



APPENDIX C: RISK ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGIES

RISK ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

The methods applied by **DEMETER ENVIRONMENTAL Ltd** in the assessment of risks to receptors from soil, water and gas data, are presented hereunder:

LEGISLATION OVERVIEW:

The legislative background to risk assessment is discussed in the legislative Appendix B.

RISK ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

Current practice recommends that the determination of potential liabilities that could arise from land contamination be carried out using the process of risk assessment, whereby "risk" is defined as:

- (a) The probability, or frequency, or occurrence of a defined hazard; and
- (b) The magnitude (including the seriousness) of the consequences."

The UK's approach to the assessment of environmental risk is set out in by the Department of the Environment (2000) publication "A Guide to Risk Assessment and Risk Management for Environmental Protection." This established an iterative, systematic staged process which comprises:

- (a) Hazard identification
- (b) Hazard assessment
- (c) Risk estimation
- (d) Risk evaluation
- (e) Risk Assessment

At each stage during the investigation process the above steps are repeated as more detailed information becomes available for the site.

The Guidance on 'Land contamination risk management (LCRM), guidance published by the the Environment Agency (EA) outlines a tiered approach to the assessment of risks posed by contaminated land, as summarised hereunder:

Tier 1: Preliminary Risk Assessment

A Preliminary Risk Assessment is usually undertaken as part of a desk study, outlines potential risks posed by potential contamination to all receptors by defining plausible "pollution linkages" and developing a preliminary conceptual model (PCM). The purpose of this model is to define all possible complete pollution linkages, where the requisite source – pathway – target elements are present, and these elements being defined as:

- a contaminant (source) is a hazardous substance or agent, present at levels that have the potential to cause harm or damage a receptor
- a pathway is the means by or through which a contaminant comes into contact with, or otherwise affects, the receptor
- a receptor (target) is an entity (human being, aquatic environment, flora and fauna etc) that is vulnerable to the adverse effects of the contaminant

This relationship is termed a "pollution linkage". It should be recognised that for a health or environmental risk to exist, all three elements of the relationship or linkage must be present, i.e.

- if there is no contaminant, or contaminant present at levels below those considered to be harmful or damaging to a receptor, then there can be no adverse effect on a receptor
- if there is no receptor present that can be adversely affected by a contaminant, no harm or damage can arise
- even where both a contaminant and a receptor are present, no harm or damage will occur if there is no pathway by or through which a linkage between the two can be established

The absence of one or more of each component (source, pathway, receptor) would prevent a pollutant linkage being established and there would be no significant environmental risk.

Potential contaminants of concern are identified with the aide of the Environment Agency and NHBC publication 'Guidance for the Safe Development of Housing on Land Affected by Contamination', the Department of Environment Industry Profiles and the now withdrawn CLEA CLR 8, which consolidated the information Industry Profiles into a tabular format.

The PCM is subject to continual refinement as additional data becomes available. As part of a Phase I Investigation (Desk Study and site walk over) a PCM is formed. Based on the PCM, potential pollutant linkages can be assessed. If the PCM and hazard assessment indicate that a pollution linkage is not of significance then no further assessment or action is required due to this linkage. For each significant and possible linkage a risk assessment is carried out. The linkages which potentially pose significant risks may require a variety of responses ranging from immediate remedial action or risk management or, more commonly, further investigation and risk assessment. This next stage is usually termed a Phase II Main Site Investigation and should provide additional data to allow refinement of the PCM and assess the level of risk from each pollutant linkage. The risk assessment will usually include a Tier 2 Generic Quantitative Risk Assessment and / or, if necessary, a Tier 3 Detailed Quantitative Risk Assessment.

The criteria used for a Tier 1 risk assessment are broadly based on those presented in Section 6.3 of the CIRIA Report 'Contaminated Land Risk Assessment: A Guide to Good Practice' (CIRIA Report C552) and Section 1.7 of Guidance on the Safe Development of Housing on Land affected by Contamination. The consequence of the risk is classified according to the criteria in Table A below:

Assessment of Sensitivity of Water Resources

The criteria used to determine the sensitivity of a water resource is given hereunder:

Groundwater

Sensitivity Assessment	Standard Response	Implications/need for further work (subject to nature of source and pathway)
H1 (Very high)	Highly vulnerable aquifer, actively used in vicinity of site with short travel times to sources of supply or sensitive watercourses. Likely to be within an inner or outer groundwater protection zone (Zones I or II under EA protection policy). All contaminant releases to the ground environment of concern.	Extensive groundwater and soil clean-up or removal is likely to be needed if a source and pathway exist. Potential for major on-site and off-site liabilities. Further, detailed risk assessment essential and is likely to be required by the Regulators. Could be long-term residual liabilities with major cost implications and potential high risk of prosecution.
H2 (High)	Major or minor vulnerable aquifer with probable use nearby (either direct abstraction or baseflow to sensitive watercourses and springs). Likely to be within Outer or Source Catchment protection zones (Zones II or III). Most contaminant releases to the ground environment of concern.	Significant groundwater remediation measures may be required, after detailed risk assessment, which is likely to be required by the Regulators. Soil decontamination or isolation probably necessary. Potential for significant on-site and off-site liabilities, including treatment and/or replacement of local potable water supplies. Substantial cost implications and potential moderate/high risk of prosecution.
M1 (Moderately high)	Recognised major or minor aquifer, moderately vulnerable, with probable use (either direct or via baseflow to a sensitive watercourse). Within formal protection zone or catchment of authorised abstractions for potable or other high quality uses. Minor, short-term releases of contaminants may be tolerable.	Following risk assessment, soil decontamination or isolation may be required. Localised groundwater clean-up may be needed but large scale clean-up unlikely unless source is substantial and toxic. Possible off-site liabilities such as replacement/treatment of local potable water supplies. Moderate cost implications and potential moderate risk of prosecution.
M2 (Moderate)	Minor aquifer, low to moderately vulnerable, but with possible uses in general area, particularly for domestic supplies. May provide pathway to surface water.	Risk assessment may indicate need for localised clean up/isolation of soil and groundwater only, but may be some off-site liabilities e.g. local potable water supplies. Moderate to low cost implications. Potential prosecution less likely.
L1 (Low)	Permeable strata/minor aquifer near surface, but no apparent use and low vulnerability (may also be a significant aquifer but downgraded by long-term/permanent degradation of water quality). May provide pathway to surface watercourse at distance.	Localised clean-up/isolation of soil and groundwater only. Unlikely to be significant off-site liabilities or action by statutory authorities with respect to groundwater. Low cost implications.
L2 (Very low)	Not a recognised aquifer, but strata beneath site may retain a small amount of contaminated liquid but there is likely to be limited vertical penetration. High potential for surface runoff or ponding.	Clean-up/isolation of soil and contained groundwater only, in immediate vicinity of release. Unlikely to be off-site liabilities or action by statutory authorities with respect to groundwater. Low cost implications.

Surface Water (exc coastal waters)

Sensitivity Assessment	Standard Response	Implications/need for further work (subject to nature of source and pathway and no short circuiting by artificial drainage systems)
H1 (Very high)	High quality watercourse (GQA A or B) within close proximity (less than 250m) of site or with potential for rapid transmission of pollutants to that watercourse via a fissured aquifer. Or interconnected unclassified drain or stream.	Potential for major pollution incident with fish kills, risk to river users etc. Major cost implications for remediation measures and with respect to penalties on prosecution. Potential for major adverse publicity.
H2 (High)	Site within catchment and reasonable proximity (less than 500m) of high quality watercourse (GQA A/B) or with potential transmission of pollutants via baseflow from an aquifer with little subsurface attenuation or via an interconnected unclassified drain or stream.	Potential for significant pollution incident that requires remedial measures and likely to involve a prosecution and adverse publicity. Substantial cost implications.
M1 (Moderately high)	Site within catchment and reasonable proximity (less than 500m) of a moderate quality watercourse (GQA C/D) or 500-1000m of a high quality watercourse (GQA A/B). Also where there is potential transmission of pollutants via baseflow with little subsurface attenuation or via an interconnected unclassified drain or stream.	Potential for significant pollution incident that requires remediation measures. Possible prosecution, particularly if contamination is likely to be visible or result in public complaints.
M2 (Moderate)	Site within catchment of and relatively close (less than 1000m) to moderate or poor quality (GQA C to F) watercourse that may be subject to planned improvement by attainment of surface water quality objectives. May be potential for transmission of pollutants via baseflow from a highly permeable formation.	Minor incidents are unlikely to attract third party liabilities, but action by statutory authorities likely if contamination is visible or repeated.
L1 (Low)	Within catchment of and over 250m from generally poor quality watercourse (GQA E or F) that is unlikely to improved by current or foreseeable surface water quality objectives or at distance (over 1000m) from a good quality watercourse with no interconnecting drains or baseflow from fissured strata.	Unlikely to be third party liabilities or action from statutory authorities from surface water viewpoint.
L2 (Very low)	No surface water within general area of the site (at least 250m) or closed drainage within site. Little or no potential for significant transmission via baseflow and no interconnecting drains.	Liabilities restricted to site itself (localised soil contamination or ponding) or associated with groundwater.

Coastal Waters

Sensitivity Assessment	Standard Response	Implications/need for further work (subject to nature of source and pathway and no short circuiting by artificial drainage systems)
H1 (Very high)	Within 100m of a sensitive coastal water, that is, a recognised bathing water, a "more sensitive area" (as defined under the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive) or a marine SSSI or at a greater distance but with a direct connection via a stream or a highly fissured aquifer to such a coastal water with the potential for rapid flow to that water.	Potential for major environmental health risks and ecological damage. Probability of high remedial costs, prosecution and adverse publicity.
H2 (High)	As above, within 250m or with a relatively rapid route of transmission or within 100m of a "less sensitive area".	
M1 (Moderately high)	Within 500m of a bathing water or a defined sensitive area (see above); with possibility of diffuse flow via groundwater seepages at coastline or with connection via nearby watercourses.	LESS DATA AVAILABLE FOR COASTAL SITES TO GIVE GENERALISED ASSESSMENTS OF POTENTIAL LIABILITIES.
M2 (Moderate)	Within 500m of a coastal water (undefined), with possibility of diffuse flow via groundwater seepages at coastline or with connection via nearby watercourses.	
L1 (Low)	No coastline nearby (within 1km), but with possibility of diffuse groundwater seepages at coastline or connection via nearby watercourses.	Liabilities initially associated with watercourses or groundwaters.
L2 (Very low)	No coastline nearby (within 1km) and/or no direct connection via surface or ground water.	No liabilities likely.

