

WEDNESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 09:30 - 13:30



## WELCOME

We have been working hard to develop an interesting and diverse range of speakers at this year's virtual conference.

Where else would you be able to find highlights including Paul Nathanail discussing what AI means for the geosciences sector, Emma Tattersdill on Levelling Up, and a panel discussion on what regulators expect to see on climate change impacts in reports?

In the first session, following the opportunity to hear the voices of early careers professionals, we are covering a number of important current developments in the land condition sector, including the key findings from our recently held SiLC/ CIRIA Stakeholder Workshop.

In part two, we are looking to the future, after a short video from Bruce Lascelles on soil quality commencing with how land condition professionals could have a more impactful role in shaping the sustainability performance of development projects, and discussing concerns about antimicrobial resistance in the environment, and the future of AI and Digital Data.

This is an interactive, CPD event and I'd like to encourage all delegates to participate in the event via our live polls, the chat facility and during the Q&A and panel sessions. Please do use these opportunities to voice your opinions and to encourage industry change.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of the SiLC PTP, Board and Assessors, the team at Forum Court and our Speakers for their valuable contributions and of course to our sponsors who have made this event possible. I hope you enjoy this year's Annual Forum. We would love to hear your feedback and ideas for future events, via our survey or you can contact us via our email address [silc@silc.org.uk](mailto:silc@silc.org.uk).



Dr. Tom Henman  
Director, RSK Geosciences  
and Chair of SiLC PTP

### TIME

### SPEAKER

09.30

#### Opening Address

Dr. Tom Henman, Director at RSK and Chair of SiLC PTP

**Voices of Early Career Professionals: 'What are the key future challenges facing the brownfield sector and what do you believe leaders of today should be concentrating on to address these challenge.'**

Presented by Carrie Rose, Technical Director at GHD

### SESSION 1 CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE LAND CONDITION SECTOR

09.55

#### The Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 for Land Condition Professionals

Emma Tattersdill, Partner (Environmental Law) at Bexley Beaumont

#### A Regulator's Guide to Cover Systems and their Verification

Rae Watney, Senior Land Quality Officer at Sheffield City Council

#### Future Policy and Regulation of Excavated Materials

- Findings of a Recent SiLC/ CIRIA Soil CoP Stakeholder Workshop  
Louise Beale, Integration Project Manager at SLR Consulting

#### Q&A

#### Changing Weather, Changing our Approach to Land Remediation?

Claire Dickinson, Director at Geo-environmental Matters

#### Panel Discussion - What Do Regulators Expect to See on the Incorporation of Climate Change into Land Condition Assessments?

- Mark Hill, Panel Chair, Climate & Sustainability Lead at The Pensions Regulator
- Katy Baker, Senior Technical Director at Arcadis
- Mark Field, Bid Director at VertaseFLI
- Robert Tyler, Senior Contaminated Land Officer at Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea
- Heidi Bignell, Technical Advisor, Land and Contamination Management at the Environment Agency
- James Bryan, Climate Change Advisor at the Environment Agency

#### Comfort Break

### SESSION 2 LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE

12.10

#### Welcome back

Dr. Tom Henman, Director at RSK and Chair of SiLC PTP

#### Soil Biodiversity, Minimising Remediation and Improving Quality of Soil

Bruce Lascelles, Director for Climate Smart and Sustainable Land Management at Arcadis Consulting UK

#### The Future of Land Condition and Sustainable Development

Freddie Kennedy, Associate Director at AtkinsRéalis

#### Antimicrobial Resistance in the Environment: A Systems Thinking Approach

Lucy Bethell, Senior Associate, Contaminated Land Specialist at Mott MacDonald

#### Digital Data and AI: The role(s) of Artificial Intelligence Including Machine Learning in Land Contamination Risk Management

Paul Nathanail, Technical Director at LQM

#### Q&A

13.25

#### Closing Address

Dr. Tom Henman, Director at RSK and Chair of SiLC PTP



**TOM HENMAN**  
**Director at RSK and Chair of SiLC PTP**  
 Tom has over 25 years' experience in the assessment and management of land affected

by contamination. His diverse and innovative project work has been recognised in several UK Brownfield Awards. He has also been actively involved with AGS, EIC, CIRIA and CL:AIRE and has worked with universities on collaborative research projects.



