

JOINT INDUSTRY WORKING GROUP
ASBESTOS IN SOIL, MADE GROUND AND CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION WASTE

Progress Report

June 2014

Dear All

Apologies for the delay in updating you on the work of the Joint Industry Working Group (JIWG), even though we have not met as a full group we have still been moving things forward but not at the pace that we had been hoping for. There are many aspects of the proposed JIWG Code of Practice that still need to be resolved but we are making progress. So progress so far:

1. A small executive group (Steve Forster, Rob Blackburn, Simon Cole and Tim Elliott) has now been formed to move key aspects forward and to try and inject greater momentum into the project.
2. We are continuing to populate the framework skeleton to understand which aspects of the development of the JIWG Code of Practice can be fast-tracked and to identify the areas that require further work.
3. Funding has now been secured to move forward with some very important research to undertake a soil survey to ascertain background levels of asbestos in urban and rural environments, and research dust/asbestos fibre emission from common site-based activities. This research will help SoBRA with the development of their risk assessment framework which will feed directly into the JIWG Code of Practice.
4. We continue to engage closely with the HSE to get clarification of regulatory issues that we feel need to be addressed.
5. We are requesting updates from the HSE as to when HSG 248 will be issued for consultation and re-issue. Up to now we have not received any further news on publication. There are a number of key aspects as part of this document that the JIWG will look to signpost to, so it is crucial for the project to understand what it will contain and when will it be finalised.
6. The JIWG is closely liaising with AGS with regards to them updating their Site Investigation Asbestos Risk Assessment (SIARA) again this work will feed directly into the JIWG.
7. The development of a SCA "Bluebook" – Analytical Method is continuing with Steve Forster, Rob Blackburn and David Wood attending and contributing to the meetings. Simon Cole and Tim Elliott are also participating with reviews. It is hoped that the final method adopted will be signposted from the JIWG code of practice.
8. Steve Forster will be presenting an update of the JIWGs progress to the forthcoming CIRIA sessions in London and Edinburgh..

We will be back in touch shortly, hopefully with further positive news of the development of the JIWG Asbestos in Soil code of practice.

Kindest regards

Nicola