Artificial Drainage System

Sensitivity Assessment	Standard Response	Implications/need for further work (subject to nature of source and pathway and no short circuiting by artificial drainage systems)
H1 (Very high)	Extensive land use/industrial history, successive building development. Steep surface slopes (rapid travel times with little opportunity for dilution/interception facilities) or close proximity (within 250m) to surface watercourses or high sensitivity groundwater. Former mining areas where subsurface mine drains are present or suspected. Detailed drainage records absent.	Probability of interconnection of artificial and natural drainage systems, with consequent risks to sewers, surface and ground water. Potential unconsented connections and discharges on and off-site with third party pipes/structures, risk of third party action and additional effluent treatment costs. Potential damage to site fabric and structures due to leakages and collapse. Major cost implications for investigation and implementation of remedial measures. Drainage investigation and risk assessment essential.
H2 (High)	As above, but shallower slopes (longer retention times in drains) or more distant (over 250m) to surface watercourses or with detailed records of drainage systems.	As above, but potentially lower investigatory and remedial costs. Drainage investigation and risk assessment essential.
M1 (Moderately high)	More than one phase of site development with limited historic records of drainage systems (sewers, surface water, pipelines). Over 250m from surface watercourse.	As above, but less extensive drainage investigation and reduced investigation and remedial costs.
M2 (Moderate)	More than one phase of site development with detailed historic records of drainage systems (sewers, surface water, pipelines).	As above, costs likely to be dependent on-site processes and degree of maintenance of existing drainage systems.
L1 (Low)	Recent (greenfield) development, with recorded and low intensity drainage systems or older sites with thoroughly investigated and recorded drainage systems, drainage risk assessment and implementation of remedial measures. Within 250m of surface watercourses or on low permeability strata. No mine drains.	Leakages from drains may contaminate soil locally and eventually reach a watercourse. Low risk of third party action.
L2 (Very low)	Recent (greenfield) development, with recorded and low intensity drainage systems, or older sites with thoroughly investigated/recorded drainage systems, drainage risk assessment and implementation of remedial measures. Remote from surface watercourses, all drainage to adopted sewers and with no permeable strata within 10m of the site surface. No mine drains.	Leakages from drains may contaminate soil locally.

Table A – Consequence of Risk

CLASSIFICATION	DEFINITION	EXAMPLES
Severe	Highly elevated concentrations likely to result in "significant harm" to human health as defined by the EPA 1990, Part 2A, if exposure occurs. Equivalent to EA Category 1 pollution incident including persistent and/or extensive effects on water quality; leading to closure of a potable abstraction point; major impact on amenity value or major damage to agriculture or commerce. Short term risk of pollution of sensitive (H1/H2) water resource. Major damage to aquatic or other ecosystems, which is likely to result in a substantial adverse change in its functioning or harm to a species of special interest that endangers the long-term maintenance of the population. A short term risk to a particular ecosystem, or organism forming part of such ecosystem. Catastrophic damage to crops, buildings or property.	Significant harm to humans is defined in circular 01/2006 as death, disease, serious injury, genetic mutation, birth defects or the impairment of reproductive functions. Major fish kill in surface water from large spillage of contaminants from site. Highly elevated concentrations of List I and II substances present in groundwater close to small potable abstraction (high sensitivity). Explosion, causing building collapse (can also equate to immediate human health risk if buildings are occupied).
Medium	Elevated concentrations which could result in "significant harm" or "significant possibility of significant harm" to human health as defined by the EPA 1990, Part 2A if exposure occurs. Equivalent to EA Category 2 pollution incident including significant effect on water quality; notification required to abstractors; reduction in amenity value or significant damage to agriculture or commerce. Pollution of a highly sensitive (H1/H2) water resource. Significant damage/change to aquatic or other ecosystems, which may result in a substantial adverse change in its functioning or harm to a species of special interest that may endanger the long-term maintenance of the population. Significant damage to crops, buildings or property.	Significant harm to humans is defined in circular 01/2006 as death, disease, serious injury, genetic mutation, birth defects or the impairment of reproductive functions. Damage to building rendering it unsafe to occupy e.g. foundation damage resulting in instability. Ingress of contaminants through plastic potable water pipes.
Mild	Exposure to human health unlikely to lead to "significant harm". Equivalent to EA Category 3 pollution incident including minimal or short lived effect on water quality; marginal effect on amenity value, agriculture or commerce. Pollution of moderately sensitive (M1/M2) water resources. Minor or short lived damage to aquatic or other ecosystems, which is unlikely to result in a substantial adverse change in its functioning or harm to a species of special interest that would endanger the long-term maintenance of the population. Significant damage to crops, buildings, structures and services ("significant harm" as defined in Circular 1/2006).	Exposure could lead to slight short-term effects (e.g. mild skin rash). Surface spalling of concrete.
Minor	No measurable effect on humans. Equivalent to insubstantial pollution incident with no observed effect on water quality or ecosystems. Repairable effects of damage to buildings, structures and services. Pollution of low sensitive (L1/L2) water resource. Harm, although not necessarily significant harm, which may result in a financial loss, or expenditure to resolve. Non-permanent health effects to human health (easily prevented by means such as personal protective clothing etc). Easily repairable effects of damage to buildings, structures and services.	The loss of plants in a landscaping scheme. Discoloration of concrete.

The probability of the risk occurring is classified according to criteria given in Table B below:

Table B – Probability of Risk Occurring

CLASSIFICATION	DEFINITION	EXAMPLES
High likelihood	There is pollutant linkage and an event would appear very likely in the short-term and almost inevitable over the long-term, or there is evidence at the receptor of harm or pollution.	a) Elevated concentrations of toxic contaminants are present in soils in the top 0.5m in a residential garden. b) Ground/groundwater contamination could be present from chemical works, containing a number of USTs, having been in operation on the same site for over 50 years.
Likely	There is pollutant linkage and all the elements are present and in the right place which means that it is probable that an event will occur. Circumstances are such that an event is not inevitable, but possible in the short-term and likely over the long-term.	a) Elevated concentrations of toxic contaminants are present in soils at depths of 0.5-1.0m in a residential garden, or the top 0.5m in public open space. b) Ground/groundwater contamination could be present from an industrial site containing a UST present between 1970 and 1990. The tank is known to be single skin. There is no evidence of leakage although there are no records of integrity tests.
Low likelihood	There is pollutant linkage and circumstances are possible under which an event could occur. However, it is by no means certain that even over a long period such an event would take place, and is less likely in the shorter term.	a) Elevated concentrations of toxic contaminants are present in soils at depths >1m in a residential garden, or 0.5-1.0m in public open space. b) Ground/groundwater contamination could be present on a light industrial unit constructed in the 1990s containing a UST in operation over the last 10 years – the tank is double skinned but there is no integrity testing or evidence of leakage.
Unlikely	There is pollutant linkage but circumstances are such that it is improbable that an event would occur even in the very long-term.	a) Elevated concentrations of toxic contaminants are present below hardstanding. b) Light industrial unit <10 yrs old containing a doubleskinned UST with annual integrity testing results available.
Negligible	There is pollutant linkage but circumstances are such that it is risk cannot be differentiated from nil (so rare that the risk is regarded a nil)	a) in-filled pond off site' b) electricity substation 50m from the site

An overall evaluation of the level of risk is gained from a comparison of the severity and probability, as shown in Table C below:

Table C – Calculation of Risk

		CONSEQUENCE			
		Severe	Medium	Mild	Minor
PROBABILITY	High Likelihood	Very High Risk	High Risk	Moderate Risk	Moderate / Low Risk
	Likely	High Risk	Moderate Risk	Moderate / Low Risk	Low Risk
	Low Likelihood	Moderate Risk	Moderate / Low Risk	Low Risk	Very low Risk
	Unlikely	Moderate / Low Risk	Low Risk	Very low Risk	Very low Risk
	Negligible	Low Risk	Very low Risk	Very low Risk	Very low Risk

The above evaluated risk terms are described hereunder in Table D:

Table D – Description of the Evaluated Risks from Table 3

EVALUATED RISK	DESCRIPTION
Very High Risk	There is a high probability that severe harm could arise to a designated receptor from an identified hazard, OR, there is evidence that severe harm to a designated receptor is currently happening. This risk, if realised, is likely to result in a substantial liability. Urgent investigation (if not undertaken already) and remediation are likely to be required.
High Risk	Harm is likely to arise to a designated receptor from an identified hazard. Realisation of the risk is likely to present a substantial liability. Urgent investigation (if not undertaken already) is required and remedial works may be necessary in the short term and are likely over the long term.
Moderate Risk	It is possible that harm could arise to a designated receptor from an identified hazard. However, it is relatively unlikely that any such harm would be severe, or if any harm were to occur it is more likely that the harm would be relatively mild. Investigation (if not already undertaken) is normally required to clarify the risk and to determine the potential liability. Some remedial works may be required in the longer term.
Low Risk	It is possible that harm could arise to a designated receptor from an identified hazard, but there is a low likelihood of this hazard occurring and if realised, harm would at worst normally be mild.
Very Low Risk	There is a low possibility that harm could arise to a receptor. In the event of such harm being realised, it is not likely to be severe.
No Potential Risk	There is no potential risk if no pollution linkage has been established.

The likely action required for each of the above evaluated risks is as follows:

Action in the form of site investigation and risk assessment, mitigation of risk or remediation of contamination is required at sites evaluated as **Very High Risk** or **High Risk**.

Site investigation is required at sites evaluated as **Moderate Risk**.

No action is required at sites evaluated as **No Potential Risk**, **Low Risk** or **Very Low Risk**.

Tier 2: Generic Quantitative Risk Assessment (GQRA)

GQRA requires an intrusive investigation in order to characterise the site assisting in the re-assessment of the source-pathway receptor linkage. The conceptual model should be refined accordingly.

If GQRA reveals that unacceptable risks are not present then no further action is required. If GQRA identifies a possibility of risk, a decision must be made whether further work is required or necessary for the purposes of risk assessment. If further risk assessment is deemed not suitable / not required an Options Appraisal should be undertaken. If further risk assessment is required, the scope / nature of further risk assessment must be decided – it is possible that a Tier 3 DQRA will be undertaken in this scenario.

Tier 3: Detailed Quantitative Risk Assessment (DQRA)

DQRA is used when pollutant linkages require further assessment. DQRA is often undertaken for pollutant linkages where GAC are unavailable or inappropriate for or more conservative than the actual circumstances of the site. Site specific data is used to create Site Specific Assessment Criteria (SSAC) and enable a more accurate assessment of the risks. Further investigation may or may not be required to formulate SSAC depending on the site specific conditions and information already obtained.

If DQRA reveals that unacceptable risks are not present then no further action is required. If DQRA identifies a possibility of risk, a decision must be made whether further work is required or necessary for the purposes of risk assessment. If further risk assessment is deemed not suitable / not required an Options Appraisal should be undertaken. If further risk assessment is required, the scope nature of further risk assessment must be decided.

NOTE: A Tier 1 Preliminary Risk Assessment is undertaken as part of a Desk Study Report and a Preliminary Conceptual Model is developed for all pollutant linkages including risks ground gas and controlled waters. The methodologies for assessing the risks to human health, risks to controlled waters and risk posed by ground gas using quantitative techniques vary considerably, therefore GQRA and DQRA for human health, controlled waters and ground gas must be undertaken separately. The risk assessment methodologies where quantitative assessment is used for risks to human health, risks to controlled waters and risks posed by ground gas, if relevant, are described hereunder.

HUMAN HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY – SOIL AND WATER

Background

In January 2009, the EA published the revised Contaminated Land Exposure Assessment (CLEA) Model and a series of related reports. These were designed to provide a scientifically based framework for the assessment of chronic risks to human health from contaminated land. These reports together with associated "TOX" and "SGV" documents are continually being published and will be used in any assessment.

