

National Brownfield Forum

Meeting Notes

8 July 2025, 11.00am – 3.00pm Teleconference



FINAL

Present:

Darren Beriro (Chair)	
Liz Hart (Deputy Chair)	
Nicola Harries (Secretariat)	CL:AIRE
Alex Lee (Outgoing Chair)	HKA
Graeme Duggan & Calum Irvine	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)
Matt Llewellyn & Trystan James	Natural Resources Wales (NRW)
Angela Haslam	Environment Agency (EA)
Mark Williams	Homes England (HE)
Darren Watson & Richard Hossack	Office of Environmental Protection (OEP)
John Henderson	Interim Environmental Protection Assessor Wales (IEPAW)
Matthew Byerly	Environmental Standards Scotland
Richard Boyle	Institution of Environmental Science (IES)
Stella Keenan	Yorkshire and Lincolnshire Pollution Advisory Group (YALPAG)
Ruth Easterbrook	Geological Society
Tim Elliott	Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)
Geraint Williams	Association of Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Specialists (AGS)
Lucy Bethell	Specialist in Land Condition (SiLC)
Kate Baker	Society of Brownfield Risk Assessment (SoBRA)
Joanne Kwan	CIRIA
Steve Edgar	Society of Remediation Practitioners (REMSOC)
David Jacob	National House Building Council (NHBC)
Jane Thrasher	Environmental Industries Commission (EIC)
Rhodri Williams	Home Builders Federation
Emma Tattersdill	UK Environmental Law Association (UKELA)
David Stewart	Scottish Land Commission (SLC)
Leigh Sharpe	Mining Remediation Authority (MRA)
Robert Tyler	West & East London Land Contamination Officers' Group (WELLCOG)

Apologies:

Emily Jones	Ministry of Housing and Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)
Caroline Thornton	Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)
Rebekah Norbury	National Contaminated Land Officers Group (NCLOG)
Elliot Paton	Scottish Government
Joanna Wragg	British Geological Survey (BGS)
Chris Taylor	Soil and Groundwater Technology Association (SAGTA)
Edward Lewis	Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) and the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA)
David Crook	Local Government Association (LGA)
Andrew Williams	Welsh Government (WG)

Agenda

1. Administrative:
 - a. Welcome and Apologies
 - b. Introductions of newly represented organisations
 - c. Actions from last meeting
 - d. Membership
2. General Knowledge Share
 - a. Government and Regulatory Update
 - b. Opportunity for clarification on the industry and local authority fora updates as received in advance
 - c. Hot or emerging topics open session
 - d. Brownfield in media
 - e. NQMS Update
 - f. Standards
3. Specific Knowledge Share
 - a. Presentation by Darren Beriro on National Brownfield Forum Task and Finish Group Report
 - b. Question and Answers
4. AOB
 - a. Geoscience Alliance – feedback from Alex Lee
5. Date of next meeting

Meeting Notes

1. Administrative

a) Welcome & Apologies

Darren Beriro (DB) welcomed everyone to the National Brownfield Forum (NBF) and apologies were given.

b) Introductions of represented organisations

DB welcomed everyone and especially Leigh Sharpe representing the Mining Remediation Authority and John Henderson of Interim Environmental Protection Assessor for Wales (IEPAW). Leigh Sharpe introduced himself and the broad areas that the Mining Remediation Authority work in. John Henderson introduced himself and the role of IEPAW during his update.

c) Actions from previous meetings

DB reviewed all actions. Alex Lee (AL) has received confirmation that “The House Magazine” would welcome an article on the NBF.

ACTION: DB & LH to write a short article.

d) Membership

DB reminded members that the NBF is open to new members, but there is a requirement for new members from non-governmental bodies to provide a little information about the organisation and their fit with the NBF objectives. It is incumbent on the current members to confirm that there are no objections for that organisation to join.

DB confirmed that the Environmental Industries Association (EIA) had recently requested to be considered to join the NBF. EIA provided written clarification to the information requested. They confirmed that they are an active lobbying organisation and cover work groups that are not typically represented on the NBF which is positive. Their membership represents the environmental services and technology sector and have a number of special interest groups including remediation of land and groundwater, environmental analysis and testing and sustainable buildings. It was noted that lobbying might conflict with NBF activities. It was agreed that EIA would be invited to join but reminded that the NBF is a lobbying group and representation should reflect this. It was suggested that when the Terms of Reference are next reviewed when the new chair come in post (Spring 2026), that wording relating to activities of the NBF are strengthened to ensure lobbying does not occur. DB to invite EIA to join and be very clear on the role of the NBF and how it works ie Chatham House and no lobbying.

ACTION:DB to invite EIA to join the NBF.

It was also suggested that it may be good to have the British Soil Science Society (BSSS) represented on the NBF. This was supported by other NBF members. It was acknowledged that soil is very topical now and the linkage to brownfield development and the circular economy is very important. It is also important that we do not work in silos so involving soil scientists with the NBF could be a great way to develop more joined up work. DB agreed to follow up and encourage a representative to provide a talk about soil health.

ACTION:DB to follow up with British Soil Science Society and ask if they would be willing to give a talk at the next NBF meeting.

2. **General Knowledge Share**

a) Government and Regulatory Update

DB introduced the different government and regulatory groups represented and welcomed them to provide an update.

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)

Unfortunately nobody from MHCLG was available to attend but they sent the following update.

MHCLG is still considering the responses from the Brownfield Passport Working paper and working through next steps in light of wider planning reforms.

Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)

Graeme Duggan (GD) and Callum Irvine provided an update on behalf of DEFRA. GD confirmed that DEFRA has commissioned the Environment Agency to prepare an update to the state of contaminated land in England. GD explained that this is a requirement under the regulations for local authorities to provide the Environment Agency with progress on their contaminated land work. This version will ask a series of statutory questions but will also some additional general questions including ones about emerging contaminants and other challenges being faced by local authorities in relation to contaminated

land. GD explained it is almost ten years since the last report was prepared so it is seen as a good opportunity to update the results. It is anticipated that there could be a slow down in progress in identifying contaminated land by local authorities as there has been a reduction in funding, but evidence is always needed to inform future policy making. It is hoped that the survey will come out in the Summer with a long feedback time. There has been a delay getting this completed due to internal approval systems.

GD also confirmed that the DEFRA team has been business planning and reviewing work streams as a result of the government spending review.

