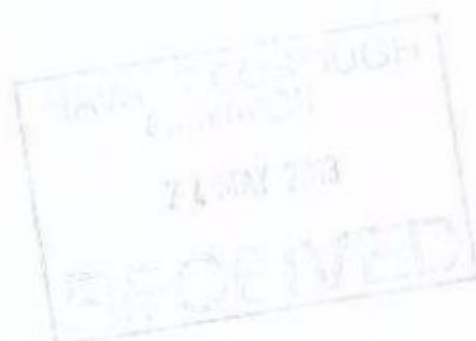


- AIR POLLUTION
- CONTROL OF DUST FLOWCHART
- SMOKE, FUMES AND ODOUR
- WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION
- SILT POLLUTION – DO'S AND DON'TS
- EXISTING CONTAMINATED GROUND
- IF CONTAMINATION IS DISCOVERED - FLOWCHART
- CONTAMINATED LAND
- WASTE MANAGEMENT
- WASTE DISPOSAL
- MATERIALS
- NOISE AND VIBRATION
- ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS



AIR POLLUTION

Dust emissions and odours arising from a site will annoy neighbours and can even cause health risks at high concentrations. Under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, the company has a duty to avoid causing a statutory nuisance due to creating dust that may affect the workforce, neighbours and the environment.

Failure to do so is a criminal offence and may result in prosecution and an unlimited fine.

Many activities carried out on site have the potential to create nuisance dust some of these are as follows: -

- Earth works.
- Stock piling.
- Site traffic.
- Demolition.
- Cutting and sawing.

Control Measures

It is difficult to suppress dust once it is airborne, therefore it is essential to use measures to stop it being produced. Careful planning and design of construction operations is essential and wind conditions can be a significant factor. The following is a list of control measures that can be applied in order to avoid dust emissions.

- Minimise the accumulation of loose materials on site roads by regular sweeping.
- Ensure an adequate supply of water is available for water bowsers.
- Ensure water bowsers are effective and maintained.
- Apply water spray to haul/site roads, earthworks and stockpiles during dry weather.
- Pay particular attention to stockpiles in dry, windy weather.
- Use wet methods of cutting where possible.
- Ensure bulk deliveries/collections are sheeted (where appropriate).
- Impose and enforce site speed limits.
- Suppress and collect dust at source wherever possible e.g. by using vacuum equipment on woodwork and cutting equipment.

CONTROL OF DUST FLOWCHART

Identify possible



Ensure areas that
could be affected
by dust are
identified

Impl
principles of good
practice to avoid
dust

Assess the likelihood of dust
being created, taking into
account

Weather conditions
Location of work
Type of materials



SMOKE, FUMES AND ODOUR

Fumes, odour and smoke can cause serious problems, in that they may affect health or spoil the local environment. The Clean Air Act 1993 prohibits the emission of dark smoke from the outdoor burning of trade and industrial waste.

Control Measures

This kind of environmental pollution is difficult to control but compliance with the following points should help to reduce any pollution: -

- **DO NOT BURN WASTE MATERIALS ON SITE.**
- Activities that are likely to emit fumes, odour or smoke should be carried out with consideration for the environment, the neighbours and the wind direction.
- Chemicals and other hazardous substances should be stored and handled in an appropriate manner.
- Never leave plant or vehicle engines running unnecessarily.
- Ensure that proper maintenance of all plant is carried out on a regular basis.

WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION

When working adjacent to controlled waters e.g. (rivers, lakes, ponds and groundwater aquifers, special care must be taken. Groundwater is stored naturally in porous rocks and soils and these sources are called aquifers. About 35% of public water supply is taken from groundwater, which supports industrial and agricultural uses. Rivers are also used as a source of public drinking water. Groundwater is also important for maintaining river flows and wetlands. There are now specific regulations to protect groundwater that require prior approval for specific activities that involve discharge to the ground.

All discharges to the water environment require prior permission from the Environment Agency in the form of a Discharge Consent or Authorisation. This is a legal requirement and contains conditions that relate to the quality and quantity of the discharge.

Pollution takes immediate effect on a watercourse and comes from various sources:

- Pollution – oil and chemical spills/leaks.
- Silting – suspended solids.
- Erosion – soil.

