

Purbrook Park School Planning Statement

Land Contamination Assessment

Preliminary Historical Review

Historical maps indicate a house has stood on the site since the earliest recorded map of 1870, which was surrounded by open park land / agricultural land until around the 1930s, when the current school is shown to be on the site. After this time residential housing began to be constructed around the site which now completely surrounds the site. Two sand pits are shown to be present to the east of the site, which are indicated to be historic landfill on the Environment Agency website (referenced as Sand Pit A and Sand Pit B); unknown waste deposits are indicated to be present.

Ground Investigation

A site investigation to assess the ground conditions for geotechnical and contamination purposes has been completed with regard to the layout of the proposed development. The intrusive investigation was completed in accordance with BS10175 and comprised the following:

- Six trial pits to a maximum depth of 1.45 m below ground level (mBGL);
- Six window sampler boreholes to a maximum depth of 4.0 mBGL;
- Six dynamic probe holes adjacent to the location of each window sampler borehole;
- The installation of four gas and groundwater monitoring wells at the site;
- The excavation of five trial pits for the purposes of infiltration (soakaway) tests.

Soil and Water Chemical Analyses

Soil samples were recovered from the exploratory holes for chemical analysis at a suitable UKAS approved laboratory. An initial review of the chemical testing data indicates that no significant levels of contamination have been identified at the site. The most notable contaminants were lead (maximum value 250 mg/kg) and total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH – maximum value 1,700 mg/kg).

Groundwater was encountered at two locations only and samples were taken for analysis at a UKAS approved laboratory. The testing results indicate that no significant levels of contamination are present.

Ground Gas

Three ground gas monitoring results have been completed to date (June 13th) which shows that no methane has been encountered, and that the maximum level of carbon dioxide is 1.6 % v/v. The flow rates have been checked during each site visit and the results show that a flow rate of zero l/hr has been observed for each monitoring well.