

National Brownfield Forum

Meeting Notes
8 July 2026, 11.00am – 3.00pm Teleconference



Present:

Liz Hart (Chair)
Nicola Harries (Secretariat)
Christopher Clark
Calum Irvine
Matt Llewellyn & Trystan James
Angela Haslam
Madeleine Berg & Ailsa Tyrrell
Mark Williams
Darren Watson
John Henderson

Melanie Lindsley
Richard Boyle
Stella Keenan

Tim Elliott
Geraint Williams

Darren Beriro
David Dyson
Jane Thrasher
Ken Scally
Lucy Bethell
Sally Shaw

Robert Tyler

Joanne Kwan
Rhodri Williams
David Jacob
Ruth Easterbrook

Chair
CL:AIRE
Defra
Defra
Natural Resources Wales (NRW)
Environment Agency (EA)
Scottish Government (SG)
Homes England (HE)
Office of Environmental Protection (OEP)
Interim Environmental Protection Assessor Wales (IEPAW)
Mining Remediation Authority (MRA)
Institution of Environmental Science (IES)
Yorkshire and Lincolnshire Pollution Advisory Group (YALPAG)
Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)
Association of Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Specialists (AGS)
British Geological Survey
Society of Brownfield Risk Assessment (SoBRA)
Environmental Industries Commission (EIC)
Environmental Industries Association (EIA)
Specialist in Land Condition (SiLC)
National Contaminated Land Officers Group (NCLOG)
West & East London Land Contamination Officers' Group (WELLCOG)
CIRIA
Home Builders Federation (HBF)
National House Building Council (NHBC)
Geological Society

Apologies:

Steve Edgar
Caroline Thornton
Matthew Byerly
Emily Jones & Matthew Spencer

Rachel Boulderstone

Kate Baker
Tom Henman
Emma Tattersdill
Leigh Sharpe
David Stewart
Edward Lewis

David Crook
Bill Crooks

Deputy Chair & RemSoc
Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)
Environmental Standards Scotland
Ministry of Housing and Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)
Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)
Society of Brownfield Risk assessment (SoBRA)
Specialist in Land Condition (SiLC)
UK Environmental Law Association (UKELA)
Mining Remediation Authority (MRA)
Scottish Land Commission (SLC)
Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) and the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA)
Local Government Association (LGA)
British Soil Science Society (BSSS)

Agenda

1. Administrative:
 - Welcome and Apologies
 - Introductions of newly represented organisations
 - Actions from last meeting
 - Membership
2. Presentation by Duncan Spencer EDIA Limited – Insurers view of land contamination risks especially around PFAS and emerging contaminants
Questions and Answers
3. General Knowledge Share
 - Government and Regulatory Update
 - Opportunity for clarification on the industry and local authority fora updates as received in advance
4. National Brownfield Skills Framework and Building Safety Act
5. National Brownfield Forum – What Next poll results
6. NQMS Update
7. Hot or emerging topics open session
8. Brownfield in media
9. Standards
10. AOB
11. Date of next meeting

Meeting Notes

1. **Administrative**
 - a) Welcome & Apologies

Liz Hart (LH) welcomed everyone to the National Brownfield Forum (NBF) and apologies were given.

- b) Introductions of newly represented organisations

No new attendees were present. BSSS will introduce themselves when they are able to attend a NBF meeting.

- c) Actions from previous meetings

Nicola Harries (NH) reviewed all actions. LH confirmed that she has written to “The House Magazine” introducing the NBF but not heard back. Geraint Williams (GW) offered to follow up with Alex Lee who may have a different contact.

ACTION: GW to follow up with Alex Lee for an additional contact with “The House Magazine”.

LH & NH to look at developing a template for industry members to complete, so they can highlight key updates.

ACTION: NH/LH to look at preparing a template for NBF members to complete.

d) Membership

No new members have been invited to join the NBF. This item will remain on the agenda, but it is not anticipated for any new members to be invited.

2. Presentation by Duncan Spencer EDIA Limited on “Insurers view of land contamination risks especially PFAS and emerging contaminants”.

Duncan Spencer (DS) provided an insightful presentation about how the insurance industry approaches land contamination risks. His presentation was extremely well received, and members were grateful for his time and the detailed question and answer session that followed. His presentation is available to [download here](#).

LH thanked DS for his time.

3. General Knowledge Share

a) Government, Regulatory and Non-Departmental Public Bodies (NDPB) Update

LH introduced the different government and regulatory groups represented and welcomed them to provide an update.

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)

Unfortunately, nobody from MHCLG was available to attend the meeting but confirmed that they are still currently reviewing the responses to the recent NPPF consultation.

Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)

Christopher Clark of Defra soils and contaminated land team attended the NBF meeting and provided a short update. He confirmed that Defra's Land Remediation Pathfinder Scheme (LRPS) Expression of Interest was successfully launched in April and closed on 18th May. They are currently engaging with interested local authorities with the support of the Environment Agency. More details will be available in due course.

Post-Meeting Update:

The Local Authority Support Strand (LASS), a sub-workstream of the LRPS, was launched on 23rd July. LASS aims to provide additional funding and resource to help authorities develop LRPS applications and help to deliver their wider contaminated land responsibilities. All local authorities who submitted an eligible Expression of Interest (EOI) for LRPS have been invited to apply for LASS by 21st August 2026. The grants will be administered by the EA.

Alongside the LASS grants, the EA will lead a broader support programme, providing technical advice, guidance and peer to peer support to local authorities to help strengthen their capacity and capability to deliver their land contamination responsibilities.

Calum Irvine (CI) provided an update on behalf of planning, infrastructure and permitting team where his particular interest is environmental permitting. He confirmed that he continues to work on streamlining the way exemptions are defined in environmental permitting in England. The timeframe still cannot be confirmed; it would require new legislation and so is subject to Parliamentary capacity. This will help so instead of having to wait for government to lay legislation to change things, it will allow regulators to do it, so the Environment Agency will be able to update exemptions more efficiently. Once the new system is in place, the Environment Agency will be able to make some targeted exemptions in specific areas that would help support development. This may include replacing regulatory positions statements with formal exemptions to provide reassurance to operators and investors.

CI's team is also considering further policy options aiming to help the government's growth agenda. CI confirmed that as part of this they are considering permitting around brownfields, and when appropriate will look to engage with the NBF members. CI confirmed that he will be drawing on the published work of the NBF task and finish group that identified permitting issues, but it will be useful

if the NBF members will be able to provide evidence around the scale of the issue. When CI is ready, he will reach out to CL:AIRE to request information from NBF members.