When planning or carrying out any works, precautions must be taken to ensure complete protection of watercourses and groundwater against pollution.

Control Measures

Water containing silty materials (e.g. soil erosion and wash out from cement/concrete mixers) must not be pumped directly into drains and must not be allowed to flow into any water courses. Avoid placing concrete mixers or wet concrete within close proximity to a watercourse or drain as contamination can be extremely damaging to plant and animal life in the water.

If silty water is likely to be produced, the following options should be considered and a suitable method selected and put in place:

- Sandbags placed around surface water drains and water gullies to prevent dirty water entering a water course.
- Settlement tanks and lagoons to allow settling out of silt particles.
- Diversion of clean rainwater or surface water away from unmade ground. (This will avoid the creation of silty water).

Groundworks and road and sewers contractors to complete the pre-start checklist PRIOR to commencing their work. (Checklist sheet in section 05)

SILT POLLUTION

Do's & Don'ts

	Do not allow silty water to enter rivers, streams or surface water drains
	Do not strip more land than is required
	Identify all potential sources of silt pollution
	Always ask for advice and obtain consent prior to discharging any polluted water from site
	Set up suitable treatment facilities such as settlement lagoons or grass plots if required
	Divert clean water away from bare ground
	Divert silty water away from drains

EXISTING CONTAMINATED GROUND

Where existing contamination of the ground is anticipated, typically oil, sewage, sludge, screenings or municipal waste, usually the contract will define, to a greater or lesser degree, the disposal location.

The following principles regarding contamination must be ensured:

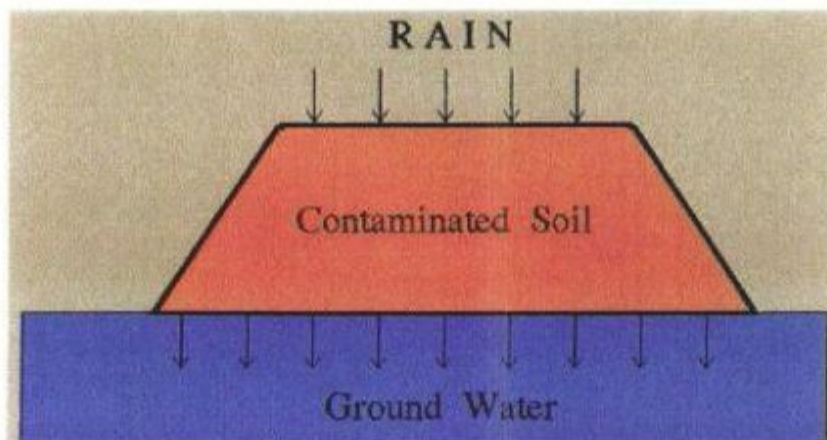
- Do not cause it or spread it.
- Deal with it appropriately.

Contamination may be caused or spread by:

- Uncontrolled disposal of substances or contaminated groundwater to land or water courses.
- Leaching of contaminants from stockpiles.
- Placing/mixing contaminated material with uncontaminated material.
- Contaminated dust blowing from work or transport activities.

Leaching Explained

Leaching of toxic materials into groundwater is a major health concern.



Control Measures

During excavation operations, the ground being uncovered needs to be checked for visual signs of contamination. These may include the smell or appearance of petrol, oils, solvents, chemicals, residues, fibres, waste, sewage, sludge etc.

IF CONTAMINATION IS DISCOVERED



CONTAMINATED LAND

Working on contaminated land creates Health, Safety and Environmental hazards. A detailed list of the contaminant, the risk presented and suggested control measures should have been drawn up prior to the commencement of work on site. This is usually carried out by the project's Geo-Technical Consultants and it is important that these lists are reviewed and understood by everyone involved.

Ground contamination is a major area of environmental concern and has the potential to have a long-term impact. Small spills can accumulate over a long period of time and cause health problems along with having a major impact on the environment.

