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Wrexham County Borough Council
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21/10/2019

For the attention of Philip Forster

Dear Philip,

**BWRIAD / PROPOSAL: EXTENSION TO EXISTING SCHOOL AND
ASSOCIATED WORKS**

**LLEOLIAD / LOCATION: Ysgol Bro Alun, Delamere Avenue, Gwersyllt,
Wrexham**

Thank you for consulting Natural Resources Wales (NRW) about the above, which was received on 03/10/2019.

We recommend that you should only grant planning permission if you attach the following conditions (see Contaminated Land section below for detail of the conditions). These conditions would address significant concerns that we have identified and we would not object provided you attach them to the planning permission.

Contaminated Land

The site is located on a historical landfill site which operated between 1973 to 1984 taking a variety of waste types during its operation. We therefore consider the risk to controlled water to be high and request the following suite of conditions. We assume for the existing school development that this work should have been

undertaken and therefore request that these reports are submitted for review, if not we require a preliminary risk assessment as a minimum to support this application.

Please note our records state that the landfill has a gassing potential – this should be highlighted to the Environmental Health Department at the local authority as this will be a human health issue for them to comment on.

Condition 1: No development, shall commence until the following components of a scheme to deal with the risks associated with contamination at the site, has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

1. A preliminary risk assessment which has identified:
 - all previous uses
 - potential contaminants associated with those uses
 - a conceptual model of the site indicating sources, pathways and receptors
 - potentially unacceptable risks arising from contamination at the site
2. A site investigation scheme, based on (1) to provide information for a detailed assessment of the risk to all receptors that may be affected, including those off site.
3. The results of the site investigation and the detailed risk assessment referred to in (2) and, based on these, an options appraisal and remediation strategy giving full details of the remediation measures required and how they are to be undertaken.
4. A verification plan providing details of the data that will be collected in order to demonstrate that the works set out in the remediation strategy in (3) are complete and identifying any requirements for longer-term monitoring of pollutant linkages, maintenance and arrangements for contingency action.

The remediation strategy and its relevant components shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Justification: To ensure the risks associated with contamination at the site have been fully considered prior to commencement of development as controlled waters are of high environmental sensitivity; and where necessary remediation measures and long-term monitoring are implemented to prevent unacceptable risks from contamination.

Condition 2: Prior to the occupation of the development a verification report demonstrating completion of works set out in the approved remediation strategy and the effectiveness of the remediation shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The report shall include results of sampling and monitoring carried out in accordance with the approved verification plan to demonstrate that the site remediation criteria have been met. It shall also include a long-term monitoring and maintenance plan for longer-term monitoring of pollutant linkages, maintenance and arrangements for contingency action, as identified in the verification plan. The long-term monitoring and maintenance plan shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Justification: To ensure the methods identified in the verification plan have been implemented and completed and the risk associated with the contamination at the site has been remediated prior to occupation or operation, to prevent both future users of the land and neighbouring land are minimised, together with those to controlled waters, property and ecological systems, and to ensure that the development can be carried out safely without unacceptable risks to workers, neighbours and other offsite receptors.

Condition 3: If, during development, contamination not previously identified is found to be present at the site then no further development (unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority) shall be carried out until a remediation strategy detailing how this unsuspected contamination shall be dealt with has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The remediation strategy shall be carried out as approved.

Justification: To ensure the risks associated with previously unsuspected contamination at the site are dealt with through a remediation strategy, to minimise the risk to both future users of the land and neighbouring land, and to ensure that the development can be carried out safely without unacceptable risks.

These conditions have been recommended as the Natural Resources Wales is satisfied that there are generic remedial options available to deal with the risks to controlled waters posed by contamination at this site. However, further details will be required in order to ensure that risks are appropriately addressed prior to development commencing.

In line with the advice given in Planning Policy for Wales we understand that the authority must decide whether to obtain such information prior to determining the application or as a condition of the permission. Should the LPA decide to obtain the necessary information under condition we would request that these conditions are applied.