Scottish Government (SG) and Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA)

Madeleine Berg (MB) provided an update on behalf of SG and Caroline Thornton provided a written update on behalf of SEPA.

Scottish Government (SG)

- State of Contaminated Land Report: SG and SEPA are now progressing with producing a state of contaminated land survey and report. It is aimed to go live in Autumn 2026. MB thanked the Environment Agency and Defra for sharing the work that they had carried out. SG will be working closely with Scottish contaminated land officers to develop the survey to ensure it's feasible and reflects the wider impact of Part 2 A and the wider work of regulators.
- Contaminated Land Advisory Group – (CLAG) last met in June 2026 and they discussed preparing resources on PFAS. In addition, they are working on creating a knowledge hub for Scotland which is currently being trialed by CLAG members.
- Soil health: Phase 2 of the ClimateXChange soils route map has now been published and is available here: [Securing soils in a changing climate: A soil route map for Scotland](#)

SEPA

State of Contaminated Land Report

On 20th April this year Scottish Government formally requested that SEPA publish it's second State of Contaminated land Report. SEPA and SG will be working closely over this financial year to produce this report. To aid its production, we held some initial workshop events (in person and online) for local authorities and relevant SEPA and SG staff during May. The purpose of the workshops was to get local authority officer's thoughts on what the report should cover, the types of questions that should be asked (and could be answered) and some views on the Part IIA regime itself and how it currently works in Scotland. The events were enormously helpful for SEPA and SG, with LA officers and others providing lots of useful insights and information. Outputs of the event will help to shape both the content structure of the report and inform a survey questionnaire which will be sent to LAs over the coming months. Big thankyou to Scottish contaminated land officers for their contributions and to Environment Agency / DEFRA contacts who have allowed us to pick their brains on the progress of the next State of Contaminated Land Report for England.

Environmental Standards Scotland: Formal investigation into the Part IIA regime in Scotland

On 4th June 2026 ESS informed SEPA and Scottish Government of the initiation of investigation case IESS.24.012: the delivery of contaminated land duties in Scotland and the effectiveness of the regime. The investigation will focus on the delivery, effectiveness, and oversight of the contaminated land regime in Scotland. SEPA will work with ESS to ensure we provide any information they require from us. ESS will provide updates on this investigation on its website and will publish the outcome once the investigation is concluded.

SEPA Contaminated Land Web Pages

Over the next few months SEPA will be updating its contaminated land web pages to move across to the new beta website. SEPA is aware that there are currently quite a few broken links to technical guidance on these pages and are working out ways through these to rectify. The link for WAT-G-071 (formerly WAT-PS-10-02) has now been fixed, which may be of particular interest to members of this group.

Environment Agency

Angela Haslam (AH) provided an update on behalf of the Environment Agency (EA). AH confirmed the following:

General land contamination

Environment Agency has launched its **voluntary remediation advice service** - The service provides bespoke regulatory and technical advice to landowners, consultants, and their

clients, helping to achieve effective remediation where land contamination has impacted controlled waters (including groundwaters). Minimum scheme requirements are:

- information is prepared and provided by a competent person with appropriate knowledge, skills, experience and qualifications
- remediation reaches standards equivalent to regulatory requirements
- all related work is carried out in accordance with Land Contamination Risk Management (LCRM)

Find more information and request the service here: [Get voluntary remediation advice for contaminated land and groundwater - GOV.UK](#). Fees will be invoiced using the current costs as detailed in [the Environment Agency's fees and charges](#).

Part 2A

- **State of Contaminated Land report** – working on drafting this now, publish later in the year

Permitting

- **RPS 215** – moving to a charged exemption under Exemptions Reform, this will be consulted on, as Calum referred to.
- **SR2008:No 27** the EA are changing over from Citizen Space to another external consultation tool provider on Aug 1st - if all goes well, we're aiming to start the consultation sometime in **Q3 2026/2027**.
- **RGN 2** - The EA are in the process of turning RGN2 pdfs into html (Understanding the meaning of regulated facility), we will be reviewing the content as part of this process.
- **H5** – shortly be publishing the consultation response document, looking at a publication date around September for the updated guidance.

PFAS update

- **PFAS site profiles** - publication of 13 industry profiles (developed by Jacobs as part of the EA PFAS Risk Screening project 2020 to 2024) to be published in July 26
- **Lines of evidence for PFAS remediation** – information on a “Lines of Evidence Approach to Assess the Effectiveness of PFAS Remediation Technologies” is expected to be published by CL:AIRE in the autumn. This will include the evaluation framework itself, fact sheets with example case studies and an external facing training webinar.
- **Soil stabilisation/permeable reactive barriers** – draft guidance currently being reviewed, hoping to publish later in the Autumn.
- **PFAS plan actions** – working through these with Defra and devolved partners

Publications

- [Consultation on Land Remediation Relief - GOV.UK](#) – summary of responses has been published.
- The Environmental Audit Committee published its Ninth Report of Session 2024–26, [Addressing the risks from Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances \(PFAS\)](#) (HC 852), on 23 April 2026.
- The Government Response was received on 15 June 2026, the link is as follows: [Addressing the risks from Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances \(PFAS\): Government Response](#)

Natural Resources Wales (NRW) & Welsh Government

Matthew Llewellyn (ML) provided an update on behalf of NRW. He confirmed the following:

- NRW received an information request/right to respond to a series of points from a production who are currently working on a 2-part tv programme for release later this summer. The programme will air on BBC following on from the ‘Buried’ podcast (on BBC iplayer) a couple

of years ago which looked at historic landfill/disposal of 'forever chemicals and their impact on communities and the environment.

- It's been fairly well publicised over the past month or so that the EA have introduced a charging for voluntary remediation scheme so just to reiterate NRW already have a voluntary advise charging scheme under our broader Discretionary Advice service [Natural Resources Wales / Our service to developers](#)
- Recent call for evidence by the Westminster Welsh Affairs Select Committee for evidence on historic metal mine pollution in Wales. This was as a follow up to what progress has been made to address metal mine pollution two years on from similar hearing. Transcript and recording of 1st July committee meeting:

[1 July 2026 - Metal mine pollution in Wales - Oral evidence - Committees - UK Parliament](#)

Welsh Land Contamination Working Group:

- Currently without a chair after Rachael Davies from Flintshire recently stood down. Intention is to appoint a new chair at the September meeting along with a review of terms of reference.
- More broadly the group intends to discuss the new NCLOG land contamination conditions guidance document and its potential applicability in Wales

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) and the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA)

No updates were provided by DAERA or NI EA.

