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Appendix D

Screening assessment

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D1 Screening Assessment

D1.1 Introduction

To simplify the assessment of risks, UK statutory guidance allows the use of authoritative and scientifically based guideline values for the initial hazard screening assessment, provided that such guideline values are available and are appropriate to the site circumstances of the pollutant linkages in question. The hazard screening assessment is used to identify contaminant of concern that may pose a risk of harm to human health, or a risk of significant pollution of groundwater at the site.

D1.2 Soil Quality

D1.2.1.1 Screening Guideline Values

Generic assessment criteria (GAC) and soil guideline values (SGV) have been used to assess whether further action is required to mitigate an identified pollutant linkage based on the results of the investigation of the potential sources and plausible pollutant linkages identified by the conceptual model.

GAC and SGV values have been calculated using the Contaminated Land Exposure Assessment (CLEA) model software (v.106) issued by the EA. The model estimates human exposure to soil contaminants for those potentially living, working and/or playing on contaminated sites over long time periods (chronic exposure). The CLEA model does not include short-term (acute) risks to humans or risks from groundwater to humans.

The proposed end-use of this site is public open space. On this basis the appropriate assessment criteria is for an open space end-use scenario.

Where reported sample concentrations are below the guideline values and the site complies with the assumptions behind the assessment criteria, then it can be regarded as suitable for use without remediation. If the results exceed the assessment criteria then either further detailed assessment provided or recommendations for mitigation such as risk management procedures and remediation have been provided.