Control Measures

- Be aware of the contaminants present on site and ensure you follow all procedures in place.
- Use decontamination facilities provided and do not cross contaminated areas.
- Do not dig unless authorised to do so.
- If you uncover suspected contamination inform the site manager immediately.
- Be aware of any watercourses on or adjacent to the site and do not allow contaminated materials to enter these areas.
- Ensure contaminated materials cannot escape and contaminate clean areas.
- Use any wheel washing facilities provided especially when taking contaminated materials off site.
- Ensure vehicles carrying contaminated materials are adequately sheeted.
- Be aware of any security procedures in place.
- Follow site-specific rules regarding PPE and smoking.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

The best practice applied to the management of waste and disposal of waste on our sites has two major benefits: -

- Managing waste encourages a tidy site, this emphasises safety, efficiency and care for the environment as well as enhancing the image of the site.
- By minimising, managing and appropriately disposing of waste, positive cost savings can be generated as well as benefiting the environment.

WASTE CLASSIFICATION

Waste is classified as: -

Inert: Waste that will not decompose (and is not hazardous) e.g. rubble, concrete, metal, rubber, etc.

Putrescible: (i.e. biodegradable) Waste that will decompose, e.g. timber, cardboard, paper, food, etc.

Hazardous: Waste that is dangerous to keep or dispose of. These are wastes containing or contaminated by dangerous substances e.g. asbestos, PCB's, mercury, coal tar, oils, etc.

The classification of 'Hazardous' replaces the previous 'Special' classification defined in (the now superseded) Special Waste Regulations 1996.

All carriers of waste (whether or not it is produced by them) are required to register with their local waste regulation authority to obtain a registered carriers licence.

Priorities for the management of waste should be: -

Reduce: Raw materials used or wasted.

Reuse: Materials where feasible.

Recycle: Waste where suitable and practicable.

INERT AND PUTRESCIBLE (NON HAZARDOUS) WASTE

This is defined in the Landfill Tax Regulations 1996 and should be segregated from other waste to avoid paying landfill tax at the highest rate when it is disposed of.

Where arrangements have been made for the segregation of waste, ensure skips are clearly labelled and site personnel are made aware of the segregation requirements.

Ensure waste is handled, stored and transported safely to prevent spillage, blown debris or scavenging.

Note: Plaster based products

The Hazardous Waste Regulations 2005 imposed conditions on plaster, plasterboard and gypsum products.

Plasterboard etc is classified as Non-Hazardous, however due to it containing over 50% sulphate, special requirements for disposal are required if over 10% of a mixed load of waste is made up of plaster-based products. In such cases, the plaster-based products will be moved at the landfill site to a designated /segregated 'monocell' for sulphate based products.

The ultimate decision on handling /disposal/ classification of the waste will be decided by the staff at the landfill site.

TREATMENT OF NON HAZARDOUS WASTE FOR LANDFILL

Under the Landfill Regulations, all non-hazardous waste must be 'treated' prior to being landfilled. The Environment Agency defines treatment using a 'three point test' which must all be satisfied for all the wastes to have been treated:

1. It must be a physical, thermal, chemical or biological process including sorting.
2. It must change the characteristics of the waste.
3. It must do this in order to:
 - a. reduce its volume; or
 - b. reduce its hazardous nature; or
 - c. facilitate its handling; or
 - d. enhance its recovery.

The Purpose of Treatment

The aim of treating waste is to help companies to identify and separate wastes that can be recycled and help to reduce the impact that waste has when it has been landfilled.

One of the simplest ways for the company to pre-treat non hazardous waste is to separately collect waste as individual waste streams and recycle each individual waste stream.

HAZARDOUS WASTE

All hazardous waste has to be managed in accordance with the Hazardous Waste Regulations 2005.

Hazardous wastes are typically wastes containing or contaminated by dangerous substances e.g. asbestos, PCB's, mercury, coal tar, oils, etc.

A full list of hazardous wastes is identified within Schedule 1 of the List of Waste Regulations (Chapter 17 Construction and Demolition Wastes).

All sites requiring disposal of hazardous wastes are required to be registered with the Environment Agency, however, generally hazardous wastes would have been removed during the demolition phase with a site registration obtained by the demolition contractor.

Where waste classed as hazardous needs to be removed (as advised by the project's geo-technical consultants &/or waste carriers) and a Bloor Homes company is the Principal Contractor on the project site, then the site will need to be registered (usually by J S Bloor (Services) Ltd) with the Environment Agency.