Interim Environmental Protection Assessor for Wales (IEPAW)

John Henderson (JH) provided an update on behalf of IEPAW. He confirmed that IEPAW is continuing to carryout its investigation into contaminated land.

Office of Environmental Protection (OEP)

Darren Watson (DW) provided an update on OEP's work.

DW confirmed that the OEP is looking forward to the publication of the State of Contaminated Land report and Defra's overall findings along with the work that other devolved Environmental Standards investigations are taking.

OEP has recently published its first Environmental Improvement Plan in Northern Ireland. It has been well received by the assembly. The report did reference the potential for Part 3 which is the equivalent to England's Part 2A and the benefits of having such legislation.

OEP is starting on scoping the next report on progress of Defra's Environmental Improvement Plan 2025. DW is hoping to get reference to the work of the National Brownfield Forum Task and Finish Group's report as there are some good suggestions in there for policy on brownfield. OEP has also published reports on POPs in waste, where it has looked at the increasing regulation of POPs and where that may or may not be disposed of. Also, OEP has published a report on the implementation of the waste hierarchy as a policy instrument and the challenges that industry has identified need to be addressed. Finally, OEP has also published a report on the effectiveness of Environment Agency waste inspections.

Environmental Standards Scotland

Matthew Byerly (MB) was unable to attend the NBF and did not provide an update.

Homes England (HE)

Mark Williams (MW) confirmed that HE has entered a strategic partnership with Richmond, a land promoter, to fund housing-led development. They have also entered a partnership with Aviva, which is a £100 million budget to build up to 3,300 new homes. In addition, HE has entered a joint venture with developer Capital and Centric and Swiss Life which is a partnership with £860 million and is expected to deliver over 2,250 homes. This joint venture recently acquired a neighbourhood in Manchester city centre to promote its regeneration.

Local Government Association (LGA)

David Crook (DC) was unable to attend and did not provide an update.

Mine Remediation Authority (MRA)

Leigh Sharpe (LS) was unable to attend and did not provide an update, however LH did want to congratulate MRA on the publication of their digitized archive of mining maps which are now freely available to people to look at and to congratulate MRA on their graduate apprenticeship scheme that was recently launched.

b) Industry and Local Authority Fora updates

Written updates in alphabetical order are provided in Appendix 1 at the end of the notes.

4. National Brownfield Skills Framework and Building Safety Act

LH gave an overview of the outcome of the Building Safety Act and because of this act the construction sector has acknowledged the importance of competency across the workforce. It is acknowledged that there are many different disciplines that work in construction, therefore the construction sector has mapped out these different disciplines. Geotechnics was identified as a discipline but not geo-environmental. The Ground Forum are taking the lead on mapping the geotechnical competencies. LH explained to the Ground Forum the importance of the geo-environmental sector in relation to land contamination, risk assessment and ground gas and how the NBF brings all these disciplines together. Therefore, NBF members have been invited to help map the geo-environmental roles. LH thanked those industry groups that have already responded to her email asking for help to start mapping competencies.

LH explained that the AGS held a webinar detailing the competency work that the Ground Forum is leading on and how the NBF has identified the existence of the National Brownfield Skills Framework (NBSF) and how several schemes such as NQMS, GPVS, SILC and SoBRA already link to the NBSF.

LH explained that an expert group will be formed to scope up the skills and competencies needed from graduate to specialists for the different roles that work in the geo-environmental industry. This needs to be completed within 2 years. She acknowledged the geo-environmental industry is in a good place as it already has the NBSF and is not starting from scratch. Volunteer's details will be shared with the Ground Forum, and invites will come from them to start the mapping exercise.

The ultimate purpose is to ensure that only competent people will be able to sign off in the areas of their competencies. This is seen as a great opportunity for the geo-environmental sector to showcase the areas of expertise that they work in.

LH agreed to keep the NBF membership abreast of progress.

It was suggested as several NBF members were not familiar with the Building Safety Act and the related work on competency mapping, that a speaker could be invited to give an overview of the whole scheme and the skills mapping.

ACTION: LH/NH to invite a speaker to explain about the construction industry skills mapping exercise that is being carried out because of the Building Safety Act.

5. National Brownfield Forum – What Next poll results

LH thanked everyone who voted on the priorities of what the NBF should focus on in the coming years. She explained that members had voted in the following order of priorities:

- i. **Evaluate policy clarity** – Continue to identify key blockers to brownfield regeneration and actively work to reduce these and improve clarity and liaison with policy development (principal aim of the original parliamentary mandate).

- ii. **Investigate improved governance** - : Recognise and promote the importance of brownfield skills and the need to develop these in practitioners across all sectors. This links to the importance of protecting the environment and health and that this must be properly supported, and in public sectors properly funded. Help to develop a framework for effective regulation on brownfield regeneration, focusing on outcomes.
- iii. **Explore a parliamentary support group** - Brownfield and land contamination is a hot topic, and public awareness is ever increasing with some good and bad journalist reporting – parliament need facts to make evidence-based decisions and this needs to come from reliable sources with Brownfield expertise.
- iv. **Maintain a living evidence base for case studies on the NBF website**
Description: Develop a case study template based on the ones used in the report to allow continuous collection of case studies to assess progress or early identification of potential pinch issues. Work with CL:AIRE to host on the NBF webpage.

LH was pleased with the two top priority areas identified, as these are the areas that NBF members have already been asked to provide input on. LH will also discuss with Steve Edgar (deputy chair) about how to take the other priorities forward and will report back to the NBF membership at the next meeting.

It was acknowledged that items i and iv are linked and therefore the gathering of evidence is paramount to support identified blockers. Therefore, if NBF members can be encouraged to gather and send evidence through in a consistent way this can help government with policy initiatives. It is important to ensure that the evidence sent through can quantify the issue e.g. number of houses not built, additional costs incurred or lost due to delays etc. It was noted that positive and negative stories would be good to capture.

Darren Beriro (DB) offered to support LH and NH on this work as a continuation of the NBF task and finish report published last year.

