

Vale Royal Borough Council

Local Authority Good Practice in Management of Contaminated Land

Graham Aveyard
Environmental Protection Manager
Vale Royal Borough Council



Why Us?

- Contact / Communication with the Health Services
- Experience as an Environmental Investigator
- Local knowledge
- Knowledge of Local Health Impact issues
- Contaminated Land regulators
- Problem solvers



Addressing Health Concerns Childhood Clinical Lead Poisoning

Information

- Family including 4 yr old autistic male
- Son Clinical Lead Poisoning
- Daughter & Father Blood leads exceed the target intervention levels contained in EA Lead TOX Reports and SGV
- Mother normal ranges of lead in blood

Investigations

Environmental exposure routes

- Water
- Paint
- Soils



Investigations

Behavioural Factors

- Son autistic and had 'pica' habits
- Including eating garden soils by the spoonful
- Daughter and Father played / worked in the garden
- Mother stripped the household paintwork (unaffected)

Investigations

- No known historic contaminative land use
- Investigations of garden area
- Soil investigations widened
- Local factors discovered
- Potential source identified (Imported materials)



Contaminated Land legislative impact

- SPOSH
 - Imminent Risk?
 - Hardship?
- = Local Authority Responsibility

Solution and Mitigation

- Home Improvement Grant means test
- Disabled Grant Aid
- Remediation via soil removal
- Careful Replacement!
- Inert infill verification
- Routine follow up checks with paediatricians

Why Us?

- Contact / Communication with the Health Services
- Experience as an Environmental Investigator
- Local knowledge
- Knowledge of Local Health Impact issues
- Contaminated Land regulators
- Problem solvers



So That Was Easy! What About Waste? Oakmere “Polo Ground”

- A former mixed landfill (actively gassing)
 - Potential effects on existing landfill gas migration
- Proposal to develop part of it as a polo ground
- Has planning permission (with conditions)
- Proposal involves many tonnes of “inert” wastes
 - (exempted Aggregates Protocol)
 - EA little involvement in control

Oakmere “Polo Ground”

- Concern about on and off site implications.
- LA regulation difficulties, planning conditions
- Wholesale importation of ‘wastes’ being replicated throughout the UK
 - Effectively a new waste disposal business
 - Profit incentive
 - E.g. Profiling / landscaping golf courses etc
- Polo club have now relinquished any involvement in the site

Thank you

Graham Aveyard,
Vale Royal Borough Council
gaveyard@valeroyal.gov.uk