GD was asked about Defra's recent release of National Standards for Sustainable Drainage in England. [National standards for sustainable drainage systems \(SuDS\) - GOV.UK](#) There was concern shared with GD that there was very little public announcement that this was going to happen, and there is no transition period for its implementation. The concern is the implications on development of greenfield and brownfield land could be significant as there was very little warning. In addition, there are many errors within the guidance document. GD confirmed that this is not his area of expertise but would be happy to share concerns with relevant Defra colleagues.

ACTION: NBF members to share any thoughts/concerns with Richard Boyle (RB), who will collate shared examples with GD on behalf of NBF.

ACTION: RB to respond to GD and share with NH for the NBF notes.

ACTION: GD to follow up with Defra colleagues responsible for National Standards for Sustainable Drainage in England and share concerns expressed from the NBF.

There was concern shared by NBF members that it appears this piece of government guidance has been produced by one department without regard to the wider implications to brownfield development. It is hoped that the recently produced NBF task and finish group report will help highlight the importance of more joined up discussion between departments and not working in silos.

Callum Irvine (CI) introduced himself and explained that he works within the regulations team, looking at how regulations work in practice. His current focus is looking at environmental permitting regulations. His team look at how regulations support the government objectives of growth, so brownfield development is a big area that they are currently looking at. CI confirmed DEFRA are looking at how the regulatory system can work better. So with regards to the permitting system, they are looking at exemptions and how these could potentially be amended to make things more streamlined because currently typically changes need changes made to regulations which take time. This idea was recently consulted on with industry [Exemptions Reform to the Environmental Permitting \(England and Wales\) Regulations 2016 - Defra - Citizen Space](#), and DEFRA is currently reviewing the results of this consultation and will publish the results in due course which is likely to be next year. Then legislation to changes need to be laid before parliament.

Environment Agency

Angela Haslam (AH) provided an update on behalf of the Environment Agency (EA). AH confirmed that the Environment Agency is hoping to go out to consultation over the Summer on proposed changes to H5 environmental permitting guidance – site condition reporting. This guidance is aimed at permitting and supporting installations. As soon as it is live, AH will ask CL:AIRE to promote it to NBF members.

ACTION:AH to inform NBF members via CL:AIRE about H5 consultation when live.

AH confirmed that the EA are working very closely with DEFRA with respects the preparation of the state of contaminated land report consultation. They are currently working on the preparation of the questionnaire and are working very closely with the National Contaminated Land Officers (NCLOG) on this to scope the questions. It is hoping that the questionnaire will be issued towards the end of the Summer once clearance has been received to release.

AH also confirmed that the results of the consultation carried out last year on fees and charges has now been published and is available here: [Environment Agency charge proposals for waste crime and hourly rates - GOV.UK](#)

AH explained as a result of the latest spending settlement, they are working with the chemicals programme to identify new projects that they are keen to move forward under a one year settlement. They are potentially looking at detailed quantitative risk assessment for PFAS for groundwater. Currently the EA has carried out an early engagement event for this, next will be preparing tender documents. In addition, the Environment Agency is potentially looking at preparing a project specification as a business case to update the permeable reactive barrier guide but focusing on PFAS.

AH also confirmed that they are keen to finalise the scope for updating the old Department of Environment Industry Profiles. The project is currently being worked up as some seed funding has been secured through AGS.

Finally, AH wanted to confirm that Land Contamination Risk Management (LCRM) is now applicable to the whole of the UK. AH keen to acknowledge the work of Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), Scottish Government and the Scottish Contaminated Land Working Group. There is a separate note on SEPA's website identifying any areas that LCRM differs from SEPA's own guidance.

Natural Resources Wales (NRW) & Welsh Government

Matt Llewellyn provided an update on behalf of NRW. He confirmed the following:

- Andy Williams (NBF member), the Contaminated Land policy lead at Welsh Government has moved on to a different role and for the meantime Richard Clark (Richard.Clark@gov.Wales) will be covering that work area. In the longer term they are looking to recruit to fill the role.
- LCRM new version updated last month. Angela Haslam covered main changes/improvements but also a couple of Wales specific i.e. direct hyperlinks to Wales specific guidance and references to NRW corresponding position statements
- ML confirmed that the Interim Environmental Protection Assessor for Wales (IEPAW) (new NBF member) is due to complete a report into the ongoing effectiveness of Part 2A and whether the existing legislation is still fit for purpose. NRW had had an initial meeting with IEPAW and Caerphilly Council also visiting a potential Part 2A site in their borough to broadly discuss the topic and give initial feedback on how the contaminated land regime is currently functioning in Wales. It is anticipated that the IEPAW will formally request evidence from NRW and local authorities later in the year. Also, it is anticipated that the IEPAW will be formally adopted in 2026.
- Finally, media interest in legacy metal mines continues and NRW have been responding to requests from BBC radio 4. As ML understands they are currently researching a documentary on impacts of lead in the environment from abandoned mines. ML suspect colleagues in EA and other devolved agencies have also been approached.

Scottish Government (SG) and Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA)

Caroline Thornton (CT) sent her apologies and confirmed that LCRM is now linked to SEPA's website.

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) and the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA)

No updates were provided by DAERA or NI EA.

Office of Environmental Protection (OEP)

Darren Watson (DW) provided an update on OEP's work. He confirmed that OEP has been producing the annual Environmental Improvement Plan (EIP) progress report both in England and Northern Ireland. This is a statutory duty to keep track and monitor and comment on the government's environmental performance across the whole of the environmental plan. DW confirmed that brownfields are likely to feature in the waste and resource chapters.

DW confirmed that the steering group would like to take greater look at sustainable soil management because it seems that government has taken a step back from sustainable soil management that featured heavily in the government's 25 year environment plan. Originally the commitment was to sustainably manage all soils, whereas this seems to have been stepped back slightly to agricultural soils, so OEP will be looking at what work is being undertaken in relation to all soils, including those on brownfield and contaminated land.

DW also confirmed that OEP has commissioned a report to look at the application of the waste hierarchy. This hopefully will lead into a larger research piece looking at waste and circular economy more holistically and whether policies that are informed by the waste hierarchy are effective, whether there are blockers or opportunities. This work will be carried out via stakeholder forums. DW confirmed that this would also look at excavated materials and brownfield land. DW will feedback results once this work has been reported back.