Guidance on statistical assessment is given in CL:AIRE :2008 "Guidance on Comparing Data With a Critical Concentration"

A different approach to the statistical appraisal of data is required depending on whether the assessment of risk is to assess whether land is Contaminated Land in accordance with regulations, or whether the assessment is to determine whether the site is suitable for new development in accordance with planning guidance. This is discussed further in CL:AIRE :2008 "Guidance on Comparing Data With a Critical Concentration".

COLLATION OF SOIL TOXICOLOGICAL DATA

The toxicological data collated by **Demeter Environmental Ltd** is presented as a separate document, available to regulatory bodies on request. The data gathered is generally in accordance with the hierarchy given in the EA Science Report SC050021/SR21 "Human health toxicological assessment of contaminants in soil". The hierarchy may be circumvented where more up to date authoritative data from a toxicological study has been published from sources lower down the hierarchy.

DERIVATION OF SOIL ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

GAC's derived by **Demeter Environmental Ltd** are based on a Soil Organic Matter (SOM) content of 1%. Whilst this approach differed from the Environment Agency (who have published SGV's based on a 6% SOM) it provides a more conservative GQRA. Where SSAC's are required, site specific SOM will be used in the DQRA. Where available, other parameters such as building size, receptor and soil characteristics will be used in the DQRA.

Assessment criteria are available from a number of sources, namely (and in order of use):

1. Land Quality Management Suitable for Use Levels (S4UL's) (Copyright Land Quality Management Limited reproduced with permission; Publication number S4UL3093. All rights reserved);
2. C4SL for lead;
3. EIC/AGS/CL:AIRE Generic Assessment Criteria;
4. In-house derived GAC's / S4UL's.

STATISTICAL ASSESSMENT OF SOIL CONTAMINATION DATA

In any site investigation only a small fraction of the soil on the site is analysed. Therefore the mean derived from the contamination data for a contaminant may not be the same as the true mean for the contaminant distribution on the site. To improve the reliability of any assessment a statistical analysis is if the dataset is undertaken.

The statistical assessment is undertaken using ProUCL, which is published by the USEPA, which provides a statistical assessment that exceeds the guidance given in the CL:AIRE document "Guidance on Comparing Soil Contamination Data with a Critical Concentration".

Where the number of results in a dataset is less than four, a statistical assessment cannot be undertaken, and the assessment is performed by comparison of the maximum value(s) with the assessment criteria. Dependant on the distribution of the data, a statistical analysis may not be feasible and in those cases the results will be assessed directly to their respective assessment criteria.

If the screening levels are exceeded then more sophisticated quantitative risk assessment can be undertaken or remedial action may be taken to break the pollutant linkages. The benefits of undertaking a quantitative risk assessment must be weighed against the likelihood that it will bring about cost savings in the proposed remediation.

ASSESSMENT OF RISK TO HUMAN HEALTH

ASSESSMENT VALUES

Assessment criteria are available from a number of sources, namely:

1. Land Quality Management Suitable for Use Levels (S4UL's) (Copyright Land Quality Management Limited reproduced with permission; Publication number S4UL3093. All rights reserved);
2. C4SL for lead (the C4SL is used in lieu of the in house derived GAC as it provides a more conservative assessment);
3. EIC/AGS/CL:AIRE Generic Assessment Criteria;
4. In-house derived GAC's / S4UL's

TIER 2 GENERIC ASSESSMENT CRITERIA FOR SOILS

Generic Assessment Criteria (GAC's) have been derived by **Demeter Environmental Ltd** to aid in the assessment of the risk to human health. These are derived using CLEA v1.06. Details of the derivation of the GAC's are provided within the Report. GAC's are based on generic assumptions on the land use, building and soil parameters.

SITE SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT CRITERIA FOR SOILS

Where there are exceedances of the Tier 2 GAC, Site Specific Assessment Criteria (SSAC) are derived, using site specific data for the Soil Organic Matter (SOM), building parameters, land use etc. An SSAC, like SGV's, S4UL's and GAC's is a threshold below which the risk is minimal.

Whilst CLEA v1.06 is normally used to derive SSAC's, other risk assessment packages may be used if they are more suitable for the subject site.

ASSESSMENT OF RISK TO HUMAN HEALTH FROM SOIL WATER

Where exposure to contamination in soil water is significant this will be assessed using BP RISC (amended to be as close to UK compliant as possible).

CONTROLLED WATER RISK ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

Background

Definition of Controlled Waters

The term 'controlled waters' is defined in Section 104 of the Water Resources Act 1991 as:

"Territorial Waters...which extend seawards for three miles..., coastal waters..., inland freshwaters, waters in any relevant lake or pond or of so much of any relevant river or watercourse as is above the freshwater limit, and ground waters, that is to say, any waters contained in underground strata."

Note that the definition of groundwater under the Water Resources Act 1991 includes all water within underground strata (including soil / pore water in the unsaturated zone). The definition of groundwater under the Groundwater Directive however is limited to water in the saturated zone. From the 1st October 2004, the definition of groundwater in relation to Part IIA was amended, by the Second Water Act Commencement Order SI 2004 No 2528. For the purposes of Part IIA of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, the Environment Agency recommends that the groundwater within the saturated zone only is considered as the receptor (rather than soil / pore water).

INTRODUCTION

Demeter Environmental Ltd utilises the methodology for the assessment of groundwater as discussed in the Environment Agency publication 'Remedial Targets Methodology and Policy and Protection of Groundwater'.

The procedure for determining site-specific remedial targets is summarised below:

- 1) Determine a target concentration at the receptor or compliance point in relation to its use.
- 2) Undertake the tier assessment to determine whether the contaminant source would result in the target concentration being exceeded at the receptor or compliance point. At each tier, a remedial target is determined.
- 3) If the contaminant concentrations on-site exceed the remedial target, then the decision whether it is appropriate to upgrade the tier analysis is based on:
 - timescale – the decision to proceed to the next tier analysis should only be made if any risk involved in delaying the decision to implement the remedial action is acceptable;
 - what additional information is required and can be obtained;
 - cost-benefit analysis, i.e. the cost of tier upgrade in relation to the potential reduction in the cost of the remedial solution.

Four assessment tiers are proposed for the assessment of contaminated soil to protect water resources:

Level 1 considers whether contaminant concentrations in "pore water" in contaminated soil are sufficient to impact on the receptor, ignoring dilution, dispersion and attenuation along the pathway. The "pore water" concentration is determined from:

- i) measured "pore water" concentrations or perched water quality;
- ii) soil leaching tests;
- iii) theoretical calculations based on soil/water partitioning equations.

Level 2 considers dilution by the receiving groundwater or surface water body and whether this is sufficient to reduce contaminant concentrations to acceptable levels. The remedial target is defined as the target concentration multiplied by a dilution factor (DF).

Levels 3 and 4 consider whether natural attenuation (including dispersion, retardation and degradation) of the contaminant as it moves through the unsaturated and saturated zones to the receptor are sufficient to reduce contaminant concentrations to acceptable levels. The remedial target is defined as target concentration multiplied by a dilution factor (DF) and attenuation factor (AF). In Level 3 simple analytical models are used to calculate the significance of attenuation, whereas in Level 4 more sophisticated numerical models are used.

For each level, the "pore water" concentration determined for the soil zone is compared to the remedial target to determine the need for remedial action.

The assessment in relation to contaminated groundwater commences at Level 2 as the contaminants have already moved through the soil zone, so that the only processes of significance are attenuation, dispersion and further dilution of this groundwater as it moves from the source towards the receptor. Thus the assessment levels for contaminated groundwater are:

Level 2 – the observed contaminant concentration in groundwater below the site is compared directly to the target concentration.

Levels 3 and 4 – the observed groundwater concentration below the site is compared directly to the target concentration multiplied by an attenuation factor (AF); as with the soil levelled assessment, Levels 3 and 4 are distinguished by the sophistication of the modelling and prediction processes.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION, CURRENT GUIDANCE AND RISK ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY FOR RISKS POSED BY GROUND GAS

Background

Origin of Ground and Landfill Gases

When carrying out a ground gas risk assessment, the origin or source of the gases is important as potential risks will vary depending on the source. This Appendix relates to the risk of the two main ground gases of concern; methane and carbon dioxide, and does not apply to other ground gases (e.g. radon or vapours from hydrocarbon spills). Methane and carbon dioxide are major constituents of ground gas but can also occur from a variety of anthropogenic and natural sources, as summarised in Table E below. The generation potential of each source is given below.

Table E- Sources and Origins of Ground Gases

Source	Origin		Typical Range of Concentrations			Generation Potential
			Methane	Carbon Dioxide	Others	
Anthropogenic						
Landfill sites (include shallow and old landfill)	Microbial decay of organic materials derived from the disposal of putrescible materials	Landfill gas is a product of the biodegradation of organic materials contained in wastes deposited in landfill sites. Age and composition of landfill affect the gas regime. The gas regime will also be influenced by physical parameters such as volume/depth of waste and the groundwater regime, as well as environmental factors such as temperature, moisture content and pH value. These factors are considered in some detail in earlier CIRIA guidance (Barry et al, 2001). The Environment Agency Guidance on the management of landfill gas provides useful information on the mechanisms by which landfill gas is generated, its composition and physical and chemical characteristics and behaviour (Environment Agency, 2004a). Leachate from landfill sites may also contain dissolved gases or may degrade during migration to produce methane with carbon dioxide and associated gases.	20-65%	15-40%	Several hundred trace organic gases (maybe odorous or toxic) (generally makes up <1% of total volume, eg H2S)	Very high if the landfill has recently closed (post 1960) Moderate (pre 1960 landfills) Very low (inert landfills)
Made ground	Microbial decay of organic materials contained in reworked natural ground containing demolition and other wastes	Made ground will often contain degradable material such as wood, rags, paper and vegetation. However, the proportion of such carbon-rich materials is typically low, with major components often comprising re-worked clays, silts, sands and gravels together with anthropogenic inclusions such as ash, clinker, brick, concrete etc. Many brownfield sites contain made ground and on these sites the methane concentrations are usually not highly elevated, although there are exceptions, while concentrations of carbon dioxide can typically range to higher values. The rate of gas generation also tends to be low, resulting in small but sustained volumes of gas. There often tends to be a lack of driving force within made ground (see Section 2.6.1). The low rate of gas generation, the limited driving force and the fact that the gas is denser than air result in little upward migration of carbon dioxide.	0-20%	0-10%		Very low (inert made ground) Low (made ground with high levels of organic/putrescible matter)
Foundry sands	Microbial decay of waste materials from the foundry process (phenolic binders, dextrin, coal dust, wood rags, paper)	In foundry sands, organic materials resulting from the foundry process such as phenolic binders, detrin and coal dust, and other foundry wastes such as wood, lignin and paper can provide a substrate for methanogenic bacteria (Hooker et al, 1993)	Up to 50%	15-40%	Trace organic gases (generally <1% of total volume) (maybe odorous and/or toxic)	Very low to low depending on presence of organic/putrescible matter