On-line registration at:

<https://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/apps/hazwaste/registrationwelcome.jsp>

THE ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITTING REGULATIONS

The Environmental Permitting (EP) Regulations came into force on 6 April 2008 with the aim of making existing legislation more efficient by combining the Pollution Prevention and Control (PPC) and Waste Management Licensing Regulations. Activities that used to require a PPC Permit or a Waste Management Licence (WML) need to apply for an Environmental Permit; activities that already hold a PPC permit or a WML are automatically transferred to the new system, and no additional paperwork is required.

SITE WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANS

Site Waste Management Plans (SWMPs) were originally developed as a DTI Voluntary Code of Practice, but became a legal requirement for all construction projects over £300,000 from April 2008.

A SWMP is produced at the beginning of a project and the designer must consider ways that waste can be reduced and site-gained materials be reused or recycled as part of the project. Identifying waste materials at an early stage that can not be reused on that project will make it easier to find other alternative uses for them.

Principal contractors have several responsibilities including:

- Obtaining relevant information from sub-contractors.
- Updating the SWMP at least every three months as the project progresses.
- Keeping the SWMP on site during the project.
- Ensuring that other contractors know where the SWMP is kept.
- Allowing other contractors and the client access to the SWMP during the project.

- Handing the completed SWMP back to the client at the end of the project.
- Keeping a copy of the SWMP for two years.

What should the SWMP contain?

The level of detail that your SWMP should contain depends on the estimated build cost, excluding VAT. For projects estimated at between £300,000 and £500,000 (excluding VAT), the SWMP should contain details of the:

- Types of waste removed from the site.
- Identity of the person who removed the waste.
- Site that the waste was taken to.

For projects estimated at over £500,000 (excluding VAT), the SWMP should contain details of the:

- Types of waste removed from the site.
- Identity of the person who removed the waste and their waste carrier registration number.
- A description of the waste.
- Site that the waste was taken to.
- Environmental Permit or exemption held by the site where the waste is taken to.

At the end of the project, the SWMP must be reviewed and the reasons for any differences between the plan and what actually happened should be recorded.

Planning

Consider the different types of waste that are likely to be generated during the project and plan to achieve the most cost effective and least environmentally damaging means of waste management and disposal.

Arrange necessary services for the collection, transport, and disposal or recycling of waste. Liaison with the local waste regulation authority may be required where appropriate to ensure correct disposal.

Ensure waste is transported to a licensed tip – it may be necessary to obtain a copy of the tip's Waste Management Licence for the file.

A permit will be required for any skip or container that is to be kept on the highway.

Handling and Storage

Where arrangements have been made for the segregation of waste, ensure skips are clearly labelled and site personnel made aware of the segregation requirements.

Ensure waste is handled, stored and transported safely to prevent spillage, leakage, wind blown debris or scavenging.

Ensure lorries and skips are properly covered with protective sheeting, especially where they contain contaminated materials.

Disposal

A Waste Transfer Note should be completed each time non-hazardous waste is collected from site and **retained for a minimum of two years.**

A Consignment Note should be completed each time hazardous waste is collected from site and **retained for a minimum of three years.**

It is suggested that these are kept in SECTION 8 of this folder.

WASTE DISPOSAL

WASTE

DISPOSAL

INERT and PUTRESCIBLE WASTE

e.g.
INERT - rubble, concrete,
metal, plastic.

PUTRESCIBLE – timber,
cardboard, paper, food

Reuse where possible,
minimise wastage by good
storage and not over ordering.

HAZARDOUS WASTE

e.g. oils, solvents, lead,
asbestos, contaminated waste
or spoil.

Arrangements required for
disposal including licensed tip,
consignment notes and
registered carriers.

Ensure site is registered with the
E.A. if hazardous waste is to be
removed

MATERIALS

Paint

When preparing surfaces for painting, measures should be taken to prevent debris, chemicals, spent abrasive materials etc., from falling into or otherwise entering a water course. If caustic or acid solutions are used, the waste effluents must be fully contained. Paint and paint containers must be disposed of as hazardous waste.