DW provided a short presentation on the work of the OEP's college of experts. The purpose of the college of experts is to provide additional expertise to the OEP. There are over 40 specialists from across industry and academia and they have been selected to represent the areas of work of the OEP. A few of these experts have specific interest in waste, circular economy and soils. These experts help reinforce points of areas that people feel need to be researched by OEP. For example there is a lot of focus on agricultural soils however most of England and Northern Ireland's populations are concentrated in urban areas, therefore urban soils and brownfields are significant to health and well being and nature that it supports. So the interim EIP needs to highlight and challenge the government what they are doing about urban soils and how to sustainably manage all soils.

DW explained that OEP convened a workshop made up of their college of experts and some additional guests to discuss the importance of urban soils. The purpose of the workshop was to identify areas that OEP should focus its resources as there is already a lot of work going on in this space. There were discussions about what is an urban soil and due to there being lots of definitions (depending on people's backgrounds) it would be appropriate for OEP to create its own definition. There was also discussion about whether Part 2A has been a success. One point raised was that there is a lack of expertise in local authorities and consultancy to implement the legislation as it is so infrequently used, the skills to implement have significantly diminished.

DW confirmed that OEP will summarise the discussions to help identify the areas that OEP should draw together into the EIP progress report. The next EIP progress report will be sent to government in January and government has 6 months to respond. Within the OEP there is already a soils programme which is currently focused on agricultural soils, but now with the additional evidence, it is hopeful that the focus will broaden to soil health of brownfield and contaminated land. It was acknowledged that agricultural soils already have a quite mature way of measuring soil health that has good uptake by farmers. However urban soils are very different. Whatever system is developed it needs to be simple and straightforward for the landowner to use.

Copy of DW presentation is available to [download here](#).

Environmental Standards Scotland

Matthew Byerly (MB) provided an update on behalf of Environmental Standards Scotland (ESS). MB explained that ESS is the oversight body carrying out an equivalent work in Scotland as OEP in England.

ESS has published a risk to Scotland's soil report last October and now Scottish Government has responded to the report in April 2025 which is published on ESS website. The response from Scottish Government states what it is planning to do in response to ESS's recommendations about improving soil health and risks to soils in Scotland. ESS is also investigating whether local authorities in Scotland are carrying out their Part 2A duties to inspect land from time to time. ESS last summer sent a questionnaire to all local authorities in Scotland asking about the work they are carrying out. The results of the questionnaire are currently being reviewed, but preliminary finding won't be a surprise that work has slowed down or stalled in inspections under Part 2A in Scotland.

Interim Environmental Protection Assessor for Wales (IEPAW)

John Henderson (JH) introduced himself and IEPAW as a new member of the NBF. He confirmed that the IEPAW is performing a very similar role as OEP in England and Northern Ireland and ESS in Scotland. JH confirmed that IEPAW is also looking at Part 2A in Wales. Initially they are seeking a PhD student to carry out a survey of what information about contaminated land and potentially contaminated

land there is available in Wales. This will provide a practical, factual context for the scale of the project. The second part will be to gather a stakeholder's working group, which has been tentatively set for 10 September 2025. The purpose of the workshop is to gather information on what potential changes would be appropriate and to get Part 2A back into use.

Homes England (HE)

Mark Williams (MW) confirmed that in May, HE entered into a strategic place partnership with the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority. This agreement is to work together to accelerate housing and regeneration in that area. MW confirmed that this is the 8th strategic place partnership that HE has now entered into, and has now successfully linked up with most combined authorities in England.

In June, HE will be setting up the National Housing Bank, which will be a new bank specifically to facilitate greater investment in housing and mixed use schemes. The bank will be wholly owned subsidiary of Homes England and it'll manage £16 Billion of new funding over the next 10 years.

ME also confirmed that as part of the latest spending review, it was announced that the new social and affordable new homes programme will receive £39 Billion worth of funds over the next 10 years, with most of this being managed by HE existing affordable housing team, to support the government's target to deliver the 1.5 Million homes over the next 5 years.

b. Industry and Local Authority updates (in alphabetical order)

AGS Contaminated Land Working Group

Recent successes of the Working Group

- Virtual meeting was held on 24th June with 33 members in attendance.
- AGS collaborated with the BDA to deliver joint guidance on [Managing Pressurised Gases during Drilling](#). This was published in March.
- Recently published article on [Monitoring of Turbidity within Groundwater during Piling Operations](#) published in May.
- AGS ran a successful webinar on [Sustainability - Practical Steps for AGS members](#)
- An Article on [Championing Quality: Introducing the SiLC Employers Scheme](#) was published in the AGS Magazine.
- An article celebrating [Hugh Mallet's Lifetime Achievement Award](#) was also published in the same edition of the magazine.
- AGS have published their [Sustainability Charter](#) and [Policy](#).
- The Loss Prevention Group recently published a [Glossary of Useful Insurance Phrases](#).

The main topics / projects the Working Group are currently working on:

- The CLWG received updates from the NHBC, SiLC, SoBRA, NBF, Environment Agency, C4SLS project, CIRIA, CL:AIRE and Geological Society Contaminated Land Group.
- AGS is support for the next stage of updating the former Department of Environment Industrial Profiles.
- Standards update provided including current progress with BS 10175, BS 8576 and BS 10177.
- AGS continued to be involved in C4SL Phase 2 project.
- AGS contributed to successful GeolSoc 'Hot Topics in Contaminated Land' event held in April.
- A mind map of standards relating to site investigation is being finalised.
- Initiative to improve consistency in PFAS CAS numbers used by UK laboratories.
- Articles being finalised on:
 - gas monitoring data and the AGS format.
 - historic lab methods vs current methods has been drafted (focus on asbestos risk assessment).
 - risk assessment of pesticides at greenfield sites to be considered.
 - PFAS and microplastics.
- Continued collaboration with GAOF, IStructE, BDA, RICS, FPS, BDA and others.
- The Data Management Working Group are moving forward with the release of AGS 4.2 and progress is being made in the longer term for release of AGS 5.0 (including co-opting relevant industry stakeholders).

The topics / projects the Working Group will be looking at in the future:

Future events include:

- o [Trial Pitting - controlling the risks](#) (24 September, webinar)
- o [AGS Data Conference - Discuss, Engage, Evolve](#) (4 December, Thinktank Birmingham Science Museum)
- o Further information is available at: [AGS – Association of Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Specialists – AGS Event Programme 2025](#)

British Geological Survey

Task and finish group on the interactions of policies affecting the planning and development of brownfield land

BGS contributed to leading the task and finish group and write up. We worked with CL:AIRE, Hart Environmental, and NBF members to conduct this research which is due to be published in July.

