ Remediation Managers / Directors
✔ Engineers
✔ Geo-Environmental Consultants

Regulatory & Planning Updates & Practical Solutions To Deliver Risk-Based, Robust & Achievable Contaminated Land Development
Day One – Wednesday 13 September
Dealing with Contaminated Land within Current Policy & Planning Frameworks

9.00  Registration and Refreshments
9.30  Opening remarks from the Chairman
9.40  Examining how Brownfield Registers will work in practice and how “Permission in Principle” (PiP) will be granted and implemented

- Evaluating the implications of changes to the Housing & Planning Bill and England’s NPPF, particularly the introduction of brownfield registers and PiP
- Assessing the effectiveness of these tools in minimising the risks associated with developing brownfield or contaminated sites
  - clarifying key definitions such as “deliverable”, “developable” and “viable” and what granting permission in principle for a brownfield site actually means for all parties involved
  - assessing what safeguards are being put in place for ensuring contaminated land is correctly and adequately risk assessed
- Detailing where responsibilities and liabilities lie with regards to identifying, listing and assessing contaminated sites on the register
  - who is responsible for Phase 1 risk assessments for sites given PiP?
  - what are the implications of these sites for developers and consultants?
  - who ultimately decides if a site is developable?
- How will PiP and sites on brownfield registers interact with Part 2A guidance and the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive, Habitats Directive and sites classed to be of “high environmental value”?

10.05 Improving the relationship between LA-consultant-client-contractor to achieve a holistic, cost-efficient approach to risk assessment and remediation

- Assessing the implications of changes to the planning and development control process
  - detailing the tools available to local authorities and how these could be improved
  - what do these changes mean for the way in which we risk assess contaminated land?
- Local Authority Perspective - Practical tips for facilitating a risk assessment or development proposal through the planning system:
  - applying risk assessment guidance - key considerations and issues
  - outlining what we look for in a Phase 1 & 2 risk assessment to satisfy planning conditions and support appropriate remedial options
  - assessing the optimum point in the planning process for a detailed SI to be submitted
  - examining specific data requirements to help produce the best environmental impact, geo-technical and contamination risk assessment

10.45 Q&A
10.55 Morning refreshments and networking
11.25 Funding: Evaluating alternative mechanisms and sources available to fund remediation and brownfield redevelopment

- Clarifying if there will be any dedicated funding made available for contaminated land, and from where?
- Quantifying what proportion of funds allocated to local authorities through other measures relate to their statutory contaminated land duties
- Practicalities of accessing and using innovative funding sources to minimise the risks and accelerate brownfield remediation and development

11.50 Groundwater: Update on current and future regulatory guidance for groundwater risk assessment

- Detailing the implications of the recent revisions to the Methodology for the determination of hazardous substances for the purposes of the Groundwater Directive:
  - clarifying the definition of hazardous substances and those compounds that have been recently classed as hazardous
  - assessing the implications of this revised list for groundwater risk assessment
  - Update on guidance for controlled waters under Part IIA and the risk assessment of secondary aquifers and other receptors
- Clarifying the Environment Agency’s current and future position regarding groundwater risk assessment:
  - groundwater data available for use by the industry
  - the Agency’s view on the National Quality Mark Scheme (NQMS)and its role

12.15 Audience Discussion & Information Exchange

- This session will take the form of an open, interactive audience discussion on the following pertinent topics:
  - Identifying the current barriers to developing brownfield sites and the measures that could be further taken to influence these
  - Evaluating the uptake, impact and perceived value of the recently-launched National Quality Mark Scheme (NQMS)
  - Strategies for improving the LA-consultant-client-contractor relationship to facilitate contaminated land risk assessment and remediation

12.45 Lunch
14.00 Legal Update: Assessing the implications of recent legal cases for contaminated land risk assessment and remediation and associated liabilities

- Examining the outcome and implications of the Price and Hardwicke v Powys County Council and Jim 2 Limited v Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council judgments for local authorities and their duties and liabilities with regards to:
  - predecessor activities
  - landfill redevelopment
  - contaminated land risk assessment
- Clarifying risk assessment responsibilities and future liabilities in the context of a planning application:
  - to what extent could contractors and data collectors be implicated with regards to the information they provide for a risk summary?
- To what extent can liability transfer mechanisms and contractual protections be used to manage LA and contractor responsibilities?
- Exploring to what extent you can achieve regulatory sign-off to clearly demonstrate appropriate risk management and assure no further remediation will be necessary

14.25 How to ensure you are seeing the real picture - Strategies for dealing with uncertainties & conservatism in risk assessment models