ACTION: LH/NH/DB to draft up a template that can be uploaded onto the NBF website to start to gather evidence in a consistent way on potential issues that are seen by practitioners as key blockers to brownfield regeneration.

Item iii is harder to see how this can easily be taken forward at present as resources are very stretched. LH committed to writing to the House Magazine to raise the profile of the NBF as a starting point. DW also flagged that the OEP will reference the work of the NBF in its report which hopefully will also help to raise the profile of the NBF.

6. **NQMS Update**

LH explained that the NQMS steering group met recently where she shared the work about the skills mapping exercise driven by the Building Safety Act. One element is to look at the NBSF, how the current NQMS maps and the suitably qualified person's (SQP) skill requirement. In addition, it will be important to also look at the training activities that are available to help develop people from graduate to SQP. Finally, there will also be a requirement of regular reassessment to ensure that SQPs keep up to date with their skills and any updates to guidance. This is seen as an important step and will be in line with many other accreditation schemes that undertake a refresher test every few years.

The steering group discussed the extension of the role of the SQP in relation to permitting and the updating of the H5 guidance. The H5 guidance that is currently being updated by the Environment Agency will signpost to the SQP as a competent person. The NQMS steering group will be working with SiLC to ensure that those individuals that work in permitting are competent and have been assessed accordingly. SiLC will be working with NQMS steering group to look at potential changes that will need to be added to the NQMS online exam.

It is envisaged therefore that there will be SQP for planning and permitting and the NQMS register will reflect this. It is hoped that these changes will be able to be put in place for when the H5 guidance is released. In addition, there will be a separate declaration specifically for permitting that SQPs will be required to complete that will be slightly different to one that is currently purchased for land quality reports that support a planning application.

The NQMS steering group discussed changes to Environment Agency H5 guidance only and therefore relates to England only. NRW and SEPA equivalents may follow as it is essential that an SQP needs to understand the different regulatory aspects in each country and therefore it is anticipated the SQP will need to be assessed accordingly.

Post Meeting Update:

Summary of June Meeting is available to download here: [NQMS Meeting Summary June 2026](#)

7. Hot or emerging topics open session

The use of AI was discussed as an area of concern in the preparation of technical reports. There is concern that reports are being created by those from different disciplines and therefore these people are not competent in line with Land Contamination Risk Management (LCRM) and it is also unlikely to meet the requirement of competency when H5 is published. Local Authorities are starting to see reports prepared regularly that appear to be entirely produced by AI and this has been flagged as a risk to their planning colleagues.

AI was identified as a useful tool but should be kept as a tool.

It was acknowledged that the NQMS steering group also discussed the use of AI in the preparation of reports. It would be beneficial if the SQP could identify which parts of a report they are reviewing has been prepared by AI. It is also important to know how AI may have been used within the report.

SiLC identified that they have also discussed this, specific in relation to the examination process and this may lead to them reviewing their assessment process.

Geraint Williams (GW) shared a useful report on the use of AI prepared by the Academy of Experts: <https://taecdn.b-cdn.net/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/fs-26-01-AI.pdf>

It was suggested that perhaps a presentation on the use of AI could be given at an upcoming NBF meeting. LH agreed to think about who could potentially present on this subject.

ACTION: LH/NH to invite a speaker to discuss the use of AI in preparing technical reports.

It was acknowledged because of AI being used by those not competent, how important it is to demonstrate competency, so it is really timely to identify the competency of the geo-environmental industry in line with the Building Safety Act work.

8. Brownfield in media

LH confirmed to the NBF that brownfield has again been in the media. Here are the following news stories:

[Toxic for 100 years: the UK golf course built on chemical waste | Environment | The Guardian](#)
Golf course in cheshire now a children play area – historic landfill

[Investigation launched into Bradford illegal waste site - BBC News](#)
Bradford City Council working with EA

Jane Thrasher also flagged that PFAS has been in the press:

Upper Heyford PFAS

[Upper Heyford residents find chemicals 43k times water ...](#)
[Forever chemicals tests not done says site owner](#)
[Calls for government action on chemical pollution](#)
[MoD papers show chemicals washed down drain at base](#)

Solent -

[Stronger regulation calls as forever chemicals found in Solent](#)

TFA

ECHA classification that TFA is toxic to reproduction (Category 1B), concluding it "may damage the unborn child" and is "suspected of damaging fertility"

https://echa.europa.eu/documents/d/quest/rac77_final_minutes_en

[Confirmed: ECHA classifies TFA as highly hazardous to ...](#)

Global impacts

<https://www.discoverwildlife.com/environment/raining-forever-chemicals>

[It's now raining 'Forever Chemicals' – and it might never ...](#)

<https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1029/2025GL119216>

PFAS generally

Government Response to PFAS Environmental Audit Committee Report

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm5902/cmselect/cmenvaud/519/report.html>

9. Standards

Nicola Harries (NH) shared the update that Mike Smith kindly provided outlining the new standards that are in preparation or out for consultation. Sincere thanks were given to Mike Smith for collating and sharing this information. Full details are available to download here: [Standards Update](#).

NH also explained following the last NBF meeting that she had written to Mike Smith asking about the high costs of the British Standards and that they were prohibitively expensive for local authorities and SME businesses to access and whether there was an alternative mechanism for them to access them free of charge or at reduced rates? He had acknowledged the high costs of the standards, but this is due to the cost model that British Standards Institute (BSI) follows and that funding has been significantly cut by government, so this is their only source of funding.

It was requested that the NBF approach BSI to consider providing access to local authorities the key pieces of guidance free of charge. GW is on BSI EH4 committee and is happy to raise the issue on behalf of the NBF.

Sally Shaw confirmed that NCLOG has also been discussing this issue.

ACTION: GW offered to raise the question at the next British Standards EH4 committee meeting about making the British Standards free of charge for local authorities.

10. AOB

No AOBs were raised so LH brought the meeting to a close and thanked everyone for attending.

11. Date of next meeting

NH confirmed that the next meeting is 25 November 2026 at 11am.

APPENDIX 1 - Industry and Local Authority Fora updates

Association of Geotechnical & Geoenvironmental Specialists AGS)

Recent successes of the Working Group:

The AGS Contaminated Land Working Group (CLWG) held a virtual meeting on 25 June 2026, attended by 26 members. During the meeting, Jon Ball (Roger Bullivant) delivered a presentation on the practical application of the CL:AIRE guidance document 'Piling and Penetrative Ground Improvement Methods on Land Affected by Contamination'.