Coal mine gas risk screening tool for North Lanarkshire Council, Scotland

BGS has created a new web-based coal mine gas risk screening tool for North Lanarkshire Council in collaboration with WSP. The tool, funded by the council, uses the CL:AIRE guidance for coal mine gas emissions to standardise and streamline advice given to external parties as part of their planning and building standards responsibilities. The tool includes Mine Remediation Authority and BGS data, the latter provided by MRA under their zero-cost public sector license agreement.

Industry Roundtable – Ground investigation data sharing

A group of geo-environmental consultants, led by AtkinsRealis, convened an industry roundtable with members of government to highlight the benefits of sharing ground investigation data and call for stronger regulation/legislation in this regard. The government departments in attendance included DSIT-GDS, DESNZ, GO-Science, Cabinet Office, DfT and the Planning Inspectorate; as this was a lobbying event BGS did not participate but attended as an observer. Professional bodies such as AGS, GSHP Association, British Drilling Association also participated. Following the round table, the industry representatives are hoping to table an amendment to the Data (Use and Access) Bill (primary legislation) to widen the scope of the National Underground Asset Register to include geotechnical information (ground investigation data collected from publicly funded works), or influence secondary legislation.

Future of the Subsurface – Community of Interest

At the end of last year, a new cross-government Community of Interest (CoI) in the 'Future of the Subsurface' was launched. The CoI currently has ~45 members from across >20 organisations (central gov, local gov, and government bodies). Key themes of interest highlighted by In the coming year, the CoI will explore the use of the subsurface for net zero and climate action, including potential impacts and adoption of new technologies; emerging regulation and regulatory gaps; competition for space in the subsurface and issues around repurposing land/underground assets; availability and accessibility of good quality data and cross-organisational data sharing, and; skills shortages.

BGS Geology Maps - public consultation (closed)

The British Geological Survey's geology maps are a unique national resource. 2024 saw the initiation of a new phase of BGS geology map production by setting out on an ambitious long-term programme of map updates aiming to generate maps and models that are fit for the digital demands of the 21st century. We asked the public how they are using the maps and what they would like to see in future updates. We received 100s of response which we are currently processing.

BGS Policy briefing notes

BGS has added two new policy briefing notes (infrastructure and housing) to its existing science briefing note collection. These can be found here: <https://www.bgs.ac.uk/about-bgs/our-work/science-briefing-papers/>

PFAS anthropogenic background in shallow soils

New peer-review paper has been published in Environmental Pollution co-authored by the BGS and the Environment Agency (EA) on PFAS in shallow English soils. The paper improves understanding of likely anthropogenic background concentrations in shallow soils in England.

The EA funded the study to assess the feasibility and suitability of using archived samples at BGS to support the analysis of contemporary samples as part of the PFAS risk screening programme.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envpol.2025.126401>

Systems thinking paper

BGS contributed to a paper on using systems thinking to plan for integrated water management in Greater Manchester with UCL, Imperial, the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, Environment Agency and United Utilities. The VENTURA project was funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC).

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2025.145655>

Dermal bioavailability of PAH in soil

BGS has completed its research programme on the dermal bioavailability of PAH in soil. The research was funded by National Grid with support from WSP, the University of Nottingham and PhD studentships funded by NERC doctoral training partnerships.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhazmat.2024.133858>

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envpol.2023.122658>

<https://www.brownfield-awards.environment-analyst.com/previous-award-winners/2024-award-winners>

Pesticides in English rivers

Pesticide pollution across the rural-urban continuum has been investigated in R. Tone (Somerset-Taunton) and R. Wensum (Norfolk-Norwich). BGS quantified 52 current use pesticides in sediment, water, invertebrates and fish to understand source to sea and trophic level transfers. The study is published in academic literature (*Environmental Pollution*)

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envpol.2025.126371>

UK press 17/06/2025 [Dangerous pesticides and pet flea treatment detected in English rivers for first time | Pesticides | The Guardian](#)

Pharmaceuticals in Singapore estuaries

The near surface increase in sedimentary pharmaceuticals (antibiotics, hormones, anti-inflammatory drugs) alongside the decline in legacy hydrocarbon pollutants (e.g. PAH) has been demonstrated in urban-estuarine-coastal sediment cores Singapore (Marine Pollution Bulletin)

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marpolbul.2025.118301>

Microplastics in the River Thames

Sediment cores from Thames salt-marshes and tidal tributaries (Bow and Barking Creek) situated adjacent to the industrial reaches of the R. Thames have been used to track changes in microplastic accumulation from 1960s to present day.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marpolbul.2024.117360>

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marpolbul.2024.116971>

Rubber additives in London surface waters and Kanyan soils/ sediments

On-going work at Organic Geochemistry Facility (BGS) is exploring environmental distribution of car tyre rubber additives (e.g. 6PPD-Q) in London's urban tributaries (Bow and Barking) and urban slum soils/sediments in central Nairobi, Kenya.

AquaConSoil 2025, Liege, Belgium

Darren Beriro from BGS attended the 40th edition of AquaConSoil 2025 hosted in Liege. Darren gave talks on research for the Environment Agency on valuing the benefits of remediation, a new mine gas risk screening tool for North Lanarkshire Council, and the dermal bioavailability of PAH conducted WSP National Grid. Darren also chaired a session on 'digital design and data integration for site management.' The conference was attended by over 500 delegates from the private, public and research sector and provided a great opportunity to talk to a wide range of people about pollution, soil health, and sustainable reuse of brownfield land.