**CARRIE ROSE**  
**Technical Director – Contamination Assessment and Remediation at GHD**  
 Carrie is a chartered Technical Director who has over twenty

years' experience in Contaminated Land assessment and management of ground risk. She has wide ranging experience in the planning, permitting, regulatory engagement, design & delivery of a wide range of land condition related projects.



**EMMA TATTERSDILL**  
**Partner Environmental Law at Bexley Beaumont**  
 Emma is a solicitor specialising in environmental law. She works

with businesses and individuals on all aspects of environmental regulation, contamination, water and waste management, nuisance issues and the natural environment. As well as supporting SiLC, Emma is a trustee of CL:AIRE and represents UKELA on the National Brownfield Forum.

**PRESENTATION**  
**The Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 for Land Condition Professionals**

Emma will provide a brief overview of the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 before exploring two areas of particular relevance to land condition professionals: Environmental Outcome Reports, which are set to replace the Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment regimes across the UK, and Nutrient Pollution Standards (relating to nitrogen and phosphorus pollution in water).



**RAE WATNEY**  
**Senior Land Quality Officer at Sheffield City Council**  
 Rae is a Local Authority Officer specialising in Contaminated Land and has

previously worked in Contaminated Land consultancy. She is an active member of NCLOG and YALPAG and is a member of the working group for the new NCLOG guidance on simple cover systems. In 2021, she won Best Young Brownfield Professional at the Brownfield Briefing awards.

**PRESENTATION**  
**A Regulator's Guide to Cover Systems and their Verification**

An overview of the new NCLOG guidance on Simple Cover Systems and their Verification. This document is intended to be a reference to help Local Authority officers provide a consistent approach to regulating the design and verification of simple cover systems. The document signposts and collates existing guidance and discusses and contextualises regular issues faced by regulators and consultants.



**LOUISE BEALE**  
**Integration Project Manager at SLR Consulting, Deputy Chair SiLC PTP**  
 Louise has worked in environmental consultancy for 30

years advising clients on land quality issues associated with the ownership and development of brownfield land including material reuse. She has been deputy chair of the SiLC PTP since 2022 and a member of the PTP since 2019.

**PRESENTATION**  
**Future Policy and Regulation of Excavated Materials - Findings of a Recent SiLC/ CIRIA Soil CoP Stakeholder Workshop**

There is a widespread perception among regulators and the development sector that current approaches to regulation of excavated soils within the waste regulatory regime are not fit for purpose. In this presentation Louise will be sharing findings from the SiLC and CIRIA workshop held in February 2024 to identify potential improved regulatory and policy options for excavated soils. Discussing key issues, desirable outcomes and perceived barriers with potential solutions presented and ranked.



**CLAIRE DICKINSON**  
**Director at Geo-environmental Matters**  
 Bringing over 30 years of experience in UK land development, Claire

is a contaminated land specialist with a background in geotechnical engineering. She combines running her consultancy with lecturing at the University of Portsmouth. Claire is part of the research team producing online resources for the CIRIA's Soil Community of Practice.

**PRESENTATION**  
**Changing Weather, Changing our Approach to Land Remediation?**

With the news that the 1.5C threshold of global warming has been breached according to the EU's Copernicus Climate Change Service, what are we doing as Land Condition professionals to mitigate and adapt to our changing climate and increased frequency of extreme weather events? This presentation considers the impacts of climate change on contaminant behaviour and whether there needs to be a shift in approach in response to the Climate Emergency.



**BRUCE LASCELLES**  
**UK Director, Sustainable Land Management at Arcadis**  
 Bruce is Past President of the British Society of Soil Science and

has a PhD in Soil Science. He has focused on the inter-relationships between the physical environment and plant and animal communities, soil and hydrology impacts/benefits in relation land use change and on surveying soil and land use types across the UK.

**VIDEO**  
**Healthy soils as Part of a Sustainable Future**

This short video will highlight the critical importance of healthy soils for our sustainable future and the multiple ecosystem services soils provide as a critical part of our life support system. Understanding these aspects of soils provides opportunities to increase the impact of land remediation projects in terms of sustainability, biodiversity and climate.



**FREDDIE KENNEDY**  
Associate Director at AtkinsRéalis  
Freddie is a contaminated land and remediation specialist and Chartered Environmentalist. He

has practiced as a land quality consultant and remediation contractor. Freddie has a diverse project portfolio, including a wide variety of former industrial sites and contemporary oil and gas assets.