AGS continues to support the dissemination of technical knowledge across the industry through contributions to the AGS Magazine, including the following recent articles:

- [1,2,4-Triazole as Model Polar Contaminants - Rethinking Environmental Fate Through Molecular Interactions.](#)
- [Sustainable Soil Management - how to turn Cinderella into a Princess](#)
- [SiLC's Leadership for a New Era](#)

The main topics / projects the Working Group are currently working on:

- Continued involvement in C4SL Phase 2 project.
- Monitoring and contributing to the development of key standards including BS 8576, BS10177 and revision of EN 12457 series.
- Publication of 'PFAS Analysis – The Numbers Alone Are Not Enough' in the July edition of AGS Magazine.
- Development of a further PFAS-focused article by Geraint Williams and Paul Nathanail.
- Preparation of an article titled 'Overview of Pesticide Use on Agricultural Land and Human Health Risk Assessment', scheduled for publication in the September edition of AGS Magazine.
- Development of a new article exploring the application of Artificial Intelligence within the sector, to be authored by Paul Nathanail.
- Collaboration with the AGS Laboratories Working Group to establish alignment on PFAS CAS numbers.

Wider AGS Initiatives

- Development of a carbon calculator for site investigations by the Sustainability Working Group.
- The Safety Working revised its 'Client Guide for Ground Investigation Activities – Trial Pitting'.
- Planning and development of the future release of AGS 5 by the Data Management Working Group.
- Continued collaboration with industry organisations, including GAOF, Geol Soc, IStructE, BDA and FPS, helping to promote consistency and best practice across the sector.
- Ongoing review and refinement of AGS business and marketing strategies.
- AGS delivered a webinar on [Individual Competence - Understanding How Government Reforms will Affect You and Our Industry](#). A recording is available at the AGS website.
- Continuing promotion of the AGS Development Fund, which supports industry initiatives, including the updating of the former Department of the Environment Contaminated Land Profiles. Efforts are underway to increase awareness and encourage further applications.

Upcoming Events

[Introduction to XRF in Contaminated Land Investigations and the Principles of Pavement Design](#)

16 July at 11:00

This webinar forms part of the AGS Early Careers Webinar Series and is aimed at professionals seeking to broaden their understanding of site investigation technologies and pavement engineering principles.

[The Changing Landscape of Land Contamination](#)

15 October in Birmingham

This event brings together industry professionals to discuss emerging challenges, technical developments and future opportunities.

British Geological Survey

New Northern Ireland groundwater resources map

The Geological Survey of Northern Ireland have recently published a new groundwater resources map which can be downloaded at

<https://gsni-data.bgs.ac.uk/geonetwork/srv/eng/catalog.search#/home>.

This map is the result of a ten year exercise to collate groundwater information across the province to provide practitioners with accurate data to use within their own projects. The map shows areas that can be explored to abstract groundwater resources for any development from domestic to industrial scale and highlights restrictions such as groundwater dependant sites, existing abstractions and groundwater bodies that are at poor quantitative status.

Common Ground project

BGS is leading a new project funded by Government Office for Technology Transfer (GOTT) to develop and release a national scale geotechnical data service by summer 2027.

BGS engagement in SoBRA bioaccessibility subgroup

BGS is supporting a SoBRA subgroup and its development of a new bioaccessibility guidance document. The project and its volunteers held a productive kick off meeting in June.

Response to NPPF consultation

BGS submitted its response to MHCLG's consultation on the revised National Planning Policy Framework in March 2026.

Research Paper Publication

Assessment of diffusive gradients in thin films (DGT) for bioaccessible copper measurements in environmental water samples

(<https://doi.org/10.1080/02757540.2026.2675523>)

This published study highlights the value of passive samplers for measuring bioaccessible copper, a useful proxy for the bioavailable fraction of copper in water. This is the fraction most likely responsible for ecological effects in aquatic environments and can provide a more realistic representation of environmental risk than dissolved copper measurements alone, since dissolved copper may be bound to ligands or other constituents that reduce its bioavailability. Link with industry: Cambridge Environmental Assessments, part of RSK ADAS Ltd.

CIRIA

PFAS

CIRIA virtual PFAS conference 16 July 2026 https://www.ciria.org/CIRIA/Navigation/Events/Event_Display.aspx?EventKey=E26106

A PFAS client's guide – we are looking for case studies

Soil

Soil Decision Making Guidance: incorporating soil functions throughout the project lifecycle

Soil Community of Practice - we held an open stake holder meeting in June. There are also new case studies, list of soil definitions posted on www.ciria.org/SOILCOP/.

Other projects

A guide for managing microplastics in construction projects

A guide for redeveloping challenging sites

CL:AIRE

Projects/initiatives/publications (listed alphabetically)

Aggregates from Inert Wastes Quality Protocol

CL:AIRE is continuing to work collaboratively with the Environment Agency on the revised Aggregates Resource Framework.

Asbestos in Air Monitoring on Brownfield Sites Guidance

CL:AIRE is working on an industry guide on asbestos in air monitoring. The scope of this Technical Guidance Note (TGN) aims at closing the gap of understanding and practice in respect of airborne asbestos fibre monitoring outdoors, before and during brownfield development, and monitoring inside buildings during and after asbestos removal works.

Category 4 Screening Levels Project (C4SL)

Trimethylbenzene and MTBE are likely to be the next two C4SL reports published.

DoW CoP/Soil Passport Scheme

CL:AIRE continues to work collaboratively with the Environment Agency on an updated version.

DoWCoP/Soil Passport Scheme International

CL:AIRE is looking at opportunities to promote the DoWCoP scheme outside of England and Wales and more broadly internationally.

Gas Protection Verification Accreditation Scheme (GPVS)

The Spring 2026 assessments have now finished. Following interview all 4 TGPVs were successful. There are now 18 SGPVs and 26 TGPVs on the registers. Auditing for 2025 has now started.

Good Practice Guidance for Independent Verification of Structural Waterproofing and Gas Protection

CL:AIRE has started working on a joint industry guidance document with the Property Care Association (PCA) on verification of waterproofing and gas protection systems. A first draft document has been circulated for feedback to key industry groups.