Table E (continued)- Sources and Origins of Ground Gases

Source	Origin		Typical Range of Concentrations			Generation Potential
			Methane	Carbon Dioxide	Others	
Anthropogenic						
Sewage sludge, dung, cess pits/heaps	Microbial decay of organic materials	Methane and carbon dioxide are the main components associated with the anaerobic decomposition of organic components of sewage (Hooker et al, 1993). Hydrogen sulphide is also often present resulting from the degradation of organic matter and sulphur containing compounds (including mercaptans) in the sewage. Nitrogen oxide and ammonia gases are also associated with sewage. These gases can be a problem in sewer systems with confined spaces such as pipework, manholes and service chambers which can lead to potentially explosive, asphyxiating or chemically harmful atmospheres. Additionally the formation of sulphuric acid from the oxidation of hydrogen sulphide can corrode pipes, resulting in migration into the surrounding soils.	60-75%	18-40%	Trace organic gases (generally <1% of total volume) (maybe odorous and/or toxic)	Moderate
Burial Grounds (including cemeteries)	Microbial decay of organic materials contained within human/animal remains.	The generation of gases from the decomposition of corpses is well documented (Polson et al, 1975). The gases generated are predominantly carbon dioxide and methane with trace amounts of odorous sulphur-containing gases. Diphosphane may be generated by anaerobic decomposition of phosphorus in skeletal material (generally in waterlogged areas). Other gaseous emissions may include formaldehyde, associated with the preparation of cadavers and present in medium density fibreboard (MDF), widely used to make coffins.	20-65%	15-40%		Moderate
Industrial/chemical/petroleum sites/manufacturing	Organic vapours derived from leaks or spills from storage, processing and disposal areas		3-100%	2-8%	Trace organic gases (generally <1% of total volume) (maybe odorous and/or toxic), cyanide	Low
Natural gas (supply pipes)	Leakage from bulk pipeline transportation of natural gas	Mains gas is derived from the same geological source as methane in coal mines. Leaks into surrounding soils can occur from damaged or poorly maintained underground pipes. In the UK, a combination of mercaptans and sulphide are added as odourants which can often be detected. Ethane additives will also indicate the presence of distributed main gases.	90-95%	0-9.5%	1 – 27% C2-C4 alkanes, 4.7% CO	Low

Table E (continued)- Sources and Origins of Ground Gases

Natural						
Soils	Physical, chemical and biological transformations of rock during weathering		<2ppm	350ppm		Very low (none if no organic material is present)
Coal measures strata	Burial of vegetation under high temperatures and pressures, liberating gases as a by-product as a result of mining activities	Methane is associated with coal bearing carboniferous strata, produced by the anaerobic decomposition of ancient vegetation trapped within the rock. Associated gases include higher alkanes (for example ethane), hydrogen and helium. Former shafts and/or fractured rock can provide a migration pathway to the surface and rising groundwater or flooding of mine workings can release trapped methane and carbon dioxide.	<1-90%	0-6%	4-13% C ₂ -C ₄ alkanes, 0 - 10% CO production of H ₂ S possible but rarely occurs in hazardous concentrations	High (active mine working) Moderate (abandoned mine working) Very low (flooded mine workings)
Peat/bog areas	Gas formed by the microbial decay of accumulated plant debris under anaerobic conditions	Methane from these sources is produced by the microbial decay of organic material under anaerobic conditions, usually waterlogged vegetation. Carbon dioxide is usually produced by acid reaction on carbonate fraction in any alluvial soil, and also generated by methane oxidation. Trace gases include hydrogen sulphide and light hydrocarbons. Methane can migrate large distances through soils. The source of the methane which caused the explosion at Abbeystead in 1985 was naturally occurring oil shales at more than 1 km depth.	10-90%	0-5%		Moderate
Alluvium (organic rich sediments)			0-5%	0-10%		Low (may be very low depending on levels of organic matter)
Radon emitting rocks	Decay of naturally occurring uranium within soils and rocks	Radon is a radioactive gas that occurs naturally and has no taste, smell or colour. It is formed from the decay of uranium, which is found in small quantities in all soil and rocks, in particular granite. Radionuclides (the decay products of radon) can damage lung tissues and ultimately lead to lung cancer. An action level of 200 Bq/m ³ was set by the former National Radiological Protection Board	Variable	Variable	0-1000 Bq/m ³ radon gas. Higher concentrations of gas up to 4,000,000 Bq/m ³ have been recorded in the southwest	N/A
Carbonate rich strata	Dissolution of calcium carbonate by acidic water	Acidic waters such as rainwater can react with calcium carbonate (e.g. chalk and limestones etc) to form carbon dioxide. Elevated concentrations of carbon dioxide (>five per cent) have been detected in confined spaces particularly those associated with groundwater abstraction infrastructure such as pump houses, located in chalk areas.	Variable	1-9%		Very low to low depending on water content

This does not provide guidance for the assessment of risk when other gases are present due to 'Other Sources' from the above table (particularly volatile organic compounds or for the risk from radon or hydrogen sulphide).

To determine the origin of the gas a range of factors must be considered together, including;

1. Proximity of likely sources
2. Ground conditions (geology, hydrogeology, anthropogenic pathways etc)
3. Properties of gases present including:
 - Chemical composition
 - Physical properties
 - Ratios of components e.g. methane: carbon dioxide
4. Timeframe of activities such as infilling periods, capping works, installation of gas control systems etc

Identification of the originating source may be problematic given that there may be more than one source present and trace gas analysis may be required. Identification of the sources of the gases encountered during monitoring is usually carried out through a process of eliminating the most unlikely potential sources (given the site setting) and selecting those which are most likely.

Hazards Associated with Presence of Methane

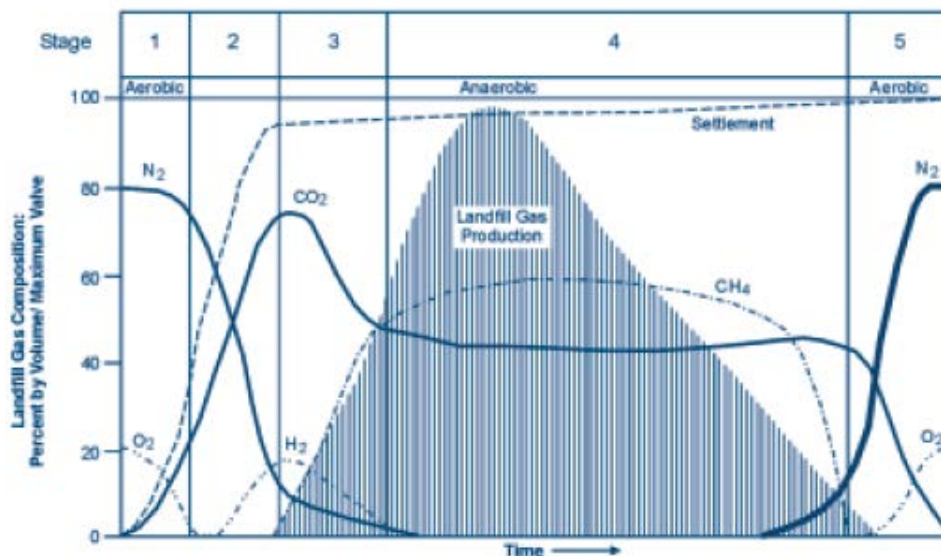
Methane gas is combustible and potentially explosive. When the concentration of methane in air is between the limits of 5.0%v/v and 15.0%v/v an explosive mixture is formed. The Lower Explosive Limit (LEL) of methane is 5.0%v/v, which is equivalent to 100% LEL. The 15.0%v/v limit is known as the Upper Explosive Limit (UEL), but concentrations above this level cannot be assumed to represent safe concentrations. Further, the LEL and UEL will vary (up and down) depending upon the proportion of other gases (including oxygen). However, the fact that methane is a colourless, odourless gas means that there is no simple indicator of the presence of the gas until such a time as explosive limits are reached and an incident occurs. Methane is lighter than air and has a low toxicity. However, at high concentrations it can result in asphyxiation due to oxygen displacement.

Hazards Associated with Presence of Carbon Dioxide

Carbon dioxide is a colourless, odourless gas, which, although non-flammable, is both toxic and an asphyxiant. As carbon dioxide is denser than air, it will collect in low points and depressions. The UK Health & Safety Executive (HSE) has published information relating to concentrations of carbon dioxide that humans may be exposed to, which uses concentrations contained in the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (as amended). These are the Long Term Occupational Exposure Limit (LTOEL, 8 hour period) and the Short Term Occupational Exposure Limit (STOEL, 15 minute period), which are 0.5% and 1.5% carbon dioxide, respectively.

Parameters Influencing the Rate of Ground Gas Production

The figure below is taken from EA guidance document LFTGN 03 illustrates typical ground gas generation curves from biodegradable materials:



The production of methane and carbon dioxide at a landfill site may be expected to be considerable and ongoing. Concentrations of methane will eventually decrease, followed by concentrations of carbon dioxide, but the duration and rate of gas production can vary markedly between sites. Five distinct phases of gas production occur during the process which are, in order of event as marked above, as follows:

1. An aerobic phase involving oxygen depletion and temperature increase through aerobic respiration;
2. The establishment of anaerobic conditions and the evolution of carbon dioxide and hydrogen through acidogenic activity;
3. Commencement of methanogenic activity; the establishment of populations of methanogenic bacteria;
4. A phase of stable methanogenic activity, which may go on for many tens of years;
5. A phase of decreasing methanogenic activity, representing depletion of the organic material and a return to aerobic conditions.

The time scale for the return to the normal ground gas concentrations will be highly variable, depending upon the types and quantities of materials present. In addition, the optimum parameters influencing the rate of decomposition and ground gas production within the ground at a site are as follows:

- High water content with adequate rainfall and water infiltration to provide moisture content between approximately 20 to 26%;
- Conditions that either are or are very close to anaerobic;
- High proportion of biodegradable materials;
- A pH between 6.5 and 8.5, ideally verging slightly on the acidic between pH 6 to 7;
- Temperature between 25°C and 55°C;
- The ratio of the biochemical and chemical oxygen demands (BOD:COD);
- High permeability;
- Small particle size, as finer subsurface materials possess a greater surface area to provide a growing 'face' for the micro-organisms but high fines levels reduces permeability and reduces decomposition rate.

For this reason, it is vital that sources of methane and carbon dioxide are identified prior to the commencement of any work on a construction site, and that the ground gas regime is characterised at the worst temporal conditions a site may experience. From this, a risk assessment is carried out to identify the risk at the site from ground gases so that suitable protection measures can be designed and incorporated into a development to prevent a dangerous build-up of gas occurring.

Factors Influencing the Migration and Behaviour of Ground Gases

There are many factors that influence the migration of ground gases which can affect the risk from a gassing source:

- driving force – pressure differential along a pathway, diffusion and dissolved in solution;
- meteorological conditions – short term and seasonal conditions including atmospheric pressure changes (e.g. rapidly falling pressure causes gas to expand increasing emission rates), rainfall, frozen ground and thawing, temperature;
- geological and groundwater conditions – these can have the over riding influence on the direction/pathways and quantity of migrating gas;
- anthropogenic influences – man-made pathways include mine shafts, service runs/drains, foundation piles, underground voids/pits/basements, foundation/building design/construction

Ground Gas Risk Assessment Methodology

Assessment of risk posed by ground gas is undertaken using the methodology as outlined previously, and summarised hereunder:

- Tier 1 Preliminary Risk Assessment
- Tier 2 Generic Quantitative Risk Assessment
- Tier 3 Detailed Quantitative Risk Assessment

The methodology used in each of the above assessments with concern to ground gas is discussed hereunder.