Cement and Concrete

These materials are highly alkaline and corrosive. Consideration must be given to ensure that these materials do not enter any water course, particularly from shuttered structures or washing of equipment including batching plant or ready-mix lorries.

Method statements for concreting in dewatered excavations should address the risk of materials contaminating the discharge water.

Chemicals

Chemicals include curing compounds and liquors, mould agents, chlorinated water, cobalt, sealants, epoxy resins and coatings, mastic paste, herbicides, relining discharges and waterproofing compounds in addition to cementitious materials and paints.

They should be stored in accordance with manufacturers instructions, and where relevant in a suitably bunded tank. Risk assessments should be carried out before use, particularly where discharges to the environment are anticipated, and the outcomes incorporated in method statements.

For correct storage and use (see COSHH assessment)

NOISE AND VIBRATION

Noise can be described as a sound that is unwanted by the listener. This could be noise generated on site during the construction stages of the scheme or the resultant operational noise of the newly commissioned plant.

Noise and vibration effects should be considered in the following ways:

- Include noise and vibration considerations in method statements for construction activities.
- Address operational noise and vibration issues in design risk assessments for our designed elements of the permanent works.

Some construction activities are inherently noisy, for example, piling, demolition, the use of explosives, breakers and scabbling equipment. Noise is a major hazard to site workers; it can annoy neighbours and disturb wildlife. The three factors that can influence noise levels in the community are the site management and construction method, the type of plant used and the use of screening to provide noise attenuation. There are also Health and Safety considerations with regards to noise levels.

Control Measures

The site management and construction methods should take the following factors into consideration:

- Change the method of working to use equipment that makes less noise.
- Fabricate off-site where appropriate.
- Keep noisy plant as far away from public areas as possible.
- Restrict noisy activities to certain times of the day.
- Arrange delivery times to suit the area.
- Consider noise levels when deciding upon haul routes for construction traffic.
- Keep haul roads well maintained.
- Use mufflers or silencers to reduce noise transmitted along pipes and ducts.
- Liaise with nature conservation bodies to minimise noise disturbance to any sensitive wildlife.
- Implement advice from specialist where necessary.
- Maintain good relations with the local residents by explaining the extent and duration of the work that is going to be carried out.

Plant should take the following factors into consideration:

- Only use plant which conforms to the relevant standards and directives on emissions.
- Use noise control equipment when operating plant.
- Electrically powered plant is quieter than diesel or petrol powered plant.
- Shut down plant when it is not in use.
- Maintain plant and tools to reduce noise levels.
- Provide effective silencers for plant.
- Fix rotating or impacting machines on anti-vibration mountings.
- Noise from some types of plant may be emitted more in some directions than others.
- Position the machinery on-site to reduce noise emissions to the neighbourhood.

The provision of screens is a method of reducing noise levels from the site at a relatively low cost.

Factors affecting the efficiency of a screen include:

- The distance from the source and the receiver (the screen should be positioned as close to the source as possible) – the source being the producer of the noise and the receiver being the person affected.
- The density of the material used.
- The height and width of the screen.
- The presence of holes in the screen.
- The position of the screen relative to noise-reflecting surfaces.
- Avoid sound traps that amplify noise.
- Seal all gaps and openings.

The planning conditions may stipulate noise restrictions during construction and these will need to be adhered to. This might require background noise monitoring prior to the start of the works and during the course of the works. A suitably qualified person must carry out noise measurement.

Vibration

High vibration levels over sustained periods can cause damage to buildings whereas lower levels can cause nuisance to residents. Vibration may also cause disruption to wildlife and damage to geological and archaeological sites. There are also Health and Safety considerations with regards to vibration.

The following points should be addressed when considering the effects of the work on site:

Evaluate the Potential for Vibration

Some construction activities will cause vibration, for example, piling and the use of explosives. The transmission of vibration is highly dependent upon ground conditions. In some cases it might be necessary to ask for specialist advice from plant suppliers.

Note: Vibration is a safety critical issue adjacent to railway lines.

Monitor Conditions before Work Starts

A Dilapidation survey should be carried out when working adjacent to existing structures to record:

- Existing cracks and their widths.
- Level surveys.
- Other existing damage.

