

IL1 - Protect

Mr Pete Durnell

Our Ref: FOI 82709754
Your Ref
Matter being dealt with by: Richard Norton
Telephone: 0121 569 6560
Date: 23 August 2018

request-501205-bbca7613@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Mr Durnell,

Re: FOI 82709754 – Lion Farm Playing Fields, Newbury Lane, Oldbury.

I refer to your recent enquiry with regards to the above site, in which you asked:

As you will be aware, Lion Farm Playing Fields lie partly on old marl pits, which were subsequently utilised for landfill.

Please advise if any Detailed Inspections have been carried out by SMBC on Lion Farm Playing Fields, in accordance with its responsibilities under the Environmental Protection Act 1990:

Part 2A "Contaminated Land Statutory Guidance",

- if they have, please provide full results of the most recent one.

In response, I can provide the following information:

1. Sandwell M.B.C. published its Contaminated Land Strategy in June 2001 (updated 2013), in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, Part IIA;
2. In accordance with the above, an initial process of identification of sites of concern (SOC) across the borough was undertaken. As a former landfill site Lion Farm Playing Fields was identified as a SOC;

Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
P.O. Box 2374, Sandwell Council House
Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 3DE
(Post Code for SAT NAV B69 3DB)

Email: david_stevens@sandwell.gov.uk
Web: www.sandwell.gov.uk



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3. Following identification of the site, a desktop review was undertaken of information held by the Council pertaining to the site. This information comprised the following:-
 - Historic plans;
 - Landfill plans and datasheets;
 - Geological and hydrogeological plans;
 - Authorised Processes plans; and
 - Previous site investigations held by the Councils Building Control department (reference SI/1524, SI/620, SI/1174 and SI/1167).
4. From assessment of the above information, it was determined that the site had been subject to sufficient investigation and remediation works, appropriate to its current use as playing fields. The works included the installation of a gas venting trench (allowing landfill gas to vent to atmosphere rather than migrate across the site boundary) and the provision of a clay and permeable soil cap across the site (preventing contact with any underlying landfill material).
5. As a result of the above, the site was considered suitable for its current use and the site was not deemed to merit further inspection in accordance with the strategy. As such the Council have not commissioned a detailed inspection (intrusive investigation) of the site.

Site investigation reports referenced above are available for review via Building Consultancy team, but cannot be copied or taken away as the materials are subject to copyright restrictions. If you wish to make an arrangement to view the reports please contact Rachael Bridge on 0121 569 4842 or racheal_bridge@sandwell.gov.uk giving two working days' notice to allow the documents to be retrieved from the archives.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your request, and should be addressed to:

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Information Management Unit
Oldbury Council House
Freeth Street
Oldbury
West Midlands
B69 3DE
Email: info_management@sandwell.gov.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of an internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Please remember to quote your reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely



Richard Norton
Environmental Health Manager

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