Tier 1 Preliminary Risk Assessment

All potential sources of methane and carbon dioxide are identified in the Preliminary Conceptual Model and the generation potential determined. The background information discussed earlier is referred to in order to determine the potential for a source to generate ground gas.

CIRIA C665 provides idealised monitoring frequency / period dependent upon generation potential of gas source and sensitivity of the proposed land use as below:

Idealised Frequency and Period of Monitoring (after Table 5.5a and 5.5b, CIRIA C665)

		Generation Potential of Source				
		Very Low	Low	Moderate	High	Very High
Sensitivity of Development	Low (Commercial)	4/1	6/2	6/3	12/6	12/12
	Moderate (Flats)	6/2	6/3	9/6	12/12	24/24
	High (Residential with Gardens)	6/3	9/6	12/6	24/12	24/24

Notes

1. First number is the number of readings and the second is the minimum period in months (e.g. 6/2 – six sets of readings over two months).

2. At least two sets of readings must be at low (preferably under 1,000 mb) and falling pressure.

The monitoring programme is decided using the above table prior to the intrusive site investigation. However, if the intrusive investigation reveals that a potential source is better or worse than anticipated the monitoring programme should be modified accordingly. For example, if the made ground contains no evidence of organic material and comprises entirely granular brick fill, the potential for that made ground to generate ground gas is reduced considerably.

Tier 2 Generic Quantitative Risk Assessment

Generic Quantitative Risk Assessment is undertaken upon completion of the required gas monitoring period.

All three current guidance documents propose that both ground gas concentrations and flow rates are used to calculate the limiting gas well gas volume flow rates for methane and carbon dioxide, based on the ground gas conditions monitored for during the worse-case temporal conditions. This limiting gas well volume flow rate is termed the Gas Screening Value (GSV, note that this was termed borehole gas volume flow), and is calculated as follows:

$$\text{GSV (l/hr)} = \frac{[\text{gas well gas concentration (\%v/v)}] \times [\text{gas well flow rate (l/hr)}]}{100}$$

GSV's are compared to typical max concentrations and limiting gas screening values derived for either Situation A - All development except low rise housing with gardens, or Situation B low rise housing with gardens (NHBC Traffic Light System). Table 8.5 from CIRIA C665 is used for comparison of gas screening values for "Situation A Developments" and is presented hereunder:

Characteristic Situation (CIRIA R149)	Comparable Partners Technology Regime in gas (see Box 8.2)	Risk Classification	Gas Screening Value (CH ₄ or CO ₂) (l/hr) ¹	Additional Factors	Typical Source of Generation
1	A	Very low risk	<0.07	Typically methane ≤ 1% and/or carbon dioxide ≤ 5%. Otherwise consider increase to Situation 2	Natural soils with low organic content "Typical" made ground
2	B	Low risk	<0.7	Borehole air flow rate not to exceed 70l/hr. Otherwise consider increase to characteristic Situation 3	Natural soil, high peat/organic content. "Typical" made ground
3	C	Moderate risk	<3.5		Old landfill, inert waste, mine working flooded
4	D	Moderate to high risk	<15	Quantitative risk assessment required to evaluate scope of protective measures.	Mine working susceptible to flooding, completed landfill (WMP 26B criteria)
5	E	High risk	<70		Mine working unflooded inactive with shallow workings near surface
6	F	Very high risk	>70		Recent landfill site

Table 8.5 from CIRIA C665 Modified Wilson and Card Classification

Table 8.7 is used for comparison of gas screening values for "Situation B Developments" and is presented hereunder:

Traffic light	Methane ¹		Carbon dioxide ²	
	Typical max concentration ³ (% by volume)	Gas screening value ^{2,4} (litres /hour)	Typical max concentration ³ (% by volume)	Gas screening value ^{2,4} (litres /hour)
Green	1	0.13	5	0.78
Amber 1	5	0.63	10	1.60
Amber 2	20	1.60	30	3.10
Red				

Notes:

1. The worst-case ground gas regime identified on the site, either methane or carbon dioxide, at the worst-case temporal conditions that the site may be expected to encounter will be the decider as to what Traffic Light is allocated;
2. Borehole Gas Volume Flow Rate, in litres per hour as defined in Wilson and Card (1999), is the borehole flow rate multiplied by the concentration in the air stream of the particular gas being considered;
3. The Typical Maximum Concentrations can be exceeded in certain circumstances should the Conceptual Site Model indicate it is safe to do so;
4. The Gas Screening Value thresholds should not generally be exceeded without the completion of a detailed ground gas risk assessment taking into account site-specific conditions.

CIRIA C665 Table 8.7 NHBC Traffic light system for 150 mm void

Dependant on the outcome of the assessment of risk posed by ground gas it is determined whether gas protection measures are required for the proposed development, and or whether a detailed quantitative risk assessment is required for the site.

Selection & Design of Protective Measures

Table 8.6 and Box 8.4 of CIRIA C665 contain information on the detailed design of protection measures and were initially intended for the purposes of determining then level of protection measures a development requires. These tables and related text include some useful information on the design of gas protection measures, however BS8485:2015 which supersedes the guidance included within CIRIA C665, is used for selection of gas protection measures. BS8485:2015 uses a scoring system dependant on the Characteristic Situation / NHBC Traffic Light and proposed end use of the site. The scoring system is summarised in BS8485:2015 Table 4 as presented hereunder:

Characteristic gas situation, CS	NHBC traffic light	Required gas protection			
		Type A Building (private ownership with no building management controls on alterations to the internal structure, the use of rooms, the ventilation of rooms or the structural fabric of the building. Some small rooms present. Probably conventional building construction (rather than civil engineering). Examples include private housing and some retail premises)	Type B Building (private or commercial property with central building management control of any alterations to the building or its uses but limited or no central building management control of the maintenance of the building, including the gas protection measures. Multiple occupancy. Small to medium size rooms with passive ventilation of rooms and other internal spaces throughout ground floor and basement areas. May be conventional building or civil engineering construction. Examples include managed apartments, multiple occupancy offices, some retail premises and parts of some public buildings (such as schools, hospitals, leisure centres) and parts of hotels)	Type C Building (commercial building with central building management control of any alterations to the building or its uses and central building management control of the maintenance of the building, including the gas protection measures. Single occupancy of ground floor and basement areas. Small to large size rooms with active ventilation or good passive ventilation of all rooms and other internal spaces throughout ground floor and basement areas. Probably civil engineering construction. Examples include offices, some retail premises, and parts of some public buildings (such as schools, hospitals, leisure centres and parts of hotels).	Type D Building (industrial style building having large volume internal space(s) that are well ventilated. Corporate ownership with building management controls on alterations to the ground floor and basement areas of the building and on maintenance of ground gas protective measures. Probably civil engineering construction. Examples are retail park sales buildings, factory shop floor areas, warehouses.
1	Green	0	0	0	0
2	Amber 1	3.5	3.5	2.5	1.5
3	Amber 2	4.5	4.0	3.0	2.5
4	Red	6.5 (a)	5.5 (a)	4.5	3.5
5		(b)	6.5 (a)	5.5	4.5
6		(b)	(b)	7.5	6.5
NOTE Traffic light indications are taken from NHBC Report no.:10627-RO1 (04) and are mainly applicable to low-rise residential housing ¹ . These are for comparative purposes but the boundaries between the traffic light indications and CS values do not coincide.					
a) Residential buildings should not be built on CS4 or higher sites unless the type of construction or site circumstances allow additional levels of protection to be incorporated, e.g. high-performance ventilation or pathway intervention measures, and an associated sustainable system of management of maintenance of the gas control system, e.g. in institutional and/or fully serviced contractual situations.					
b) The gas hazard is too high for this empirical method to be used to define the gas protection measures					

The NHBC guidance and CIRIA C665 guidance refers to low rise housing (which is up to three storeys without lifts) that is constructed with a 150mm ventilated sub-floor void.

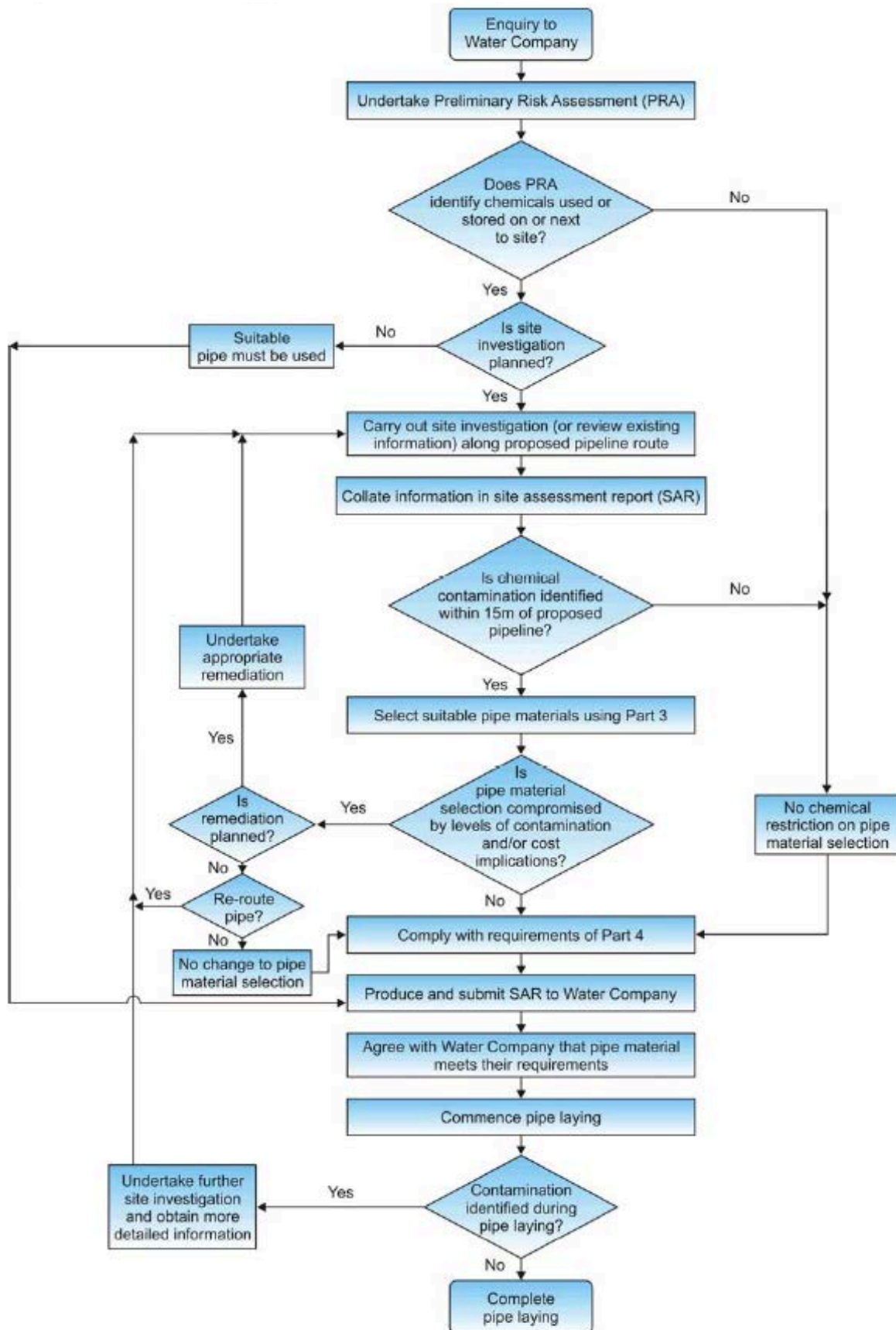
BS8485:2015 Table 2 Required gas protection by characteristic gas situation and type of building