This should be followed up as necessary by the installation of tell-tales or strengthening of vulnerable structures before work starts.

Advice on the requirements will come via the project's geo-technical consultants.

Control Measures

Inform Neighbours, Local Environmental Bodies and Archaeologists.

Vibration can cause annoyance and anxiety so it is important to consult residents or workers in the vicinity of the works to explain the type and duration of the works. It might be possible to schedule the work to avoid particularly sensitive times.

Minimise Effects during the Works

- High frequency vibration causes less damage than low frequency e.g. amplitude is how severe the contact noise is and the frequency is the speed of the contact noise.
- Isolate the plant from the transfer medium, use non-vibration or reduced vibration mountings so that the vibration from the equipment is not transmitted to the structure or ground it is sitting on.
- Place plant on a heavy base to reduce vibration.

Monitor Vibration Levels during the Works

- Measure inside rooms when assessing for nuisance.
- Measure the outside of the structure when assessing for damage.

Monitor Conditions after Works are completed

- Results should be compared to the pre-condition surveys.

ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS

Ecology is the interaction between organisms and their natural environment, both living and non-living.

Construction activities can have a direct temporary or permanent affect upon the surrounding ecology, therefore it is important that the workforce carry out activities in an environmentally responsible manner.

The most common key animals likely to be encountered on a construction site are –

- Bats.
- Badgers.
- Snakes and Reptiles.
- Amphibians.

These are protected species and their roosts and sets are protected against any disturbance.

When work is being planned, due concern should be given to the seasonal timing, for example to avoid problems with nesting birds and roosting bats. Most birds breed between March and July inclusive and consideration is required during this period.

If protected species are discovered on site, work should be stopped in the area and the site manager should seek advice immediately on how to proceed. It may be necessary to liaise with nature conservation bodies to discuss the best approach to continue without disrupting the species or its habitat.

Site staff are to be provided with all necessary information when dealing with sensitive habitats, this is to be included into site inductions stating details of protection orders and exclusion zones.

Certain trees on site may have a Tree Protection Order (TPO) and should be protected by fencing erected at the extent of the tree canopy. This work should be carried out prior to commencement of any activities that could damage the protected tree(s).

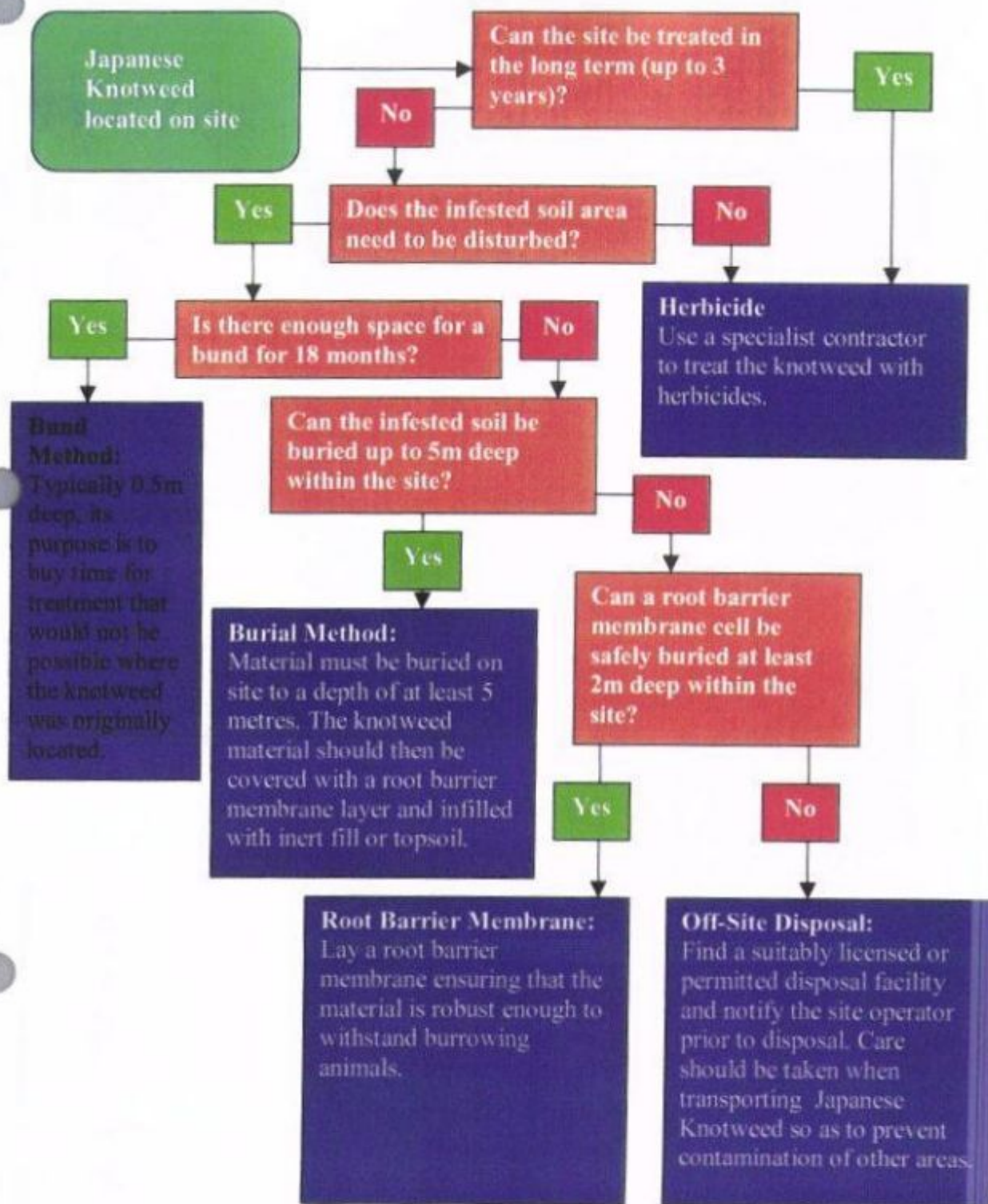
In addition to any planning permission conditions set, we endeavour to achieve a standard of environmental protection by applying the following principals:

