

Advisory notes for demolition and construction sites

The Council seeks to ensure all construction sites are operated in compliance with the legislation to ensure they keep disturbance to nearby residents to a minimum. In the absence of any formal planning conditions attached to any planning consent, the following information should be considered: -

NOISE

The council expects that potentially noisy construction and demolition activities will only be carried out during the following times:

- 08.00 - 18.00 Monday to Friday
- 08.00 - 13.00 on Saturdays
- No work on Sundays or Bank Holidays

Use mains power in preference to diesel generators where possible.

DUST

Prevention measures should be taken to minimise the formation and spread of dust.

ASBESTOS

This material is commonly found in domestic situations as corrugated roofing sheets or downpipes, and was particularly popular for roofing sheds or garages. It is normally seen as a greyish-white fibrous material with a rough surface. If you are in any doubt then you should use caution and consider the material to be hazardous.

Extreme care must be taken when handling and/or removing this material. If the householder decides to do the removal work themselves they may find guidance at the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) web page <http://www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos/protect.htm>.

As a general guide, before commencing work on the material: -

- It should be dampened down. The inclusion of a small amount of PVA in the damping down water will help to contain any dust when the material is handled.
- The person doing the work should wear protective overalls, gloves and face mask suitable for the purpose.
- If at all possible any fixings (bolts, screws, etc.) should be slowly removed. Do not break up the material or use hammers, saws or drills which may release fibres into the air.
- When removed the material should be double-bagged, or alternatively wrapped in heavy, dampened sheeting and taken to a licensed waste facility (some Council amenity sites have this facility). You may need to make prior arrangement with the site. Any sheeting material should also be disposed of.

If however there is a large amount of asbestos the householder should consider whether to employ a specific contractor for its removal.

Any removal work undertaken by contractors is regulated by the Health and Safety Executive. Such contractors must be licensed to handle and dispose of this material.

DISPOSAL OF DEMOLITION WASTE

The contractor has a duty of care to correctly dispose of any waste arising from the demolition works.

Considering the requirements of Clean Air Act and Waste Permitting normally only clean timber, bark or plant matter resulting from demolition is conditionally exempted subject to the following provisions:

- That there is no other reasonable safe and practicable method of disposing of the matter.
- That the burning is carried out in such a manner as to minimise the emission of dark smoke.
- That the burning is carried out under **direct** and **continuous supervision** of the occupier of the premises concerned or the person authorised to act on his behalf.

Burning therefore should only take place in **exceptional** circumstances when all other disposal options have been considered. Such disposal options include re-use or recycling the waste for construction purposes, or transporting the waste to a site registered for its disposal, using a licensed carrier.

The contractor should demonstrate best practice by adopting the recommendations of "**BRE Pollution Control Guide - Controlling particles, vapours and noise pollution from construction sites**."

Further, the Council seeks to achieve the standards contained within "**The control of dust and emissions from construction and demolition - Best Practice Guidance**", produced in partnership by the Greater London Authority and London Councils and available at http://static.london.gov.uk/mayor/environment/air_quality/docs/construction-dust-bpg.pdf