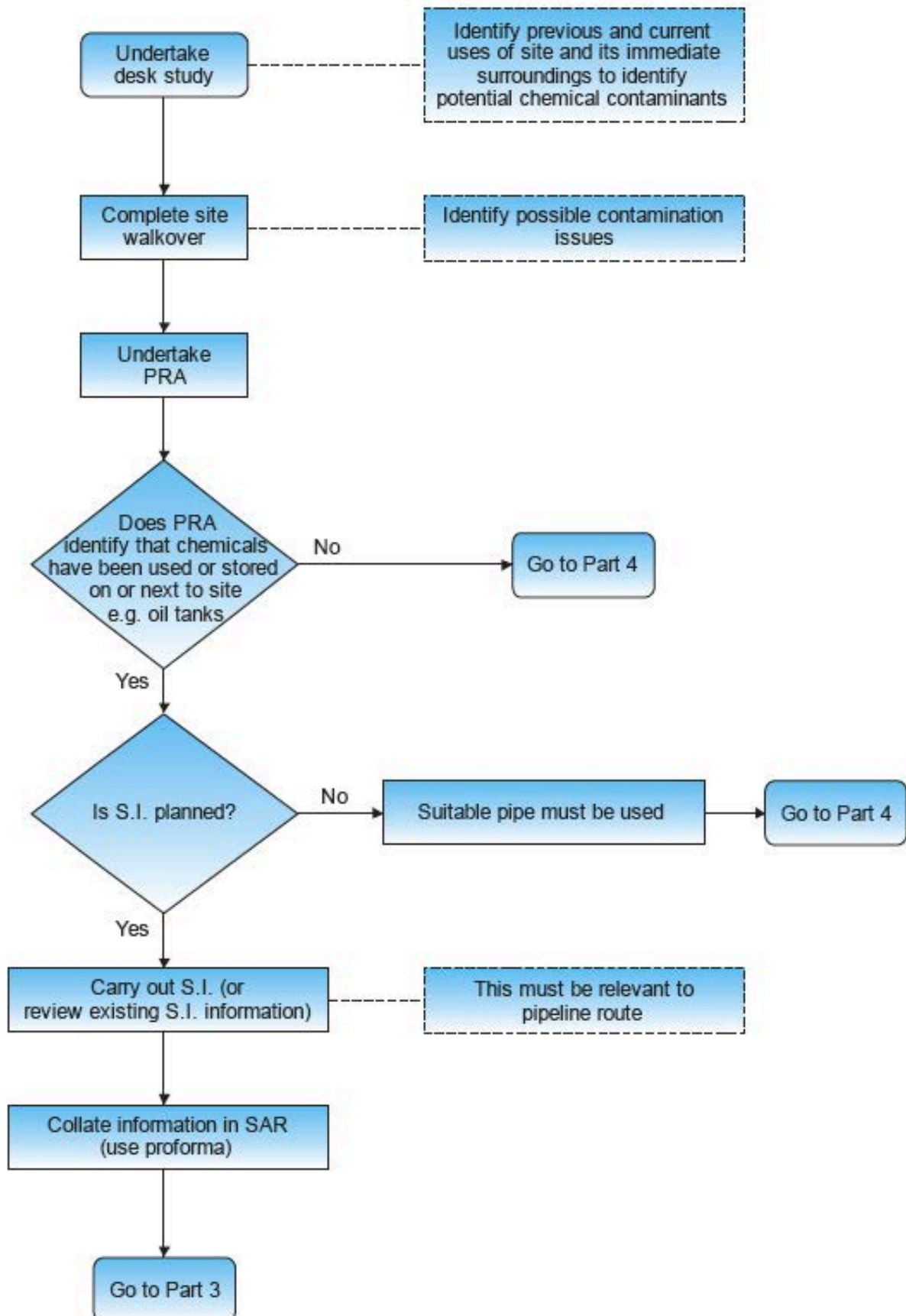
Once a score is assigned, a combination of protection systems / elements is chosen from BS8485:2015 Table 3 shown below:

PROTECTION ELEMENT/SYSTEM	SCORE	COMMENTS
Gas Protection Scores for Ventilation Protection Measures		
Pressure relief pathway (usually formed of low fines gravel or with a thin geocomposite blanket or strips terminating in a gravel trench external to the building)	0.5	Whenever possible a pressure relief pathway (as a minimum) should be installed in all gas protection measures systems. If the layer has a low permeability and/or is not terminated in a venting trench (or similar), then the score is zero.
Passive sub floor dispersal layer: Very good performance Media used to provide the dispersal layer are: • Clear void, Polystyrene void former blanket, Geocomposite void former blanket, No-fines Good performance gravel layer with gas drains, No-fines gravel layer	2.5 1.5	The ventilation effectiveness of different media depends on a number of different factors including the transmissivity of the medium, the width of the building, the side ventilation spacing and type and the thickness of the layer. The selected score should be assigned taking into account the recommendations in BS8485:2015. Passive ventilation should be designed to meet at least "good performance".
Active dispersal layer, usually comprising fans with active abstraction (suction) from a subfloor dilution layer, with roof level vents. The dilution layer may comprise a clear void or be formed of geocomposite or polystyrene void formers	1.5 to 2.5	This system relies on continued serviceability of the pumps, therefore alarm and response systems should be in place. There should be robust management systems in place to ensure the continued maintenance of the system, including pumps and vents. Active ventilation should always be designed to meet at least "good performance", as described in BS8485:2015.
Active positive pressurization by the creation of a blanket of external fresh air beneath the building floor slab by pumps supplying air to points across the central footprint of the building into a permeable layer, usually formed of a thin geocomposite blanket	1.5 to 2.5	This system relies on continued operation of the pumps, therefore alarm and response systems should be in place. The score assigned should be based on the efficient "coverage" of the building footprint and the redundancy of the system. Active ventilation should always be designed to meet at least "good performance".
Ventilated car park (floor slab of occupied part of the building under consideration is underlain by a basement or undercroft car park)	4.0	Assumes that the car park is vented to deal with car exhaust fumes, designed to Buildings Regulations 2000, Approved Document F
Gas Protection Scores for the Structural Barrier		
Floor and Substructure Design		
Precast suspended segmental subfloor (i.e. Block and beam floor slab)	0 (a)	a) The scores are conditional on breaches of floor slabs, etc. being effectively sealed;
Cast in situ ground-bearing floor slab (with only nominal mesh reinforcement)	0.5 (a)	b) to achieve a score of 1.5 the raft or suspended slab should be well reinforced to control cracking and have minimal penetrations cast in;
Cast in situ monolithic reinforced ground bearing raft or reinforced cast in situ suspended floor slab with minimal penetrations	1.0 or 1.5 (a), (b)	
Basement floor and walls conforming to BS 8102:2009, Grade 2 waterproofing (c)	2.0	c) the score is conditional on the waterproofing not being based on the use of a geosynthetic clay liner waterproofing product
Basement floor and walls conforming to BS 8102:2009, Grade 3 waterproofing (c)	2.5	
Membranes		
Gas resistant membrane meeting all of the following criteria: • sufficiently impervious to the gases with a methane gas transmission rate <40.0 ml/day/m ² /atm (average) for sheet and joints (tested in accordance with BS ISO 15105-1 manometric method); • sufficiently durable to remain serviceable for the anticipated life of the building and duration of gas emissions; • sufficiently strong to withstand in-service stresses (e.g. settlement if placed below a floor slab); • sufficiently strong to withstand the installation process and following trades until covered (e.g. penetration from steel fibres in fibre reinforced concrete, penetration of reinforcement ties, tearing due to working above it, dropping tools, etc); • capable, after installation, of providing a complete barrier to the entry of the relevant gas; and • verified in accordance with CIRIA C735	2	The performance of membranes is heavily dependent on the quality and design of the installation, resistance to damage after installation and integrity of joints. For example, a minimum 0.4 mm thickness (equivalent to 370 g/m ² for polyethylene) reinforced membrane (virgin polymer) meets the performance criteria in BS8485:2015 If a membrane is installed that does not meet all the criteria in column 1 then the score is zero.

WATER MAINS RISK ASSESSMENT

Risks to water supply pipes are assessed using the document 'Guidance for the Selection of Water Supply Pipes to be Used in Brownfield Sites' published by the UK Water Industry Research (UKWIR). The methodology for the selection of water pipes in brownfield sites is below:





For sites where the preliminarily conceptual site model (PCSM) does not identify the potential for chemical storage either on or next to the site, there are no chemical restrictions on the selection of pipe selection material.

The guidance recommends that if known, samples should be taken along the route of the water mains. At the time of any intrusive investigation the route of the water mains is generally unknown, hence the guidance recommends that samples are taken across the site.

Table 1: Pipe Selection Table

	Pipe Material					
	All thresholds are in mg/kg					
Contaminant	PE	PVC	Barrier Pipe (PE-AL-PE)	Wrapped Steel	Wrapped Ductile Iron	Copper
Extended VOC suite by purge and trap or head space and GC-MS with TIC	0.5	0.125	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
Total BTEX and MTBE	0.1	0.03	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
SVOC's TIC by purge and trap or head space and GC-MS with TIC (aliphatic and aromatic EC5-EC10)	2.0	1.4	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
Phenols	2	0.4	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
Cresols and chlorinated phenols	2	0.04	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
Mineral oil C11-C20 (aromatic/aliphatic EC10-EC16, aromatic EC16-EC21 and aliphatic EC16-35)	10	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
Mineral oil C21-C40 (aliphatic EC16-EC35 and aromatic EC21-EC35)	500	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
pH	Pass	Pass	Pass	Corrosive if pH<7 and conductivity >400uS/cm	Corrosive if pH<5, Eh not neutral and conductivity >400uS/cm	Corrosive if 5<pH>8 and Eh positive
Conductivity						
Redox						
SPECIFIC SUITE IDENTIFIED AS RELEVANT FOLLOWING SITE INVESTIGATION						
Ethers	0.5	1.0	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
Nitrobenzene	0.5	0.4	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
Ketones	0.5	0.02	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
Aldehydes	0.5	0.02	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
Amines	Fail	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

It can be seen that barrier pipe is suitable on all sites. Where metallic (steel, ductile iron or copper) pipes are to be used, information on the pH, conductivity and redox of the soils will be required to determine suitability. Where PE or PVC pipes are to be laid, information on the presence of organic contaminants identified in the PCSM will be required.