Industry Profiles (Phase 2)

This six-month project ended in March 2026 with publication of 15 updated web-based DoE industry profiles. The project was funded by the Environment Agency, Natural Resources Wales and AGS. An article will appear in the summer AGS magazine and a presentation will be given at the AGS conference in October. Discussions on funding further phases of this project for the remaining 32 profiles are ongoing.

Legacy wastes in the coastal zone

The bulletin summarising the key messages of this research project was published in CL:AIRE's April eAlert.

National Brownfield Forum (NBF) & National Quality Mark Scheme (NQMS)

CL:AIRE continues to provide secretariat support for the NBF and NQMS.

PFAS Lines of Evidence Approach Project

Although this project ended in December 2025, publication of the outputs has been delayed. It is expected that materials will be published in summer 2026.

PFAS Site Profiles Project

Similar to the previous project, although it ended in February 2026, the go-ahead to publish 13 PFAS site profiles is anticipated summer 2026.

PRB and Soil Stabilisation Guidance for PFAS

This six-month Environment Agency project ended in March 2026. Arcadis was the subcontractor and the guidance documents are currently being reviewed by the Environment Agency with an anticipated late summer 2026 publication.

SoBRA

CL:AIRE is working with SoBRA to provide the secretariat of their accreditation scheme.

Sustainable Management Practices Project

CL:AIRE has been working with the Energy Institute on a Sustainable Management Practices (SMP) project. This has recently finished and will be published later this year by the Energy Institute. A CL:AIRE bulletin will be prepared to summarise the report.

Sustainable Remediation

The SuRF-UK steering group plans to work with RemSoc to demonstrate how the SuRF-UK Sustainable Management Practices are being implemented.

The International Sustainable Remediation Alliance (ISRA) met in early June 2026 where the focus was discussing SustRem 2027 - an international conference being hosted by ECOFORUM 2027.

Training and events

The following training courses are currently being run:

- Asbestos in Soil and Construction & Demolition Materials CAR-SOIL™ – classroom
- Definition of Waste Code of Practice (DoW CoP) – classroom
- Good Practice for Risk Assessment for Coal Mine Gas Emissions – virtual

- Ground Gas Risk Assessment - More Than Calculating a GSV – classroom
- Ground Gas Protection Verification - virtual
- Groundwater Monitoring & Sampling – classroom
- Introduction to Controlled Waters Detailed Quantitative Risk Assessment – classroom
- Introduction to Human Health Quantitative Risk Assessment – classroom
- Non-Licensed Work including NNLW - for Land Professionals – classroom
- Piling and ground improvement on land affected by contamination - Effective Foundation Works Risk Assessment - virtual
- Practical Aspects of Ground Gas, Vapour and Water Monitoring & Sampling – classroom
- Statistics for Land Contamination – virtual
- Principles and Practice of Sustainable Remediation – classroom
- Developing Advanced Conceptual Models for Contaminated Sites – virtual
- Managing Contaminated Sites using MNA & NSZD – virtual
- Soil and Groundwater Risk Assessment – eLearning
- Sustainable Remediation – eLearning
- Introduction to Brownfield Site Investigation – eLearning
- Asbestos Awareness for Land Professionals – Full & Refresher – eLearning

CL:AIRE is involved in the following Conferences and Events:

- Environmental Services & Solutions Expo 16-17 September 2026 (Birmingham, UK)
- RemTech Europe, 14-18 September 2026 (Ferrara, Italy)
- Sustainathon, 25 - 26 September 2026 (online)
- CL:AIRE Members' Networking Evening, 15 October 2026 (Leeds, UK)

Environmental Industries Commission (EIC)

April 2026

- ACE/EIC submitted [a response to the Environmental Audit Committee's call for evidence](#) on the risks and opportunities to the sustainability of data centres in the UK. In our response, we highlighted the importance of strategic planning and the potential to prioritise brownfield land for data centre development.
- EIC, represented by Policy Director, Marie-Claude Hemming, [attended the first meeting of Defra's Development Industry Council](#). The meeting was opened by Nature Minister Mary Creagh, and members were invited to share views on regulatory barriers to development.

May 2026

- On 6 May 2026, the EIC Contaminated Land Group met to discuss the PFAS Plan and PFAS management. The meeting was a roundtable with the following speakers:
 - Ruth Hailay-Michael, Senior Policy Advisor, Emerging Chemicals Issues, Defra
 - Angela Haslam, Senior Advisor, National Land & Contamination Management Team, Environment Agency
 - Nicholas Adjei, Deputy Chief Inspector at the Drinking Water Inspectorate
- EIC responded to the [River basin planning: Significant water management issues consultation](#). In our response, we called for the promotion of the redevelopment of brownfield sites to address historical contamination and tackle pollution in urban areas.
- ACE/EIC responded to the Environmental Audit Committee's [Call for Evidence on the role of HM Treasury and the economics of climate and nature](#). In response to a question on HM Treasury's effectiveness in mobilising private finance in support of climate and nature outcomes, we expressed concerns about the intent to introduce further exemptions to the BNG policy, most recently for brownfield residential development.

June 2026

- ACE/EIC submitted a response to the [BNG consultation on a targeted exemption for residential brownfield development](#). In our response, we expressed concerns about the potential impact of this new exemption on housing quality, biodiversity and nature markets. We questioned the need for this exemption as many brownfield sites have no, or minimal, habitat value. We suggested the Government choose a different approach to enable development on brownfield sites, including (but not limited to) introducing a targeted exemption for sites with contaminated land, such as old landfills.
- On 3 June 2026, EIC launched its Three-Point Plan for Nature at the annual EIC Parliamentary Reception. The Plan calls for the recognition of nature as infrastructure, its delivery across government and for its economic value to be evidenced with clear data. The

Plan will form the basis of an upcoming ACE Environmental Manifesto, to be launched in 2027.

