

Dear Sophie,

Environmental Health have reviewed the Southern Testing report dated 20.05.26 and the fact that a revised report has been provided is welcomed. There are however still some points that require addressing and we have provided further comments on these below:

1. In the context of validation of the depth of imported topsoil we note the comment in the email 'We will ensure that going forwards photographs are taken with a tape to show the depth of topsoil'. With this in mind we have revisited the Southern Testing RMS which makes states that 450mm of clean soil including a minimum of 150mm topsoil will be placed in all garden areas. We therefore need clarification at this stage that sufficient depth of subsoil and topsoil are present in the gardens of Plot 1 and Plot 2. If Southern Testing have any further photos that show the depth of topsoil and subsoil present in these plots we would be happy to review this information, if not then we are of the view that validation pits will need to be dug in the gardens to Plot 1 and Plot 2 to prove the depths of material present.
2. We note the following is stated in the report 'Copies of the laboratory test certificates dated 17th and 21st October 2025 are enclosed'. Whilst a laboratory report for dated 21.10.25 has been provided there are also certificates dated 06.08.25, 03.11.25 and 17.11.25, it is therefore not clear if the laboratory reports provided have been referenced in the main body of the report.
3. We note the comment 'The topsoil along the boundary fence to plot 1 was subsequently removed and replaced'. We appreciate that the sample from material used to infill the excavation was clean it is however not clear if any further validation testing was undertaken to ensure that all the contaminated topsoil had been removed from this area of Plot 1. We would be grateful for further comments in relation to this along with the original chemical test certificate for Plot 1.
4. It is not clear when the photo in plate 5 was taken as no date has been provided – we would be grateful if this can be clarified.
5. It is also not clear which of the chemical test certificates relate to topsoil and which relate to subsoil. From the depths on the certificates we have an idea of which ones relate to topsoil and which ones relate to subsoil, we would however be grateful for clarity in the report on this.
6. We note that there is a test certificate dated 13.08.25 for a sample called 'Batch No 12' we have however been unable to find any commentary in relation to 'Batch No 12' in the main report.

7. The material transfer notes have been provided which is welcomed, we note however that two of the material transfer notes are dated 12.12.25 and given the dates on the laboratory certificates it is therefore not clear if this material imported in December 2025 has been chemically validated.

Given the above unfortunately we are still unable to recommend the relevant condition for discharge.

Kind regards

Kevin

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