Stage 1 - Assessment Methodology Before Water Mains Alignment is Known

At the time of a Phase II site investigation the alignment of the water mains is generally unknown, and as part of the investigation the entirety of the site will be investigated. The contaminants subject to analysis will be guided by the preliminarily conceptual model, and only contaminants identified in the preliminary conceptual model will be subject to assessment, which will provide a preliminarily specification of water mains.

The site investigation data will be assessed against Table 1 above and a preliminarily assessment of the suitability of water pipe material will be made.

Stage 2 – Assessment Methodology Once Alignment of the Water Mains is Known

Once the alignment of the water mains is known, if cost effective, additional analysis can be undertaken along the alignment to determine if metallic, PE or PVC pipes would be suitable.

RISK TO CONCRETE IN THE GROUND

The risk to buried concrete is assessed in accordance with the BRE Special Digest 1:2005 – 'Concrete in Aggressive Ground'. Recommendations for the composition of concrete and supplementary protective measures (if required) are given on the basis of the assessment.

CURRENT GUIDANCE ON REMEDIATION

When risk assessment of the site has been completed and it indicates that remedial works are required, the main guidance in managing this process is set out in the EA Guidance on 'Land contamination risk management (LCRM)'. The stages of managing remediation are as follows:

- (a) Options Appraisal and develop Remediation Strategy;
- (b) Develop Implementation Plan and Verification Plan;
- (c) Remediation, Verification and Monitoring.

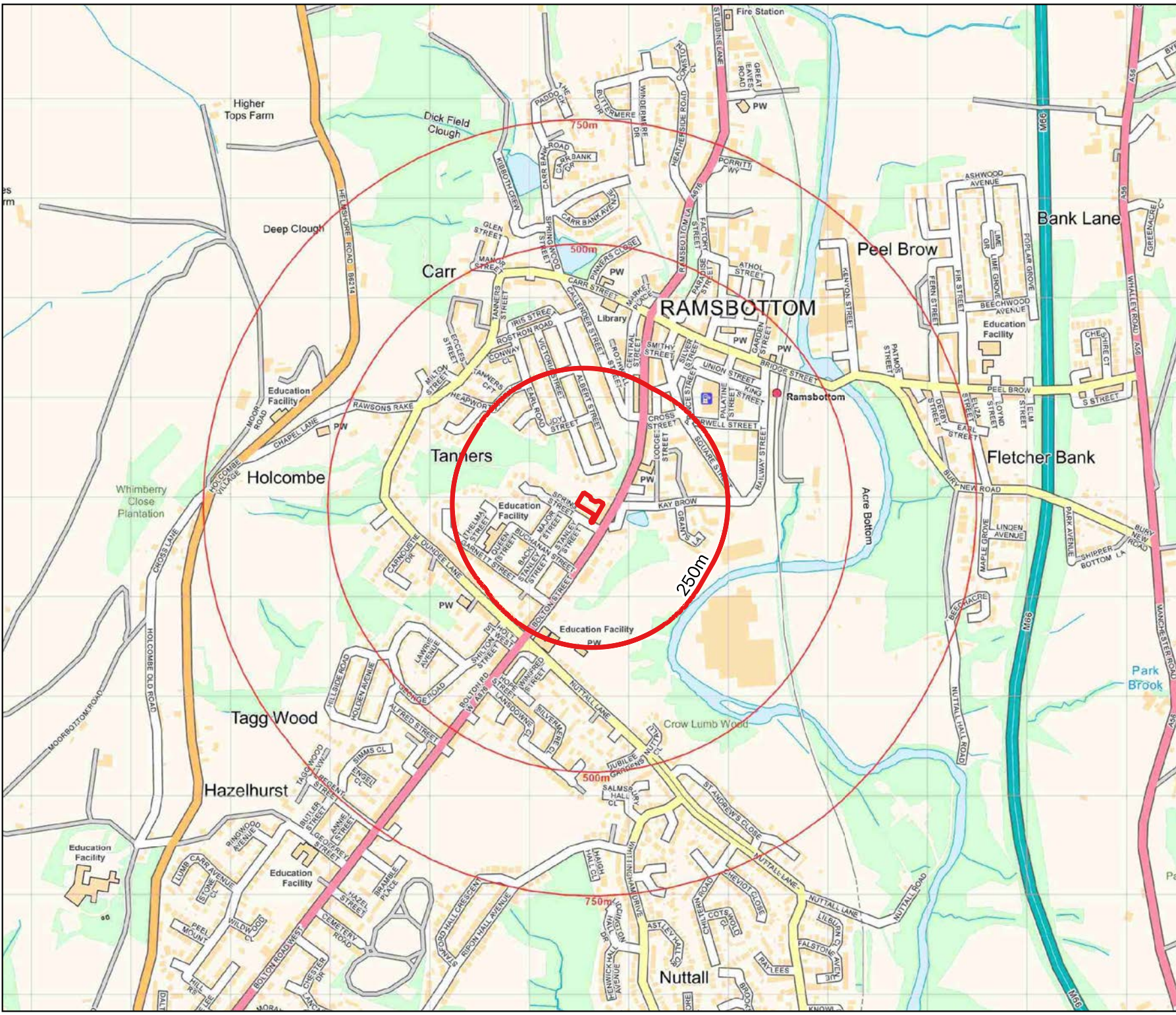
The Remediation Strategy sets out the remediation targets, identifies technically feasible remedial solutions and presents an evaluation of the options so that these can be assessed enabling that the most suitable solution is adopted. An outline of the proposed remedial method should be presented. Agreement should be sought of the appropriate statutory bodies for the Remediation Strategy before proceeding to the next stage.

The Implementation Plan is a detailed method statement setting out how the remediation is to be carried out including stating how the site will be managed, welfare procedures, health and safety considerations together with practical measures such as details of temporary works, programme of works, waste management licences and regulatory consents required. Agreement should again be sought of the appropriate statutory bodies for this Plan.

The Verification Plan sets out the requirements for gathering data to demonstrate that the remediation has met the required remediation objectives and criteria. The Verification Plan presents the requirements for a wide range of issues including the level of supervision, sampling and testing regimes for treated materials, waste and imported materials, required monitoring works during and post remediation, how compliance with all licenses and consents will be checked etc. Agreement should again be sought of the appropriate statutory bodies for the Verification Plan. On completion of the remediation a Verification Report should be produced to provide a complete record of all remediation activities on site and the data collected as required in the Verification Plan. The Verification Report should demonstrate that the remediation has met the remedial targets to show that the site is suitable for the proposed use.



APPENDIX D: DRAWINGS



	
Demeter Environmental Ltd	
Liverpool Office:	
Hanover House	
Hanover Street	
Liverpool	
L1 3DZ	
Tel: 0151 521 2539	
Fax: 0151 909 3661	
Brighton Office:	
Gemini House	
136-140 Old Shoreham Road	
Brighton, East Sussex	
BN3 7BD	
Tel: 01273 741 727	
Email: enquiries@demeter-environmental.co.uk	
Drawing 1	
Site Name: Spring Street Sawmills	
Site Location	
Scale: 1:1,000 at A4	



Demeter Environmental Ltd
Liverpool Office:
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Hanover Street
Liverpool
L1 3DZ

Tel: 0151 521 2539
Fax: 0151 909 3661

Brighton Office:
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136-140 Old Shoreham Road
Brighton, East Sussex
BN3 7BD
Tel: 01273 741 727