CIRIA

Event

CIRIA will hold a virtual PFAS conference on 10 July. This event will not only discuss the latest development in risk assessment and remediation but also how regulators, major clients and the insurance industry are dealing with PFAS.

https://www.ciria.org/CIRIA/Navigation/Events/Event_Display.aspx?EventKey=E25109

New projects and existing projects

- A good practice for developing challenging sites such as former landfills, quarries
- A good practice guide for managing climate change for land projects
- Microplastics in construction projects – what we know now and good practice guidance

- Soil Community of Practice held a round table meeting in June and more than 15 soil interested organisation were present. There will be another meeting at the end of the year. CIRIA also signed a MOU with British Society of Soil Science and IES. More can be found on www.ciria.org/SOILCOP/
- PFAS Forum. We are about to launch a website

CL:AIRE

Training and events

The following training courses are currently being run:

- Definition of Waste Code of Practice (DoW CoP) – classroom
- Non-Licensed Work including NNLW - for Land Professionals – classroom
- Asbestos in Soil and Construction & Demolition Materials CAR-SOIL™ – classroom
- Introduction to Controlled Waters Detailed Quantitative Risk Assessment – classroom
- Introduction to Human Health Quantitative Risk Assessment – classroom
- Practical Aspects of Ground Gas, Vapour and Water Monitoring & Sampling – classroom
- Ground Gas Risk Assessment - More Than Calculating a GSV – classroom
- Statistics for Land Contamination – classroom **new for 2025**
- Groundwater Monitoring & Sampling – classroom **new for 2025**
- Principles and Practice of Sustainable Remediation – classroom **new for 2025**
- Developing Advanced Conceptual Models for Contaminated Sites – classroom **new for 2025**
- Managing Contaminated Sites using MNA & NSZD – classroom **new for 2025**
- Good Practice for Risk Assessment for Coal Mine Gas Emissions – virtual
- Soil and Groundwater Risk Assessment – eLearning
- Sustainable Remediation – eLearning
- Introduction to Brownfield Site Investigation – eLearning
- Asbestos Awareness for Land Professionals – Full & Refresher – eLearning

CL:AIRE has also started to deliver an inhouse DoWCoP awareness course. This is an abridged version of the full course and is not suitable if candidates want to become a Qualified Person.

In addition, CL:AIRE is now starting to offer all its calendarised courses inhouse due to the number of requests that we are starting to receive. If this is of interest, please make a request via: training@claire.co.uk

CL:AIRE has been/is involved in the following Conferences and Events:

- AquaConSoil, 16-20 June 2025 (Liège, Belgium)
- 20th Soils in the South East Workshop (Chatham, UK)
- CL:AIRE Members' Networking Evening, 10 July 2025 (London, UK)
- Environmental Services & Solutions Expo 17-18 September 2025 (Birmingham, UK)
- RemTech Europe, 15-19 September 2025 (Ferrara, Italy)
- CL:AIRE Members' Networking Evening, 16 October 2025 (Leeds, UK)

Projects/initiatives/publications (listed alphabetically)

Aggregates from Inert Wastes Quality Protocol

CL:AIRE continues to collaborate closely with the Environment Agency Aggregates Task Group members to review the Quality Protocol. CL:AIRE has reviewed the existing Standards and Specifications document and are awaiting finalisation from the Environment Agency.

Category Four Screening Levels Project

The team continues to work to get the next C4SL reports reviewed and published. Trimethylbenzene has been sent to the steering group for review. 111-TCA, MTBE and xylene will soon go to the steering group for review.

DoW CoP

CL:AIRE is continuing to work very closely with the Environment Agency on the DoW CoP version 3. Regular meetings are occurring.

DoW CoP International is continuing to be promoted. [International](#)

The first joint communiqué of the International Soil Reuse Forum was recently issued by CL:AIRE .
[International Soil Reuse Forum](#)

A webpage describing the Earthbanks project has been published. The Earthbanks project aims to develop a framework and guidelines for the establishment of soil depots across England and Wales.
[Earthbanks](#)

Insight service is proving to be popular. [Insight Service](#).

Gas Protection Verification Accreditation Scheme (GPVS)

The interviews for the spring 2025 application window have now been completed. One TGPV was awarded. A candidate applying for SGPV has been asked for further supporting information. The next application window - 1 June to 30 August 2025 - has just been announced. Audits for 2023-2024 are concluding. Over 500 declarations have now been purchased since the scheme started.

National Quality Mark Scheme (NQMS)

The last NQMS steering group was held on 26 June 2025. A webinar was organised for 5 June 2025 for the Home Builders Federation to make them aware of the NQMS and the benefits of engaging and procuring the services of SQPs.

PFAS

Several CL:AIRE PFAS bulletins are currently in preparation.

Piling Guidance

The Piling and Penetrative Ground Improvement Methods on Land Affected by Contamination guidance was published at the end of March and has been downloaded over 2100 times.

SAGTA

A virtual workshop was organised on behalf of SAGTA on 4 June 2025. The event attracted representatives from across the land portfolio/managing legacy land to learn and share key issues about managing land.

Sustainable Remediation

The SuRF-UK steering group has updated the SuRF-UK framework document which has now been reviewed by the TRG. The steering group will now make the final amendments, and then move it forward for final editorial review and publication.

The last International Sustainable Remediation Alliance (ISRA) meeting was held on 7 May 2025 where the different SuRF groups shared activity progress and planned the Special Session at the AquaConSoil conference in June 2025.

EIC

On 29 April, EIC responded to the Public Bill Committee's call for evidence on the Planning and Infrastructure Bill. We expressed our support for the introduction of spatial development strategies, for proposals to make planning decisions faster and to enable local planning authorities to set their own fees. However, we expressed concerns about the Nature Restoration Fund and compulsory purchase reform.

We said:

"The nature fund should be welcomed and has the potential to resolve issues such as the handling of nutrient neutrality. However, the proposals were rushed with no consultation. This is too important to get wrong. As drafted, the Bill risks failing developers and the environment. The approach to Environmental Delivery Plans and the fund need to be designed carefully, in full consultation with industry so that they work and do not conflict with BNG and nature markets. We recommend including the key principles of polluter pays and mitigation hierarchy in the Bill and leaving the detailed design for full consultation and piloting."

"Development which is critical for overall public good and economic growth often involves local opposition, negotiation and legal challenges, resulting in delays – getting this right is important for both landowners, local communities and the beneficiaries of the proposed development. Project developers need the flexibility to offer appropriate compensation to enable timely development. If CPO values are too low or the approach inflexible there is a risk that the changes could have the opposite effect to that

intended in the Bill and represent a false economy – they would not make development quicker and the long-term costs resulting from delays due to objections could exceed the initial savings.”

On 2 May, we issued a letter together with the Green Construction Board to the Housing Minister Matthew Pennycook (copied to Mary Creagh, Minister for Nature), expressing our concerns about Part 3 of the Planning and Infrastructure Bill. We called for Part 3 to be implemented at a timetable which would allow for full consultation with experts, piloting of the process and to investigate the potential for a different commencement date for Part 3 to the rest of the Bill. More time is needed to evaluate the impacts of the proposed levy-based reforms. We are also worried about increased bureaucracy, given that delivery responsibilities would reside with Natural England.