- Understanding the problem of uncertainties and sparse data sets and how to mitigate this:
  - estimating the degree of uncertainty arising from field sampling and techniques to reduce this
  - better understanding the statistical uncertainty of laboratory data
- Exploring the most sensitive parameters that influence outcomes when modelling risk and how to manage these
- Quantifying the impact of conservatism and “worst-case scenario” modelling on potential remediation costs:
  - to what extent should it be a requirement to communicate uncertainty and variability in the risk assessment process?
- Deciding how much uncertainty is acceptable for different purposes and effectively communicating this to stakeholders

14.50 Q&A

15.10 Afternoon refreshments and networking

15.40 Update on the use of Bio-Accessibility Testing in UK contaminated land risk assessment

- Outlining current industry guidance and practice relating to the bio-accessibility measurement of contaminants in soil:
  - to which contaminants is it currently applicable?
  - to which might it be applied in the near future?
  - how can naturally-occurring contaminants best be managed?
  - what approaches are being adopted where sites exceed GAC values?
- Clarifying to what extent bio-accessibility testing is accepted by regulators as providing robust, defensible data for use in risk assessment:
  - what steps are being taken to develop a straightforward, scientifically sound methodology for bioavailability of contaminants in soils?
- Quantifying the potential saving in remediation costs achieved through bio-accessibility testing
- Detailing current work being done to progress the use of this technique in gaining a better understanding of the effects of certain contaminants on human health

16.05 Ground Gas and VOCs: Detailing advances in, and cost-benefits of, continuous monitoring of ground gases and soil vapours

- Outlining recent progress made in ground gas and vapour risk assessment both in the UK and internationally
- Assessing where uncertainties and misconceptions occur in risk assessing the most common contaminants and how these can be addressed:
  - techniques for preventing overly-conservative or incorrect assessments
  - understanding the difference between Gas Screening Values (GSV) and DQRA results
- Examining progress made in the approach to testing TOCs
- Detailing the cost-benefits of complete continuous monitoring in maximising data collection and adding value to your ground gas and VOC risk assessment

16.30 Practical strategies for effective risk assessment and management of unexploded ordnance (UXO)

- Identifying the potential risk from UXO through desktop and geo-physical assessment – exploring likely historical sources, locations and depths across the UK
- Outlining advances in appropriate risk mitigation measures – both before and after removal
- Safely removing the unexploded ordnance with minimal cost and disruption:
  - local community communication and engagement
  - Case Study - Developing and implementing a comprehensive explosive ordnance, risk mitigation and remediation strategy on a brownfield site to enable redevelopment

16.55 Q&A

17.10 Closing remarks from the Chairman
Brownfield Risk & Remediation 2017

Day Two – Thursday 14 September
Translating your Risk Assessment into a Robust, Effective Remediation Strategy

9.00 Registration and Refreshments
9.30 Opening remarks from the Chairman
9.40 Case Study: Translating a risk assessment into a pragmatic and achievable remediation strategy
  • Getting it right at the beginning - scoping a detailed quantitative risk assessment (DQRA) to develop a robust remediation strategy
  • Optimising the design of your site investigation and CSM to get more meaningful results:
    ○ identifying specific stakeholder and site end-use requirements from the outset to ensure you are collecting exactly the information that you need
    ○ ensuring your data is of the highest quality and fit-for-purpose
    ○ managing the trade-off between opinion vs quantifiable results
  • Successfully reconciling human health and groundwater threshold values
  • Determining how much remediation is enough:
    ○ defining “betterment”
    ○ striking a balance between conservatism and realism
    ○ justifying an acceptable level of risk to the regulator and other stakeholders
    ○ determining any risk-associated liabilities

This presentation will be a case-study demonstrating how re-evaluation of remediation targets generated by an initial risk assessment and the application of site-specific criteria, as well as negotiation with the regulator, resulted in a revision of remediation targets to realistic and achievable levels.

10.05 Developer’s perspective: Developing brownfield and contaminated land sites in the current planning and regulatory climate
  • Assessing current market conditions, the challenges posed by brownfield sites and how we see the market evolving in the near future
  • Outlining our key drivers when choosing potential sites and why some are considered more attractive than others:
    ○ what level and types of risk we are prepared to take
    ○ how contaminated land risk assessment and remediation fits into the bigger development picture
  • Our perspective on how the process from site investigation to remediation to redevelopment could be simplified and accelerated:
    ○ how could the complexity of viability assessments be improved?
    ○ detailing the information we require at SI and pre-planning stage
  • Identifying what incentives and mechanisms would be most useful to developers in encouraging brownfield development
  • Exploring how we can work effectively with remediation consultants, contractors and other stakeholders to overcome the challenges associated with brownfield development

