

CONTAMINATED LAND STRATEGY

Executive Summary

In November 2018 the Executive approved the Council's Draft Contaminated Land Strategy be subjected to technical consultation with key external stakeholders. The Contaminated Land Officer undertook the technical consultation.

The Contaminated Land Officer received five responses to the technical consultation.

Based on these responses a few minor modifications to the Strategy have been included in the final version that is presented as Appendix A.

The final Strategy is now proposed to run from 2019-2024 rather than 2018-2023.

Recommendations

The Executive is requested to:

RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL That

the Contaminated Land Strategy (2019-2024), attached at Appendix A to the report, be approved.

Reasons for Decision

Reason: To ensure compliance with the Council's obligations as set out in the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and accompanying statutory guidance.

The item above will need to be dealt with by way of a recommendation to Council.

Background Papers: None.

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Contaminated Land Strategy

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 In November 2018 the Executive approved the Council's Draft Contaminated Land Strategy for a technical consultation with key external stakeholders.
- 1.2 The Contaminated Land Officer undertook the technical consultation with key external stakeholders, as listed in Appendix B, over a six week period ending on 8 February 2019.

2.0 Consultation Responses

- 2.1 Five responses were received during the consultation period. Two of the responses had no specific comments to make and three of the responses made comments which resulted in modifications to the Contaminated Land Strategy. The modifications are as follows:
 - Section 2.5 changed Bagshot and Bracklesham & Barton Beds to read "Bagshot, Windlesham and Camberley Sand Formations" on page 5.
 - Section 5.6 amended English Nature to read 'Natural England' on page 13.
 - Section 5.10.2 changed reference to the NPPF to the recently updated paragraph references on page 15.
 - Section 5.10.2 added reference to "water samples" on page 16.
 - Section 5.12 added "nor has any land been designated as a Special Site" to page 17.
 - Section 6.2.1 removed the word 'former' on page 19'.
- 2.2 Once approved the Contaminated Land Strategy will be published on the Council's website together with a register of designated contaminated land sites within the Borough (there are no entries on the register at present).

3.0 Project Cost and Benefit

- 3.1 The Contaminated Land Strategy is required to be produced and updated as deemed necessary, usually every 5 years at least.
- 3.2 The Strategy provides environmental and social benefits and also clearly states the Council policy and direction. Incorporating a hardship and cost recovery policy within the Strategy adds further benefit to the Council by safeguarding potential financial liabilities associated with contaminated land related investigatory work.
- 3.3 The financial cost of renewing and updating the Strategy is officer and management time in preparing and reviewing and ultimately publishing the documentation.

4.0 Implications

Financial

- 4.1 By fulfilling the recommendations it is not anticipated any further expense other than officer time will be encountered.

Human Resource/Training and Development

- 4.2 No specific requirements.

Community Safety

- 4.3 There are no community safety related issues arising from this report.

Risk Management

- 4.4 Risks are minimised as far as reasonable practicable by the Strategy. The incorporation of a hardship and cost recovery strategy seeks to minimise financial risk to the Council as far as is reasonably practicable.

Sustainability

- 4.5 The Strategy promotes the investigation, assessment and remediation of land and groundwater in the Borough so that it will continue to improve and enhance the natural and built environment, whilst bringing back brownfield land into beneficial use.

Equalities

- 4.6 There are no adverse equality issues relating to this project.

Safeguarding

- 4.7 There are no foreseen adverse safeguarding issues associated with the project.

5.0 Consultations

- 5.1 Technical consultation with key external stakeholders, as listed in Appendix B, over a six week period ending on 8 February 2019.

REPORT ENDS