Avoid	damage to wildlife and habitats by planning work adequately.
Protect	wildlife and habitats by good construction practice.
Mitigate	any damage caused to wildlife and habitats by seeking and following expert advice.
Replace	damaged wildlife and habitats by implementing carefully planned schemes.
Create	an enhanced ecological environment wherever practicable.

EXAMPLES OF ANIMALS FOUND ON CONSTRUCTION SITES**GREAT CRESTED NEWT****PIPISTRELLE BAT**

BADGER**BADGERS SET**

JAPANESE KNOTWEED FLOWCHART



What is Japanese Knotweed?

Japanese Knotweed was introduced to the UK in the 1800's as an ornamental plant. Today it is commonly found on riverbanks, along railway lines, roads and footpaths or derelict sites.

Japanese Knotweed has large, oval green leaves and a hollow stem, during the spring and summer it turns red in colour. Around early spring the plant produces reddish shoots that can reach a height of 3 metres by June. The plant will grow in any soil type and can grow as much as 2cm per day. By August cream flowers develop that produce sterile seeds then during September/November the plant will die back.

Japanese Knotweed has an extensive underground root network that can extend several metres around and beneath the plant. As the plant itself produces sterile seeds, its fragments of existing plants that form all new plants.

Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, it is an offence "to plant or otherwise encourage" the growth of Japanese Knotweed. Cutting the plant or root or disturbing the surrounding soil without the correct procedures in place could lead to prosecution under this Act.

Why it causes problems

Japanese Knotweed has spread through the UK at a high rate and will grow pretty much anywhere. It is spread by segments of the plant or root being transported by people or water. A fragment of root as small as 0.8 grams can grow to form a new plant. As Japanese Knotweed does not originate in the UK, it can have a detrimental effect on native species. It produces a dense canopy of leaves that prevents sunlight reaching other plants and offers a poor habitat for native birds, insects and mammals.

Control Measures

Chemical

Dense stands or individual plants of Japanese Knotweed can be treated with herbicide. The most effective treatment is during the growing season in Spring to Autumn. Advice should be sought from a qualified contractor or landscape gardener. If the Knotweed is close to any surface drains or water courses there is a risk that runoff containing chemicals could contaminate the water. In these circumstances, consent is required from the Environment Agency before any treatment can be carried out.