We have been proactively engaging with government on a number of environmental issues. On 1 July, our Nature and Biodiversity Group met with Chloe Jones, Head of BNG for NSIPs at Defra, and Guy Skelton, Head of Environmental Planning Reform at MHCLG – to discuss the BNG for NSIPs consultation and the Nature Restoration Fund proposals. On 2 July, our Waste and Resource Efficiency Group met with Alex Rennison, Head of Circular Economy Strategy at Defra, and Andrew Morlet, Chair of the Circular Economy Taskforce – to discuss the gov't's circular economy strategy.

IES

Recent activities for the Land Condition Community include:

- The IES held its annual Dialogue Between Disciplines Conference on the 23rd June. This was organised by a cross-community organising committee, including a representative from the Land Condition Community. The Conference covered keynote presentations, case study discussions and skill-building workshops related to systems diagramming, communication and nature-based solutions.
- Environmental Protection Scotland have recently joined the IES family.
- The Land Condition Community and IAQM have recently opened their new guidance, Good practice on air quality monitoring for brownfield projects, for [member consultation](#).
- The Land Condition Community and NCLOG [published a joint response](#) to the Environmental Audit Committee's Call for Evidence on PFAS.
- IES has published responses to both the [Independent Water Commission Call for Evidence](#) and [Land Use Framework Consultation](#).
- IES [BNG in Practice events series](#) has continued and the IES and ALGE put [out a joint statement](#) regarding Defra's consultation on BNG for small sites.
- The Early Careers Network LC ECN have recently had some [new Steering Group members](#) join so they now have increased capacity if there are any opportunities for collaboration on events/networking etc. They have a few events in the pipeline and they are interested in the topic of PFAS remediation (tailored to early career professionals in terms of technical detail) as a topic they'd like to explore so if there are any willing speakers who'd like to cover that we'd love to hear from them!
- The latest Environmental Scientist journal, [Are we measuring what matters](#), explores how, and why, specific environmental indicators are chosen to communicate environmental tipping points, baselines and benchmarks – alongside examining the politics, philosophies, and science that underpin them.

NCLOG

- NCLOG held their AGM and training session online on the 21st May 2025, which was a success. As part of the AGM, our members have voted to adopt an NCLOG mission statement 'to act as the voice for contaminated land officers in the UK and promote consistency across the sector'. The presentations from Angela Haslam and Michael Eaglestone were interesting and encouraged discussion from our members. The panel discussion about 'grey belt' and associated issues was timely and useful. There has been a change in some personnel on the Committee with a couple of members stepping down, but we also welcomed several new members which we hope will help to provide some more representation of the UK-wide membership.
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- We held an event on the 1st April, the NCLOG Ground Gas Forum, where four speakers presented on different ground gas related topics. Some further events for members are in the

pipeline, in particular webinars on radon and as Part 2A turns 25 this year, we are planning to devote a webinar to this later in the year.

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- We are pleased to announce we now have our own dedicated webspace on the IES website - [NCLOG | www.the-ies.org](https://www.the-ies.org). The NCLOG page will initially have limited functionality until the new IES website is up and running later this year. However, we hope to be able to use this resource more in the future.
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- We have been working on evidence cards for the NBF task and finish group and providing evidence for a joint response with IES's LCC to the EAC's Call for Evidence on PFAS. Additionally, we have been providing ongoing support to Defra and the EA on their upcoming State of Contaminated Land survey and report. We also now have a joint working group with SiLC which is working on a 'Land Contamination Report Auditing Tool' for CLOs.

NHBC

NHBC Chapter 4.1

NHBC will be updating Chapter 4.1: Land Quality – managing ground conditions, with these changes due to come into effect on the 1 January 2026. These updates can be summarised as follows:

- Integration of previous NHBC Standards Extra 47 (June 2010) and Technical Extra 08 (November 2012) into a new clause related to verification of clean cover systems.
- Removal of reference to NHBC/RSK Group Plc 'Traffic light' ground gas publication in clause 4.1.11

NHBC Foundation

NHBC Foundation has recently published NF96 - 25 Facts: Scotland's homes, housing and house building today. Prepared for Homes for Scotland, one year after the Scottish Parliament declared a national housing emergency, we present 25 key in depth research facts from high quality sources as part of a shared mission to drive positive change.

NHBC Foundation are also preparing 'How to maintain quality in the delivery of 1.5 million homes' for a July 2025 publication date, a report based on a round table discussion of industry stakeholders, outlining the key steps industry needs to take to deliver 1.5 million quality homes over the parliamentary period. The NHBC Foundation is also preparing a 'Water compendium' report that will look at water efficiency legislation and solutions in countries about the world, seeking out innovative solutions to reducing water use in new homes. We are aiming to publish this report in September of 2025.

NHBC Training Hubs

NHBC has a long tradition of supporting the house building industry by providing the very best training possible across multiple disciplines: it supports our purpose of improving standards and protecting homeowners. In response to the skills shortage, we opened our first bricklaying training hub during 2021 in Tamworth in partnership with Redrow and Tamworth Borough Council, with input from an industry working group. Since then, we have opened three additional multi-skilled hubs located in Cambridge, Hull and Newcastle offering bricklaying and groundworker apprenticeships. In September, our Tamworth facility will be replaced by the first of our much larger hubs at Litchfield, which is also able to offer site carpentry apprenticeships.