### PRESENTATION

#### The Future of Land Condition and Sustainable Development

Freddie will discuss opportunities for land condition professionals to have a more impactful role in shaping the sustainability performance of development projects. The presentation will feature Freddie's forward-thinking ideas on how the industry can be reinvigorated, such as by adopting a broader scope to site assessment and remediation options appraisal.



**LUCY BETHELL**  
Technical Director at Mott MacDonald  
Lucy is a contaminated land specialist at Mott MacDonald and is a SiLC, Chair of CIWEM Contaminated

Land Specialist Panel and CIWEM PTP representative. Lucy has been involved in Mott MacDonald's AMR Working Group since 2019 and has a keen interest in emerging contaminants and big picture, cross discipline challenges.

### PRESENTATION

#### Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in the Environment: A Systems Thinking Approach

The challenges associated with AMR can only be tackled by a systems thinking approach, as linked to the One Health Approach promoted by the World Health Organisation. This presentation will give an introduction to AMR in the Environment, the challenges it brings and how a systems thinking approach must be used to start to tackle this global threat.



**PAUL NATHANAIL**  
Director at LQM  
Paul is a Director of LQM – a specialist consultancy innovating in risk-based land management. His interest in machine learning (ML) began in the 1980s when

he applied geostatistics to model large volumes of methane monitoring results and today revolves around work on "big" data applications of ML for ground characterisation.

### PRESENTATION

#### Digital Data and AI: The role(s) of Artificial Intelligence Including Machine Learning in Land Contamination Risk Management

Paul will discuss how Machine learning (ML), a subset of AI, uses processes or rules and statistical models to analyse and reach conclusions from patterns in data without following explicit instructions. He will go on to explore how large language models such as ChatGPT apply deep learning, a form of ML, to generate text from large datasets and how AI has a role to play in identifying patterns of contamination or migration; predicting the likelihood of contamination risks and ensuring land contamination management practices comply with regulations and standards.

### PANEL DISCUSSION PANELLISTS



**MARK HILL**  
Climate & Sustainability Lead at The Pensions Regulator (Panel Chair)  
Mark is the Climate and Sustainability

Lead within The Pensions Regulator (TPR), responsible for developing the regulatory response to climate change and sustainability disclosure requirements and delivering TPR's Climate Change Strategy. He brings some 30 years of experience working predominantly in the public sector.



**ROBERT TYLER**  
Senior Contaminated Land Officer at Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea  
Robert Tyler has dealt with contaminated

land in local government for over 20 years. Apart from the full range of Part 2A and planning work, career highlights include working on the 2012 Olympics, and being involved in the Grenfell Environmental Checks process. Robert is a committee member of the National Contaminated Land Officer's Group.



**KATY BAKER**  
Senior Technical Director at Arcadis  
With 22 years' experience in brownfield site management, specialising in land

contamination risk assessment, Katy supports clients throughout all stages of their asset and across multiple sectors. In 2023, she led a team in Arcadis developing a framework and tool, Climate: CLEAR, to support with predicting the potential impact of climate change on land contamination conceptual site models.



**MARK FIELD**  
Bid Director at VertaseFLI  
Mark has worked in the brownfield regeneration sector for over 20 years having roles within Industry,

regulation and consultancy, and now a contaminated land, brownfield and environmental contracting specialist. Mark is a SiLC, SQP and a qualified person (DoWCoP), and sits on CIWEM's Contaminated Land Panel and SiLCs Professional and Technical Panel.



**HEIDI BIGNELL**  
Technical Advisor, Land and Contamination Management at the Environment Agency  
Educated at the University of Leeds

and the University of Southampton, Heidi started her career working for the UK Hydrographic Office. She moved to the Environment Agency in 2004. She started her current role in 2014 and has been the lead on climate change for Land Contamination since 2023.



**JAMES BRYAN**  
Climate Change Advisor at the Environment Agency  
James has had several roles within the EA and latterly as a climate change

advisor. Some significant work includes; developing strategy to reduce methane leaks from regulated facilities, Producing report on impact of climate change on chemicals; and having written guidance on assessing climate change in contaminated land risk assessment.





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Statom Group are an exemplar of quality client-contractor collaborative working, within remediation, groundworks and concrete frame projects. We respond to our client's requirements with our specialist in-house remediation and works division, and focus on value engineering, delivering quality projects. Statom Group provide a one-stop shop for all site preparation operations.

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[www.remedx.co.uk](http://www.remedx.co.uk)



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**INSTITUTIONS SUPPORTING OF SPECIALISTS IN LAND CONDITION REGISTER**