10.30 Case Study on Collaborative working: Demonstrating developers, local authorities and other stakeholders working together to develop challenging brownfield sites
10.55 Q&A
11.10 Morning refreshments and networking
11.40 Land Owner’s perspective: Optimising land ownership and release to accelerate development
12.05 Effectively Applying Current Waste Management Guidance to Remediation Projects
  • Update on the Definition of Waste CoP v.3:
    ○ highlighting key changes from previous versions
    ○ outlining revisions to the waste permitting process
    ○ detailing how the CoP interacts with WM3
    ○ applying DoWCoP in the planning process
  • Clarifying important definitions and differences when classifying and risk-assessing waste:
    ○ defining a risk vs a hazard
    ○ differences between WAC testing and hazard assessment for WM3
    ○ clarifying “suitability” of use – what materials can be re-used, where?
  • Detailing the Regulator’s view on leaving or re-using waste in-situ:
    ○ how is this being monitored and enforced?
    ○ how can the long-term risks of leaving waste in-situ be assessed?
  • Materials Management Planning best practice:
    ○ outlining where common problems occur and how to avoid them
    ○ effective verification reporting
    ensuring materials being imported or re-used are fit for purpose and free from contamination risk
    ○ top tips to ensure your MMP is workable and compliant

12.30 Q&A
12.45 Lunch
13.45  Asbestos: Practicalities of applying industry guidance for identifying, treating and re-using asbestos-contaminated soil

Risk Assessment
• Reviewing the CAR-SOIL and other asbestos guidance and effectively using it as a tool to manage asbestos on-site: assessing the actual risk
• Best practice where traces or very low levels are found – justifying risk minimisation techniques
• Exploring what to do if asbestos is found on-site at the remediation phase, but not identified in the SI?

Waste Management
• Clarifying the correct classification of material with very low levels of asbestos fibres detected:
  ○ at what level must this material be classed as hazardous?
  ○ what are the technical and legal implications of re-using waste classified as asbestos-contaminated – what exactly can be re-used, where?
• Giving confidence to landfill and waste site operators with regards to managing asbestos

Remediation
• Exploring the most suitable remediation techniques for asbestos fibres in soil
• Assessing the longer-term risks of leaving asbestos in-situ – how is this monitored over time?

Case study: Practicalities of identifying, remediating and re-using asbestos-contaminated materials

14.10  Q&A

Spotlight on New & Innovative Remediation Technologies

This session will involve a series of case-study presentations illustrating the costs, benefits and practical application of emerging innovative water and soil remediation technologies

14.15  Examining the potential for molecular biological tools to improve the design, implementation, field performance, and monitoring of remediation technologies

14.55  A decade of large-scale enhanced reductive dechlorination; examining the evolution in the usage of a high-volume controlled-release electron donor substrate.

Using case studies from technology launch up to ongoing projects, this presentation will discuss the development in the understanding, design and application of a slow release carbon substrate used to provide the enhanced reductive dechlorination of halogenated compounds.

Created to treat large-scale plumes synonymous with problematic chlorinated solvent contamination, the technology was created to transport widely through the subsurface post-injection, whilst avoiding wash-out and still providing an effective and sustained treatment rate.

The presentation will cover the lessons-learned through application into a wide range of geological and geochemical settings across Europe and America, targeting a number of contaminants, with concentrations ranging from DNAPL to low dissolved phase. It will also discuss the merits of integration of enhanced reductive dechlorination with physical and chemical technologies in order to optimise treatment onsite.

Gareth Leonard, Managing Director, Europe, REGENESIS

15.15  Q&A

15.25  Afternoon refreshments and networking

15.50  Case study of an innovative small-scale in-situ remediation project with a smaller budget

16.10  Case study of a gasworks remediation using a combination of remediation techniques

16.30  Best practice solutions for effective stakeholder engagement and communication during a remediation project

• Quantifying the health, social, and environmental effects of remediation and building these into a coherent risk management and communication strategy
• Understanding public perception of the risks and why remediation is required, and the likely factors of resistance:
  ○ effectively identifying and communicating the difference between perceived and actual risks
  ○ demonstrating that the benefit of remediation is greater than its impact
• Choosing the most appropriate channel, tone and method for communicating with different stakeholders and facilitating early, genuine and effective engagement
• Case Study: Successfully winning hearts and minds and overcoming resistance

16.55  Q&A

17.10  Closing remarks from the Chairman

and close of conference.
Delegate Rates

Book for two day conference:

Early bird price - if booked by 4th August 2017 - £623
Early bird subscriber rate - if booked by 4th August 2017 - £549
Full price - £714
Full price subscriber rate - £632
Second / third delegate - £454 / £334
Local authorities / academia - £254

Note - our two-day delegate rate represents a considerable saving when compared with standard one-day Brownfield Briefing conferences.

Book for one day only:

Early bird price - if booked by 4th August 2017 - £367
Early bird subscriber rate - if booked by 4th August 2017 - £323
Full price - £420
Full price subscriber rate - £376
Second / third delegate - £227 / £167
Local authorities / academia - £127

NB - All listed prices exclude VAT at 20%

Event times

Wednesday 13 September
09:00 - 17:15
Thursday 14 September
09:00 - 17:15

Location

London

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