In response to the government's ambitious housing target of 1.5 million new homes in their parliament, we are investing a further £100 million in a national network of 12 new multi-skill training hubs. These will tackle the skills shortage head-on, ultimately able to support 3,000 apprenticeships a year and providing skilled, site-ready tradespeople in the local areas that need them most. You can find out more on our website - <https://www.nhbc.co.uk/training/apprenticeships/training-hubs>

NHBC Land Quality Service (LQS)

2025 is the 20th Anniversary of NHBC's Land Quality Service and we will be holding several in person and online events. We recently held a successful brownfield land event at the former Austin works at Longbridge in partnership with Vistry Group and McAuliffe Group. A highlights video of the event can be found here - [Longbridge: Transforming brownfield into a thriving community | Event highlights](#)

RICS

The Q1 2025 RICS UK Construction Monitor Construction published in April reports that workloads are largely stable at present but expectations point to a somewhat stronger trend ahead:

- Infrastructure continues to see stronger growth than other sectors
- Twelve-month expectations remain positive but have been scaled back slightly in some cases
- Financial and planning and regulatory constraints are still significant challenges for the industry
- The turbulent economic backdrop is seen to add risk to maintaining profit margins

Feedback from respondents in the Monitor mirrors the sentiment seen in the preceding quarter, with headline trends still relatively flat for now. Looking ahead, expectations remain positive across a twelve month time horizon, albeit only modest growth is anticipated away from the infrastructure sector. The headline workloads indicator remains in neutral territory. Financial constraints remain persistent; the credit conditions indicator, tracking changes in the lending climate as it relates to the construction industry, continues to reflect a challenging financial environment. In keeping with this, financial constraints remain the most commonly cited barrier to activity, with 63% of respondents indicating that these challenges have negatively impacted their operations. Additionally, planning and regulatory issues continue to pose significant obstacles, with 60% of participants reporting related difficulties. Meanwhile, although the proportion of respondents citing labour supply challenges has steadily decreased since spring 2021 (currently at 40%), shortages of workers is still a significant issue across the industry. Looking forward to the next twelve months, headline workload expectations remain positive with infrastructure is projected to continue to drive the bulk of the overall growth in activity, posting a net balance of +32%. On a more positive note, employment expectations over the next twelve months point to some improvement, returning a net balance of +15%.

RICS has responded to UK Government consultations on Planning reform & Compulsory Purchase Orders.

In March the National RICS Minerals & Waste Annual Conference took place in Leicester. The conference was thought provoking with presentations talking to current critical nature of minerals & their strategic importance for the economy as well as the challenges of managing waste within an increasingly pressurised circular economy context.

A planning legal update covered recent changes and looked ahead to potential legislative revisions to planning decision-making. There was also an industry session examining the key challenges faced by waste management companies in navigating the planning process, including addressing public concerns, aligning with local development plans, and meeting environmental standards. Jonathan Atkinson, Technical Director, CL:AIRE provided a session designed for surveyors and industry professionals: Understanding the CL:AIRE DoWCoP protocol in practice. This provided an in-depth look at the principles of the protocol and its application in mineral extraction and remediation projects including real world examples of how the protocol supports cost-effective, environmentally sound material reuse in minerals and waste management.

SoBRA

Conferences/Events

1). The SoBRA summer workshop was held in Birmingham on 3rd July. The topic was *Advanced DQRA: Dealing with Non-Standard Risk Assessments*. The event comprised a morning of presentations discussing various aspects of the complexities of DQRA and providing perspectives from different sectors of the industry including regulator, consultant and remediation contractor. The afternoon comprised four breakout workshops which used case studies to inform collaborative discussions on ways to approach:

- non-standard pathways, using building types in gas risk assessment as an example.
- non-standard receptors, using livestock as an example.
- non-standard sources, using reuse of aggregates as an example.
- dealing with mixtures, using a groundwater risk assessment as an example.

The outcome of the workshops will be documented and a report published on the SoBRA website in due course.

2). The RSC Toxicology Group / SoBRA joint Winter Conference (and SoBRA AGM) is scheduled for Wednesday 10 December 2025 at Burlington House, London, and online.

Sub-groups

The active sub-groups are:

- NAPL

- Ground Gases (with a radon working group)
- Controlled waters and climate change
- Early Careers
- Vapours

Publications

No new publications. Details of all recent publications are available at [SoBRA Reports](#).

Accreditation scheme

The first 2025 window was open during February. One applicant was successful for RSoBRA. The process of assessing applications and interviews is currently ongoing. Currently there are 112 accredited members, of which 53 are ASoBRA for one or more disciplines.

Next window will be open in August.

Other activities/events

The early careers sub-group are organising another series of freely available webinars for 2025. To date:

The SoBRA Accreditation Scheme – RSoBRA: 21 January

Introduction to Coal Mine Gas Risk Assessment and Protection Design: 18 February

Introduction to Acute Human Health Risk Assessment: 15 April

PFAS Toxicology: 17 June

Further webinars, to be confirmed, will be provided throughout the year. Access to and details of all the previous webinar recordings can be found here <https://sobra.org.uk/resources/early-careers-webinars/>

Supported an Early Careers Networking cross-organisation event, jointly with IES, RemSoc and GeolSoc which took place in Birmingham on 12th June.

UKELA

UKELA has continued its usual programme of events and participation in relevant consultations.

Consultations

Recent consultation responses which may be of interest (copies of which can be found on UKELA's website) are as follows:

- Response to the Defra consultation on the establishment of the Marine Recovery Fund (MRF)

Annual conference

- **UKELA's annual conference** took place at Bristol University on 20/21 June 2025, with some online events on 17/18 June. The conference theme was “**Back to the Future - Environmental Law in a New Era**” and plenary sessions covered topics such as climate change, sustainability reporting, PFAS, energy and waste.

In advance of the conference, platinum sponsors FTB, Landmark Chambers and Cornerstone Barristers shared the following papers, copies of which are available on UKELA's website:

- Landmark: It's a (regulatory) jungle out there: legal challenges for rewilding
- Cornerstone: Cutting the queue: Grid connections reform and Clean Power 2030
- FTB: A River-lution: Rights of the River Ouse

Upcoming events:

- **The Future of Welsh Environmental Law: Cardiff (and online), 15th July 2025**

Join UKELA Wales for a discussion on the Planning Wales Bill and its anticipated timeline for progression. Join in person in Cardiff, or online. Timings: registration from 4pm for a 4.30pm start to 6pm. Followed by the Wales Social Series.

- **UKELA Social Series: Cardiff, 15th July 2025**

THE UKELA Social Series is a bi-monthly networking evening series. The next social is taking place in Cardiff (in person). Open to all - members and anyone interested in learning more about UKELA. Timings: 6pm onwards.

- **“Wilding” screening and discussion: London, 4th September 2025**

Join UKELA Nature Conservation Group for a screening of the film “Wilding” and panel discussion. Timings: 6pm onwards (in-person).

- **Careers evening: London, 4th November 2025**

A careers evening on training and working in environmental law. In person, in London. Timing: 5pm to 6.30pm.

More details and tickets for all events are available on UKELA’s website.