Email: enquiries@demeter-environmental.co.uk

Drawing: 2

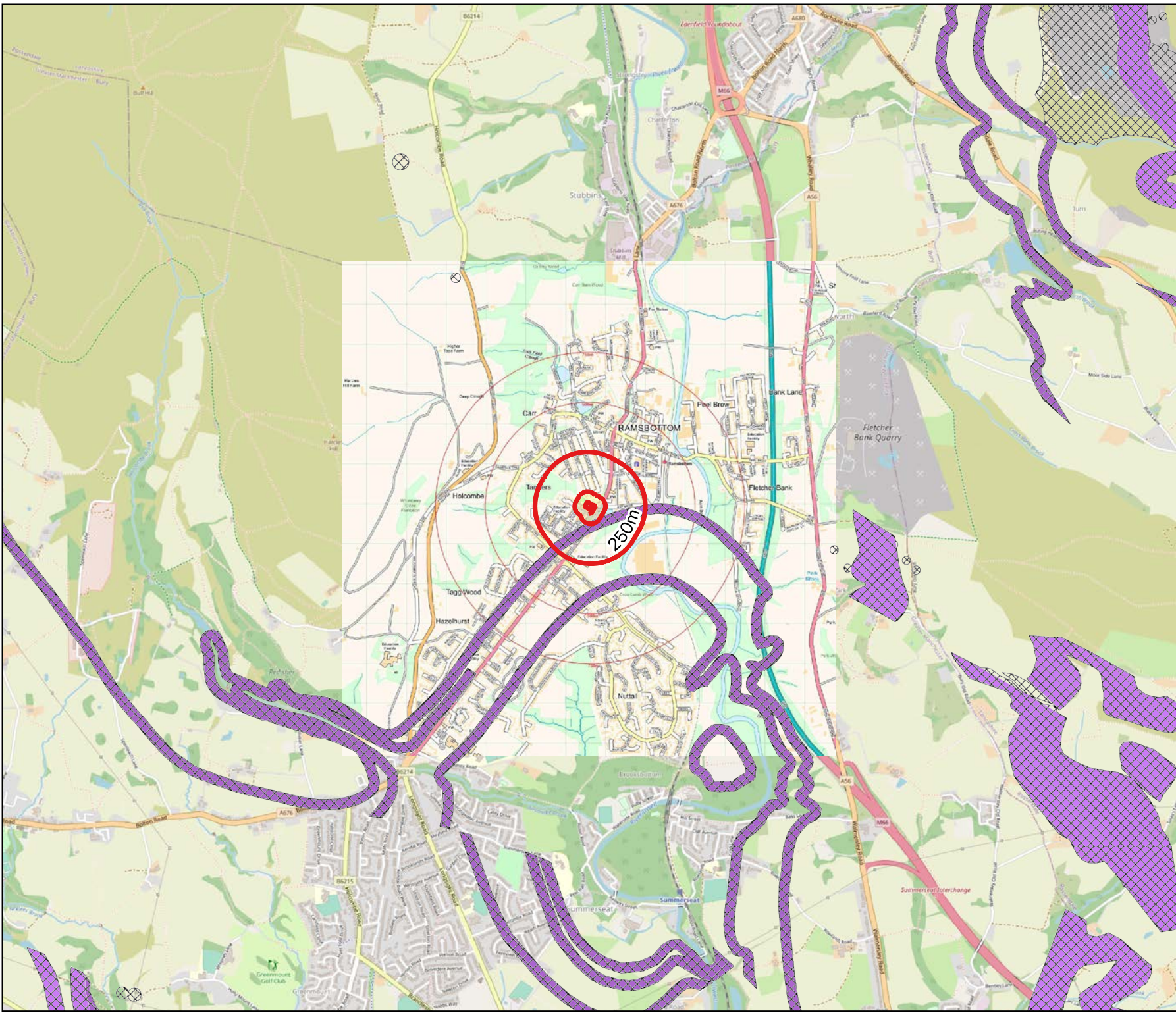
Site Name: Spring Street
Sawmills

Aerial Plate

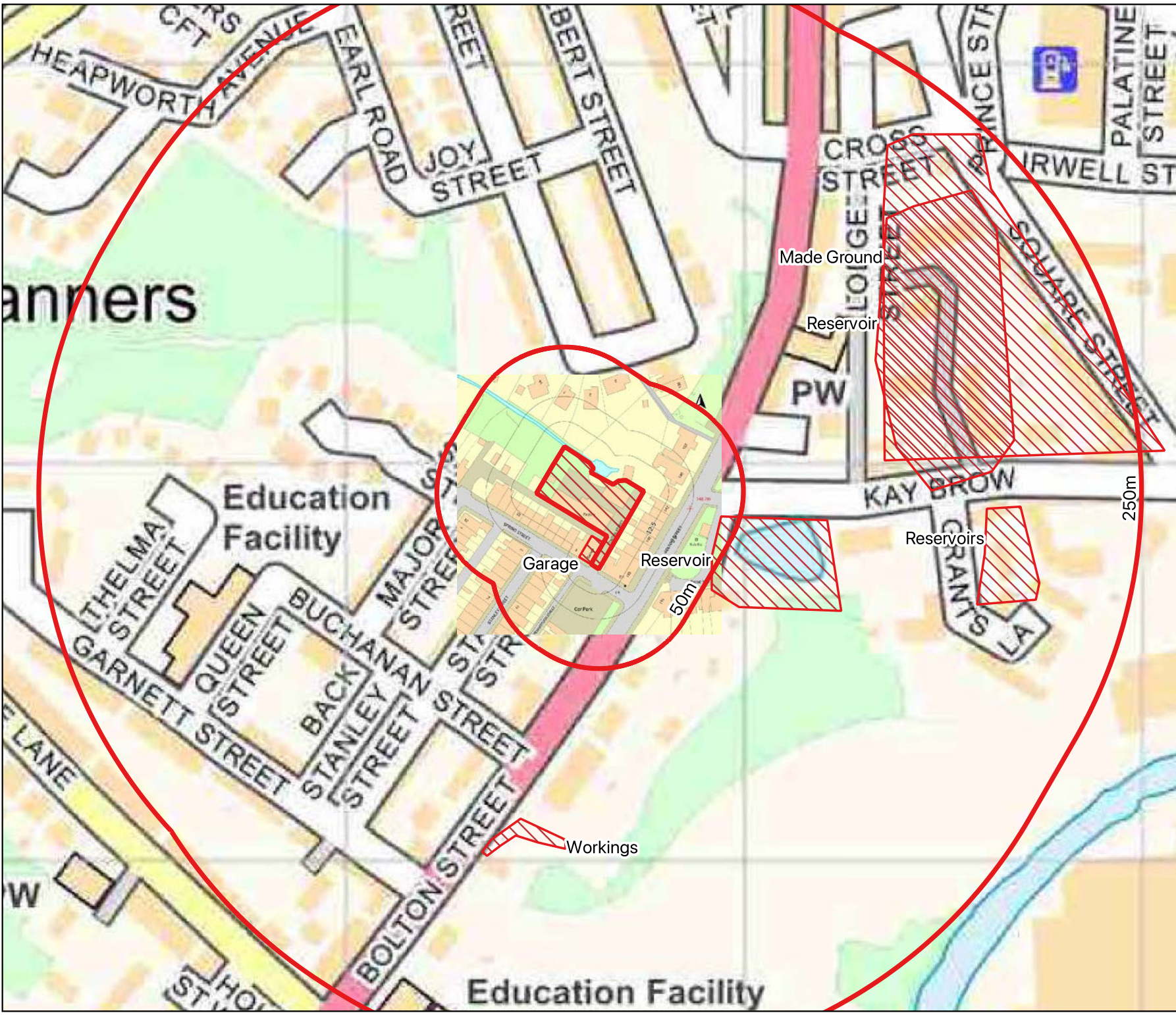
Scale: 1:1,250 at A4



	
Demeter Environmental Ltd	
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Tel: 0151 521 2539	
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Brighton Office:	
Gemini House	
136-140 Old Shoreham Road	
Brighton, East Sussex	
BN3 7BD	
Tel: 01273 741 727	
Email:	enquiries@demeter-environmental.co.uk
Drawing 3	
Site Name: Spring Street Sawmills	
Site Layout	
Scale: 1:500 at A4	



	
Demeter Environmental Ltd	
Liverpool Office:	
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Liverpool	
L1 3DZ	
Tel: 0151 521 2539	
Fax: 0151 909 3661	
Brighton Office:	
Gemini House	
136-140 Old Shoreham Road	
Brighton, East Sussex	
BN3 7BD	
Tel: 01273 741 727	
Email: enquiries@demeter-environmental.co.uk	
Drawing 4	
Site Name: Spring Street Sawmills	
Development High Risk Area	
Scale: 1:25,001 at A4	



	
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Tel: 0151 521 2539	
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Gemini House	
136-140 Old Shoreham Road	
Brighton, East Sussex	
BN3 7BD	
Tel: 01273 741 727	
Email: enquiries@demeter-environmental.co.uk	
Drawing 5	
Site Name: Spring Street Sawmills	
Potential Sources	
Scale: 1:2,500 at A4	



		
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Brighton Office:		
Gemini House		
136-140 Old Shoreham Road		
Brighton, East Sussex		
BN3 7BD		
Tel: 01273 741 727		
Email: enquiries@demeter-environmental.co.uk		
Drawing 6		
Site Name: Spring Street Sawmills		
Proposed Site Investigation Layout		
Scale: 1:500 at A4		



APPENDIX E: SITE PHOTOGRAPHS AND PHOTOGRAPH KEY PLAN

Demeter Environmental Ltd
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Drawing 7

Site Name: Spring Street
Sawmills

Photograph Key Plan

Scale: 1:750 at A4



Demeter Environmental Ltd
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Fax: 0151 909 3661

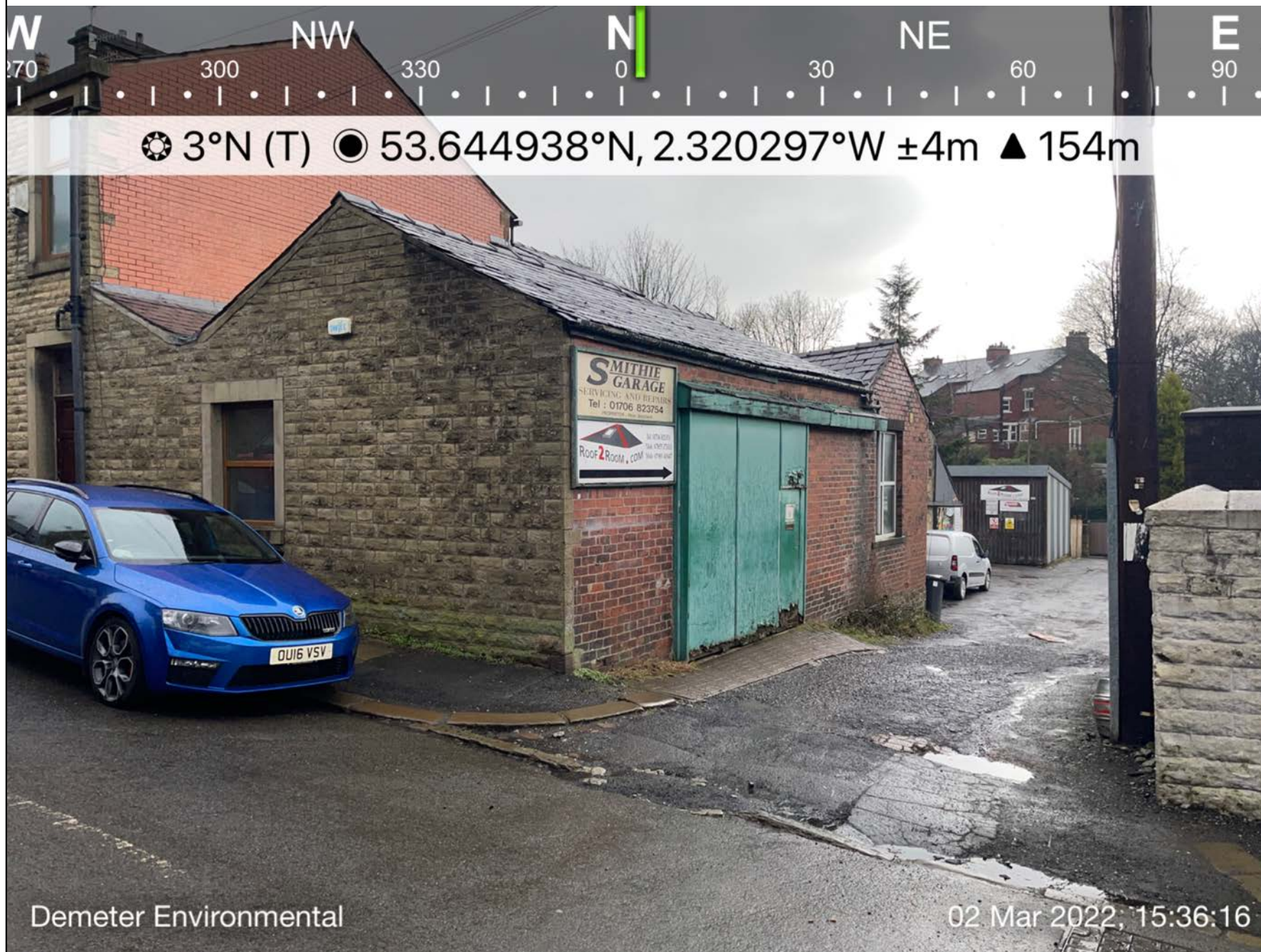
Brighton Office:
Gemini House
136-140 Old Shoreham Road
Brighton, East Sussex
BN3 7BD
Tel: 01273 741 727

Email: enquiries@demeter-environmental.co.uk

Plate: 1

Site Name: Spring Street
Sawmills

Description: View of site
entrance from Spring Street



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02 Mar 2022, 15:36:16

Demeter Environmental Ltd

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Tel: 01273 741 727

Email: enquiries@demeter-environmental.co.uk

2Plate: 2

Site Name: Spring Street
Sawmills

Description: Southern
boundary of the site



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02 Mar 2022, 15:37:03

Demeter Environmental Ltd

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Hanover Street

Liverpool

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Brighton Office:

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Brighton, East Sussex

BN3 7BD

Tel: 01273 741 727

Email: enquiries@demeter-environmental.co.uk

2Plate: 3

Site Name: Spring Street
Sawmills

Description: Northern area of
Caltha Street



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02 Mar 2022, 15:38:59

Demeter Environmental Ltd

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Brighton, East Sussex

BN3 7BD

Tel: 01273 741 727

Email: enquiries@demeter-environmental.co.uk

2Plate: 4

Site Name: Spring Street
Sawmills

Description: Area on the north
eastern boundary and northern
face of the storage building



Demeter Environmental

02 Mar 2022, 15:39:20