Institution of Environmental Sciences (IES)

Recent activities for the IES Land Condition Community include:

- IES Land Condition Community has held several recent webinars/has some upcoming:
 - Innovative Geosynthetic Solutions for Brownfield Remediation – past event
 - No pilot trial – no problem: Data Led Remediation in Fractured Bedrock – past event
 - [Air quality monitoring on contaminated land sites](#) – 6th July
 - [Recharge and soil moisture dynamics: Improving groundwater models and geohazard assessments](#) – 20th July
 - [Soil resource management plans](#) – 24th July
- Holding its [Dialogue Between Disciplines](#) conference on 22nd September, where we will be launching our toolkit for interdisciplinary, collaborative working developed in partnership with ACCESS.
- The next Land Condition Symposium will be taking place in Reading on the 10th March 2027.
- Have launched a working group looking at resourcing the sector - is keen to know what others are doing in the STEM engagement space.
- Will be attending the ESS expo - keen to know what opportunities for networking there may be.
- Have been doing a lot of work on PFAS - has an upcoming article coming out on PFAS emissions to air and will be holding a panel discussion on PFAS in land, air and water (date tbc).
- Submitted a response to the DAERA consultation on rethinking our resources.

National Contaminated Land Officers Group (NCLOG)

NCLOG held their AGM in June with the theme of Planning and welcomed Robbie Calvert from the RTPI to provide the keynote speech. The event also saw the launch of the [Framework Planning Conditions](#) and Ann Barker stepping down as co-chair with Anthony McNicol from Stoke to take on the role. NCLOG have held several webinars recently on Climate Change (the geo-environmental aspects of CIRIA C824), the first of three ground gas webinars with GGS and a joint webinar on air quality monitoring on contaminated land sites with the Land Condition Community. We have been developing our Regional Forum of local officer groups with regular meetings and a TEAMS channel providing further opportunities to share positive practice and support to our members.

Royal institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)

RICS Industry monitor surveys

In the RICS Economy and Property Market Update May 2026 expectations for growth this year have been halved, reflecting the recent spike in energy prices and the anticipated second-round effects. There are already signs that this shift in sentiment is feeding through to real estate markets, with development projections for the next twelve months being scaled back. Energy shock leads to downgrading of economic growth outlook

More specific commentary is included in the RICS UK Construction Monitor Q1 May 2026. Whilst official data on construction output points to a broadly flat trend at present the RICS Monitor provides industry evidence suggesting that a more cautious interpretation may be warranted. Unsurprisingly, the latest results are more downbeat, primarily reflecting concerns linked to the conflict in the Middle East. The deterioration is most pronounced in private housing, aligning with recent trading statements and results from major housebuilders. By contrast, infrastructure and other public works continue to demonstrate greater resilience. This represents a material reversal compared with the gradual improvement seen in recent quarters and is consistent with respondent commentary pointing to concerns over interest rate expectations, inflation and wider financial uncertainty stemming from

the Middle East conflict. Consistent with this, financial constraints are now cited as an obstacle to activity by 66% of respondents, up from 60% in Q4, making this the most widely flagged issue. Planning and regulation remain the next most cited, referenced by 63% of respondents. Forward-looking expectations have softened meaningfully compared with Q4. The slowdown was seen across all sectors. Infrastructure continues to lead the outlook, with the twelve-month expectations reading for this sector holding at +19% (down from +32%), reinforcing its role as the key growth driver over the year ahead even as momentum moderates. Profit margin expectations deteriorated sharply, with the net balance falling to -27% (from -12%). This reflects the pick-up in cost pressures. Indeed, tender prices are now expected to rise by around 5.6% over the next year (up from 4.4% in Q4), while construction costs are projected to increase by 6.6% (up from 5.0%). Within this, material costs are expected to rise by 7.5% (up from 5.3%) and skilled and unskilled labour cost by 5.3% and 4.2% respectively (broadly stable compared to 2025 Q4).

NPPF Consultation

A central theme of the RICS March submission is the need to maintain the business case for development. Rising policy costs, higher build costs and fragile market conditions mean that viability remains a significant concern. In its response, RICS caution against over-reliance on broad, plan-stage viability assessments, noting that site-specific viability testing remains essential to ensure development can proceed without slowing down housing delivery. RICS supports the Government's digital transformation agenda and emphasises the central role that high-quality geospatial data plays in supporting a faster planning system. Modernising data infrastructure will be vital to deliver effective plan-making and long-term spatial strategies. The response also highlights the need for realistic implementation timelines. Local authorities already face significant resource pressures, and transitional arrangements risk delaying the delivery of new homes. Clearer guidance on cross-boundary cooperation, infrastructure alignment and minerals supply is essential to avoid bottlenecks.

RICS sectoral Conferences

RICS has also been busy organising sectoral annual Conferences bringing together surveyors, advisors, policymakers & other industry stakeholders for timely updates on the issues shaping the future of the Minerals and Waste sector; the Rural sector, and Planning and Development in the UK. In particular the Minerals & Waste Management Conference in April 2026 took place at a pivotal moment for resource security, planning reform and environmental policy, and the conference provided practical insight and strategic perspective on the evolving legal, fiscal and market landscape and explored how regulatory change, planning policy and economic pressures are influencing operational risk, investment decisions and long-term site strategy.

The Planning & Development Conference in September will have a key focus on delivery – examining governance structures, funding mechanisms, and implementation models for large-scale developments and new communities. Sessions will also highlight innovative ways to unlock stalled or underutilised sites, giving delegates practical strategies to apply in their work. Policy and regulation remain central, with opportunities to evaluate key frameworks such as Greenbelt and Greybelt policy and assessing development viability using national methodologies. Legal updates will also clarify recent legislative changes and their impact on planning and development practice.

Specialist in Land Condition (SiLC)

The Chair of the SiLC Professional and Technical Panel (PTP) is Lucy Bethell and Carrie Rose is Deputy Chair. Tom Henman took over Chair of the SiLC Board in January 2026, and Louise Beale is now its Deputy Chair. The PTP includes organisational and technical representatives from the constituent professional bodies and AGS, as well as a small number of co-opted members. Freddie Kennedy has been appointed as the Newly Qualified SiLC representative.

The SiLC PTP met (virtually) on 9th June 2026. There are currently 204 SiLCs and 180 SQPs. The 2026A application round (8 candidates) resulted in 7 candidates going to interview stage and 4 candidates being successful. Ten SiLCs have not renewed their membership for 2026 due to change in industry or retirement. An Introduction meeting was held on 23rd June 2026 with 4 prospective applicants.

Other current areas of SiLC activity include:

The **SiLC 2026 Annual Forum** took place on 26th March chaired by Louise Beale. The theme was centred around the themes of "Air, Land and Water". There were 135 attendees many of which were from local authorities.

We had a range of speakers from consultant, contractor, academic, laboratory and regulator backgrounds.