WELLCOG

- WELLCOG met on the 10th April 2025:
 - Chris Dainton (Peak Environmental) spoke on ‘Breaking the CLEA model down to its basics in order to simplify the detailed modelling process’
 - Mandy Dennis & Alex Gratrix from North Northamptonshire Council provide their insight into the ‘Toxic Town’ situation
 - It is hoped that WELLCOG will run a Christmas Conference this year
- The High Court of Justice ruling between Clean The Air In Havering v The London Borough of Havering and DMC Services (Essex) Limited has been published. The ruling has several implications for Part 2A decisions, including the role smoke should play when considering contaminant linkages and whether combustion should be considered a chemical reaction covered by the Act.
- Several evidence cards were provided to support the Task and Finish Group effort by NBF
- The Steering Group has drafted a ‘State of contaminated land in London’ Survey, which will be formally circulated to London Boroughs and the City of London after the meeting on the 10th July.
- The next WELLCOG meeting is to be held on the 10th July 2025.

YALPAG

YALPAG’s Land Technical Group meet twice a year with the last meeting being held on 12 March 2025. The YALPAG guidance documents continue to be reviewed and updated as and when necessary. The Verification Requirements for Cover Systems (Version 4.1) was issued in June 2021 and is due for review. The Planning guidance was reviewed, updated and issued in July 2023 and it is anticipated that work will start on updating this document at the end of this year/early next year. The Verification Requirements for Gas Protection Systems guidance is currently in the process of being reviewed and updated.

c. Hot or emerging topics

NBF members discussed how there had been a recent judicial ruling with regards to air quality issues due to a landfill regularly catching fire and local residents being impacted and if the site should be a Part 2A site.

Emma Tattersdill (ET) confirmed that there have been a number of interesting cases that have reached the courts recently about regulators that have failed to take regulatory action. NBF members felt that they were not always aware the full extent of the judicial findings and a short summary would be helpful for members.

ET also made NBF members aware of an interesting ruling relating to PFAS and the European Court of Human Rights.

[Italian Court Ruling Sentences 11 Executives to Jail for PFAS Pollution](#)

ET, kindly offered to summarise the recent cases and the potential impacts for industry to help them be informed better, as it is not always easy to understand the implications of some of the legal decisions.

ACTION: ET to prepare a short summary of recent legal cases relating to land contamination and potential impacts for the brownfield industry.

There was also discussion about the recent Environment Audit Committee looking at PFAS. There was some concern that there did not appear to be environmental practitioners called to provide evidence. There was concern that the evidence being presented was not balanced. NBF members were aware but due to a lot of consultations coming out at the same time it was difficult to respond.

NH confirmed that CL:AIRE tries to flag the consultations on their LINKEDIN page and e-alert when they are made aware of them.

[Addressing the risks from Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances \(PFAS\) - Committees - UK Parliament](#)

NBF members also flagged that parliament has recently published a POST publication about PFAS. [Regulation and remediation of 'forever' chemicals - POST](#)

NBF members were reminded that there is a consultation on landfill tax reform with a deadline 21 July 2025. [Consultation on reform of Landfill Tax - GOV.UK](#)

d. Brownfields in the Media

There have been a number of articles in the press recently relating to contamination issues, which can be positive for raising the profile of the industry but there is concern with some of the language being used. NBF members need to be conscious of how accurately issues are being reported. There does appear to be some scaremongering and the use of emotive language. This can have an impact on the profession. Messaging is very important along with perceived risks and how dangerous sites really are.

Specific examples of brownfields in the media include:

[More than 100 landfills in England may be leaching 'highly hazardous' waste | Pollution | The Guardian](#)

['Like fly-tipping': ministers ignoring pleas to cut sludge fertiliser use | Farming | The Guardian](#)

[Lead: Metal mines pollution raises health risk concerns - BBC News](#)

e. National Quality Mark Scheme for Management of Land Contamination (NQMS) Sub Group

Liz Hart (LH) chair of the NQMS steering group provided an update on the NQMS. She introduced the scheme and the aims and objectives. LH explained that the scheme is coming up to 10 years old and has had a lot of promotion, but the steering group are looking to revisit that promotion and marketing. LH confirmed that the wording in LCRM has strengthened the wording around competency and signposts to using a Suitably Qualified Person under the NQMS, however LH confirmed that some sectors still are not aware of the scheme. She explained recently she provided a webinar to the HBF members and most attendees weren't aware of the scheme. As a result additional webinars are now going to be given to other sectors to help promote the scheme such as planners to help understand the benefits of getting things right first time and using competent individuals. LH also explained that the terms of references have been reviewed for the administrator of the scheme and awarding body and these are in the process of being signed off. In addition, she will be working with CL:AIRE to update the website to create short user profiles and videos for different sectors to access and learn more about the scheme. This will help with direct promotion and marketing and provide a consistent message.

f. Standards

Nicola Harries (NH) shared the update that Mike Smith kindly provided outlining the new standards that are in preparation or out for consultation. Sincere thanks were given to Mike Smith for collating and sharing this information. Full details are available to [download here](#).

3. Specific Knowledge Share

Presentation was provided by DB on the National Brownfield Forum Task and Finish Group report. He summarised the activity of the task group and the findings. These are summarised in the final report

titled: Interactions between Government Policies affecting the Planning and Development of Brownfield Land in England and is supported with a series of anonymised evidence cards of real examples that clearly demonstrate issues described within the report . DB confirmed that the report would be out later in the week.

DB pointed listeners to the outputs published on the CL:AIRE website.

The full report is downloadable: <https://claire.co.uk/component/phocadownload/category/26-landforum?download=1051:task-and-finish-group-brownfield-policies-report-july-2025>

The supporting evidence cards: <https://claire.co.uk/component/phocadownload/category/26-landforum?download=1050:task-and-finish-group-brownfield-policies-report-july-2025-evidence-cards>

DB encouraged all NBF members to take the time to review the report and promote it across the membership groups they represent.

4. AOB

a. Geoscience Alliance

Alex Lee (AL) and Geraint Williams (GW) confirmed that they are not aware of progress about the Geoscience Alliance but have been made aware of University Geoscience UK that the Geological Society is co-ordinating [University Geoscience UK | The Geological Society of London](#). This is focusing on outreach and education relating to geoscience.

AL & GW will keep a watching brief on Geoscience Alliance and keep the NBF informed and things progress.

5. Date of Next Meetings

The next meeting is 20 November 2025.

DB thanked everyone and closed the meeting.