Mechanical

Cutting and pulling. Regular cutting or pulling can, after a number of years, reduce the vigour of growth. This is unlikely to be effective in removing the plant but will keep the growth of Knotweed under control if carried out regularly.

Disposal

Japanese Knotweed or contaminated soil that requires discarding is classed as a 'controlled waste' and must be accompanied by the appropriate Waste Transfer Note. The recognised method of disposal is to bury the plant and surrounding soil with a minimum of 5 metres cover. If this method is not possible, Japanese Knotweed should be disposed of in a licensed, lined landfill site. The landfill site should be contacted prior to delivery to ensure suitable preparations are in place.

Upon discovering Japanese Knotweed, the area should be effectively cordoned off and signed to minimise the amount of traffic (both pedestrian and vehicular).

Common Ragwort**What is Common Ragwort?**

Common Ragwort is a native plant to the British Isles and is widespread throughout the UK and found on wasteland, roadsides, grasslands, urban parks and woodland.

Ragwort usually grows to 30-90 cm high and when in flower (usually from June to Late October) it has easily recognisable bright yellow flowers arranged in clusters at the top of the plant.

Why it causes problems

Common Ragwort can be toxic to grazing animals, especially horses, ponies and donkeys.

Control Measures*Chemical*

Areas of Common Ragwort can be treated with herbicide, however, an evaluation of environmental risks is essential wherever herbicides and pesticides are used. This should consider any harmful effects to the environment as well as impacts on animals and plants. It is unlikely that one chemical application will be 100% effective. As with any chemical control, if there are water courses that may be affected by run-off from spraying, then approval will be required from the Environment Agency.

Mechanical

Pulling and Leveraging. This can prevent the seed spreading and should provide long-term control, however any fragments of roots not removed can produce weak re-growth. Protective clothing such as sturdy waterproof gloves should be worn while doing this.

Cutting. This method should only be used as a last resort to reduce seed production or dispersal where other methods cannot be used. Cutting stimulates growth and plants can re-flower later in the season. Cutting will not kill or weaken the plant.

Japanese Knotweed Shoots**Japanese Knotweed Plant**

If Japanese Knotweed is discovered on site, ensure it is not disturbed and seek advice on its removal immediately.

NOTIFIABLE WEEDS**COMMON RAGWORT****GIANT HOGWEED**

Disposal

Cut or pulled plants will still pose a risk to grazing animals and should always be removed and disposed of appropriately. Material should be disposed of in sealed plastic bags via an approved landfill site.

Giant Hogweed**What is Giant Hogweed?**

Giant Hogweed is native to the Caucasus Mountains and was introduced to Britain in 1893 as an ornamental plant. It escaped from gardens and can now be found in many areas of wasteland and along river banks.

Why it causes problems

Giant Hogweed forms dense colonies that suppress the growth of native plants and grasses, leaving the banks bare of vegetation in winter, thereby increasing the risk of erosion.

Control Measures*Chemical*

Chemical control through spraying can start as soon as the plant is about 1 metre high, usually starting in March and continuing throughout the summer. More than one application is often necessary and follow up spraying will be required to kill seedlings in subsequent years.

Mechanical

Cutting down the stems with a sharp scythe or sickle before flowering will help to control this plant. Flail mowing may be carried out, but extreme caution is required to avoid the risk of being sprayed with the sap. Protective clothing is recommended for this activity as the poisonous sap can cause blistering and severe skin irritation.

Disposing of Invasive Weeds

- All material polluted with invasive weeds e.g. Japanese Knotweed or Giant Hogweed will require removing from site and disposing of, unless otherwise agreed with the environmental regulator.
- All bags/skips will require covering to avoid any spreading.
- Check with the disposal site in advance to ensure that they can receive the waste.
- Never stockpile polluted materials within 10 meters of a water course.

- Limit track machinery in affected areas, plant will require thorough cleaning prior to leaving the area.
- Polluted spoil should be stored on top of a fabric/membrane in a designated area.
- Never use a strimmer or chipper on invasive weeds.

HEDGEROWS

Hedgerows on site may be protected; this will be detailed within the planning conditions.