We note that the site is located within a mains sewer area and that the proposal is to connect to the local mains sewer network – we have no further comment on site drainage.

Protected Species

We note that there is no information about protected species with the application and, therefore, are assuming that your Authority has screened the application and concluded that there is not a reasonable likelihood of protected species being present

Other Matters

Our comments above only relate specifically to matters that are listed in our 'Consultation Topics' document (September 2018) which is published on our website: (<https://cdn.naturalresources.wales/media/686847/dpas-consultation-topics-august-2018-eng.pdf?mode=pad&rnd=131819256840000000>). We have not considered potential effects on other matters and do not rule out the potential for the

proposed development to affect other interests, including environmental interests of local importance.

The applicant should be advised that, in addition to planning permission, it is their responsibility to ensure that they secure all other permits/consents relevant to their development.

Advice for the Developer:

Contaminated Land

Natural Resources Wales recommends that developers should:

1. Follow the risk management framework provided in CLR11, Model procedures for the management of land contamination, when dealing with land affected by contamination.
2. Refer to the Environment Agency “Guiding Principles for Land Contamination” (which has been adopted by NRW) for the type of information required in order to assess risks to controlled waters from the site. The local authority can advise on risk to other receptors, e.g. human health.

The treatment and disposal of contaminated soils and groundwater is regulated by waste legislation and requires an environmental permit.

Excavated materials that are recovered via a treatment operation can be re-used on-site under the CL:AIRE Definition of Waste: Development Industry Code of Practice. This voluntary Code of Practice provides a framework for determining whether or not excavated material arising from site during remediation and/or land development works are waste.

Developers should ensure that all contaminated materials are adequately characterised both chemically and physically, and that the permitting status of any proposed on site operations are clear. If in doubt, the Natural Resources Wales should be contacted for advice at an early stage to avoid any delays.

Natural Resources Wales recommends that developers should refer to our:

- Position statement on the Definition of Waste: Development Industry Code of Practice and;
- website at www.naturalresourceswales.gov.uk for further guidance.

Contaminated soil that is excavated, recovered or disposed of, is controlled waste. Therefore, its handling, transport, treatment and disposal is subject to waste management legislation, which includes:

- Duty of Care Regulations 1991
- Hazardous Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2005
- Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2010

Developers should ensure that all contaminated materials are adequately characterised both chemically and physically, and that the permitting status of any

proposed off site operations is clear. If in doubt, the Natural Resources Wales should be contacted for advice at an early stage to avoid any delays.

Pollution Prevention

All works at the site must be carried out in accordance with PPG6: 'Working at construction and demolition sites' which is available on the following website: <http://www.netregs.org.uk/environmental-topics/pollution-prevention-guidelines-ppgs-and-replacement-series/guidance-for-pollution-prevention-gpps-full-list/>

Waste produced during construction

Waste produced during the construction phase of your development must be dealt with appropriately and be in line with all relevant waste legislation including Duty of Care Regulations and Hazardous Waste Regulations. As part of your waste duty of care you must classify the waste produced:

- before it is collected, disposed of or recovered
- to identify the controls that apply to the movement of the waste
- to complete waste documents and records
- to identify suitably authorised waste management options
- to prevent harm to people and the environment.

Any waste removed from site will be subject to waste management controls. The links below provide information on how to classify waste and register as a waste carrier or hazardous waste producer:

<https://naturalresources.wales/permits-and-permissions/waste/?lang=en>

<https://naturalresources.wales/permits-and-permissions/waste/waste-permits/?lang=en>

Further guidance can be found on the GOV website here:

<https://www.gov.uk/managing-your-waste-an-overview/duty-of-care>

Yn gywir / Yours faithfully,

Daniel Davies

Daniel Davies

Cynghorydd, Cynllunio Datblygu / Advisor, Development Planning
Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru / Natural Resources Wales