- Emma Evans talked about her experience on a project where high-quality work completed by competent teams enabled regeneration of a site with complex land and air quality issues.
- Professor Claire Holman discussed why the new IAQM Guidance was needed to promote good practice for monitoring and managing air quality during the remediation of post-industrial brownfield sites, particularly former gasworks sites.
- Paul Nathanail hosted a lively discussion with remediation contractors Neil Hopkins and Joe Jackson on the things that delight them and the things that fill them with dread that we should avoid.
- Paul also talked through regulatory lessons learnt on a recent case which centred on whether smoke could be a substance under Part 2A.
- Marie Armstrong and George Hannon of Element (laboratory) talked about differences in PFAS sampling of emissions and ambient air and EA prescribed laboratory testing methods.
- David Carr hosted a panel discussion with Local Authority representatives from across the UK considering the value of multiple disciplines working together.
- Helen McMillan discussed the 2026 update of SOBRA's controlled waters and climate change guidance.
- Judith Nathanail's talk which looked to the future by presenting open-source tools and datasets she uses when investigating groundwater pollution focusing on PFAS had to unfortunately be cut short due to technical issues.

The review of the SiLC **application and assessment process** is ongoing. This includes developing an approach for AI use in assessments.

SiLC are running a **webinar** on 1st July by Paul Nathaniel on "Asbestos in Soil – It's a different world but with overlapping guidance.

SiLC will be attending the **CLR Expo** in September with several SiLCs speaking on the Keynote Stage and SiLC will host a networking event as in 2025.

Further webinars are planned for October (a Panel discussion with representatives from the EA, SEPA and NRW on "Exploring the pros and cons of confrontation, collaboration and cooperation between Practitioner, Regulator and Public". A webinar is being planned for January 2027 on "Demystifying PFAS source differentiation".

NQMS steering group meeting attended by Carrie Rose in March.

SiLC continues to run the following **subgroups**:

- Climate Change & Sustainability
- Soils and Material Reuse

Society of Brownfield Risk Assessment (SoBRA)

Conferences/Events

Early Careers Interactive Summer Workshop – Developing and Refining a CSM. To be hosted on 8th July 2026 at WSP's Birmingham office. 36 spaces available. *****SOLD OUT*****

The RSC Toxicology Group / SoBRA joint Winter Conference (and SoBRA AGM) is scheduled for Tuesday 8 December 2026 at Burlington House, London, and online.

Sub-groups

The active sub-groups are:

- NAPL
- Ground Gases (with a radon working group)
- Early Careers
- Vapours
- Bioaccessibility – new for 2026

(Controlled waters and climate change is now dormant.)

Publications

No new publications. Details of all recent publications are available at [SoBRA Reports](#).

Accreditation scheme

The administration of the scheme is being carried out by CL:AIRE.

The first 2026 window was open during February. Seven applications were received. Five applicants were successful for RSoBRA and one for ASoBRA. We have 621 current members. 116 are accredited, of which 51 are ASoBRA for one or more disciplines. Next window will be open in August 2026.

Other activities/events

The early careers sub-group are organising another series of freely available webinars for 2026. To date:

- Applying Statistical Good Practice in Contaminated Land Assessment: 24th March

Upcoming:

- Dos and Don'ts in Ground Gas Assessment: September (date TBC)
- Assessing risks to surface water receptors using the MBAT and Lead Screening tool: November (date TBC)

Further webinars, to be confirmed. Access to and details of all the previous webinar recordings can be found here <https://sobra.org.uk/resources/early-careers-webinars/>

United Kingdom Environmental Law Association (UKELA)

UKELA Annual Conference 2026

This year's Annual Conference was held from 16th to 20th June 2026, with in person events taking place at Warwick University on 19th and 20th June.

Plenary sessions and keynote addresses included:

- Water Resources in 2026 – problems and solutions
- Rights of Nature: Do we need them and what does it mean to be human in a time of ecological crisis?
- Balancing Net Zero ambitions and nature recovery
- New Towns: Implications for the Environment
- The Rise of Group Litigation
- International opinions and their application to the UK; and
- the annual caselaw update

Working groups held sessions included:

- Nature Conservation: How will Environmental Delivery Plans Deliver?
- Waste and Circular Economy: Dragons Den, in which members of the Environmental Business Network presented their elevator pitches, addressing the environmental law challenges they face.
- Noise and Nuisance: Land Use Planning and Nuisance – conflict or consensus?
- Environmental Litigation group: Environmental Harm in Armed Conflict - Environmental Harm and the Search for Global Justice
- Water Group: Holding Back the Water – Flooding and Flood Risk Management
- Governance and Devolution Group: Environmental Law Aspects of an EU-UK reset

Upcoming events:

Norfolk Coastwise event with UKELA East – 25th September 2026

Coastwise and UKELA East are inviting UKELA members to come to the North Norfolk coast to visit an area where coastal erosion is a challenge and to learn about some of the solutions which are being taken forward. In-person / North Norfolk. Timings: tbc

Careers evening – 9th November 2026

Join us for our careers evening on training and working in environmental law. In person/ London. Timing: 5pm to 6.30pm

For more details and to book, please see UKELA's website.

West and East London Land Contamination Officer's Group (WELLCOG)

WELLCOG met on the 30th April 2026 (37 officers in attendance) and has the following update:

- Sarah Hughes of Regenisis spoke on the 'Remediation of Hydrocarbon Contamination' – very well received by all.
- Have been liaising with the EA regarding the Land Remediation Pathfinder Grant Scheme and Local Authority Support Strand Scheme.
- Generally limited updates from officers and the EA. LB Hammersmith and Fulham raised concerns and generated a discussion around large scale coordinated fly tipping.
- Congratulated Nick Marks (Newham) on his coming retirement. Nick has been a well-known figure in the local government land contamination sector in London for many years and so will be missed.
- Reported back on the March NBF meeting.

Yorkshire and Lincolnshire Pollution Advisory Group (YALPAG)

YALPAG's Land Technical Group meet twice a year with the last meeting was held on 11 March 2026. The YALPAG guidance documents continue to be reviewed and updated as and when necessary. The Verification Requirements for Cover Systems (Version 4.1) was issued in June 2021 and is due for review. The Planning guidance was reviewed, updated and issued in July 2023 and it is now anticipated that work will start on updating this document perhaps next year. The Verification Requirements for Gas Protection Systems guidance is currently in the process of being reviewed and updated.