

Reading International Business Park

Non-technical summary of RSK: Supplementary Ground Investigation report 252590-01 (00)

1.1 Commissioning

RSK Environment Limited (RSK) was commissioned by Barnwood Construction Limited to carry out supplementary investigation works relating to a mound of material at Reading International Business Park, Basingstoke Road, Reading, RG2 0TD.

1.2 Existing Reports

The site has been subject to previous investigation and assessment works, as detailed within the following reports:

- RSK, Geoenvironmental and Geotechnical Site Investigation: Reading International Business Park, report ref.: 314168-01 (00), February 2019; and
- RSK, Supplementary Geoenvironmental Assessment: Reading International Business Park, report ref.: 252350-01 (00), June 2020

1.3 Scope of Works

The scope of works for the assessment included the following:

- design and implementation of an intrusive investigation, in situ testing, soil sampling, laboratory geo-environmental and geotechnical testing
- interpretation of data to develop a refined conceptual site model (CSM)
- generic quantitative risk assessment (GQRA) of relevant contaminant linkages
- interpretation of ground conditions and geotechnical data to provide preliminary recommendations with respect to reuse of material
- preliminary assessment of the potential waste classification
- preparation of a interpretative report.

1.4 Ground Conditions Encountered

The exploratory holes undertaken within the mound recorded made ground materials of a variable composition and thickness. The mound was underlain by natural soils associated with the London Clay Formation.

1.4.1 Made Ground

The made ground generally comprised various soils including variably sandy gravelly clays, gravelly sand and variably sandy clayey gravels. Anthropogenic gravels within these soils included brick, concrete, timber, rebar, plastic and wires.

Organic odours were noted within the made ground in all trial pits with the exception of TP04.

No visual evidence of the presence of asbestos was observed.

A summary of the in-situ and laboratory test results recorded in the stratum are presented in the report.

1.4.2 London Clay Formation

Trial pits were progressed through the entire thickness of the made ground within the mound, into the in-situ London Clay Formation present below.

The trial pits were terminated once the in-situ London Clay Formation was identified. The soils encountered comprised soft to firm clays with a low gravel content with gravels present comprising chalk and flint.

1.5 Groundwater

Groundwater was not encountered during the investigation works.

1.6 Geo-environmental assessment

Based on the results of the site investigation and chemical testing undertaken, the made ground soil stockpiled on site has been determined not to pose a risk to human health within a proposed commercial end-use or controlled waters and its re-use on a commercial end-use site will not result in the formation of a pollutant linkage assuming that the wood fragments noted below are segregated from the material.

It is therefore recommended that if the material is reused that the wood fragments be segregated from the material prior to reuse.

Following HASWASTE assessment of the chemical testing results, it has been determined that the soils on site are not classifiable as hazardous waste. Further testing is required to determine if the soils can be disposed of as inert waste or non-hazardous waste.

1.7 Geotechnical assessment

Based on the results of the BRE testing of the soils on site, the recommended ACEC classification is AC-1s based on static groundwater and AC-2 based on mobile groundwater, with a Design Sulphate Class of DS-2.