

Update Briefing note

Southall Ward Forum

Thursday 12th July

Southall Waterside

The past couple of weeks has seen an increase in the number of complaints relating to odour from the Southall Waterside development site.

As a matter of course Ealing's Contaminated Land Officer regularly visits Southall Waterside to check progress and advise on matters. The site is also permitted by the Environment Agency and the EA have ultimate responsibility for ensuring all aspects of the remediation are safe and effects, such as odour, are controlled and mitigated.

The following advice is intended to provide an overview of the current issues and situation. It is also intended to advise on the current remediation measures and proposed actions to minimise future odour issues.

As a result of the odour complaints received, Ealing Council Officers have made both announced and unannounced visits to the site, as well as in response to complaints received. I can confirm that none of these visits has identified odours at a level significant enough to justify formal enforcement action.

As part of the sites odour control measures, a number of permanent and mobile odour suppressants are used. These suppressants spray a scented mist disguising bad odour. It should be noted that the site is set up for a prevailing South-Westerly wind.

Over the past few weeks, Britain has experienced extremely hot weather and an unusual north-westerly wind. These weather conditions have exacerbated the odours and the wind direction has blown the odours from the site towards the residential and commercial properties to south of the railway. Nevertheless, the site has a permanent linear odour suppression system along its internal boundary fences and 29 portable suppressant units which are relocated around the site depending on the wind direction and location of any odorous works.

Soil hospital

The site has a 'soil hospital'. This hospital is used to treat odorous/contaminated material before being recycled back into the development site. During operation, the soil hospital creates a very strong smell, which generally is controlled by the odour suppression systems.

Ealing Council Officers continue to make regular arranged and unannounced visits to the site and odours both on and around the site are checked. I can confirm, for example that the Council's Contaminated Land Officer visited the site this morning and was satisfied with the works being undertaken. In addition, the site was visited last week by Council Officer, Councillor and the Council's Leader, Julian Bell where we witnessed first-hand the efforts that Berkeley homes are going to control the odour being created by the development of the site.

What's next?

It is unfortunate that residents are experiencing odour issues and are the Council encourage those concerned to continue to report the odours from Southall Waterside to the Pollution Control Team. Pollutioncontrol@ealing.gov.uk .

On Friday afternoon, the weather is forecast to change wind direction back to a prevailing South Westerly wind, where it is forecast to remain for the next couple of weeks. In addition, Berkeley

Homes have advised that they have no plans to undertake any particularly odorous work before next week. The combination of these on-site measures and the change in wind direction should mean that the properties on the south side of the site should not experience any odours from Southall Waterside, from Monday for the foreseeable future.

FM Conway

Hillingdon Council advise that FM Conway are now operating fully in compliance with their Environmental Permit. If residents experience any issues in relation to odour that they believe is coming from FM Conway then they are encouraged to contact Hillingdon Council directly using the 'Report It' link on the right hand side of their noise complaints web page. (link below)

<https://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/17404/Odour-pollution>

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