

# GLA and London Councils Best Practice Guidance – control of emissions from construction and demolition

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# Best Practice Guidance - Background

- GLA and London Councils jointly published BPG in November 2006.
- Identified need to protect residents near sites and site workers from harmful dust emissions.
- Prepared with help from Partnership in Reducing Emissions from Construction Industry Sites (PRECIS).
- Built on existing Building Research Establishment Guidance.
- Aimed to provide advice to construction industry and help boroughs agree mitigation measures with developers.
- Followed control hierarchy of:
  1. Prevention
  2. Suppression
  3. Containment.
- BPG is not a statutory document.

# Site Evaluation and Method Statement

- Site manager required to assess risk of site.
- Criteria include:
  - Area of development
  - Number of properties
  - Impact on sensitive receptors nearby.
- BPG sets out different scale of mitigation measures depending on whether site is low, medium or high risk.
- Site evaluation should be included in a Method Statement, to be submitted to Planning Authority before work begins.
- Method Statement would also include a risk assessment, and an outline of proposed mitigation measures.

# Site planning

Mitigation measures include:

- Barriers around boundary
- Bonfires
- Site layout
- Worker training
- Site management and chain of responsibility
- Haul route consolidation and maintenance
- Sustainable transportation
- Monitoring.

# Construction traffic

Mitigation measures include:

- No vehicle idling
- Vehicle cleaning and wheel washing
- Covering of loads
- Euro standards for vehicles
- Site runoff
- Use of Ultra Low Sulphur Diesel (ULSD)
- NRMM fitting of abatement equipment
- Minimise freight movements.

# Demolition works

Mitigation measures include:

- Use water to suppress dust
- Enclosed chutes and covered skips
- Wrap buildings to be demolished.

# Other site activities

Other mitigation measures include:

- Cover, fence or seed stockpiles
- Re-vegetate earthworks and exposed areas.

# Implementation

- Most boroughs including elements of BPG in Codes of Construction Practice.
- Also references in planning conditions and s106 agreements.
- However, lack of resources for enforcement at boroughs.
- Resistance from industry to retrofit older non-road mobile machinery (NRMM).



# Review of Best Practice Guidance

- Need to take into account new methods since 2006.
- More emphasis on reducing emissions from construction traffic?
- Need to identify what should be mandatory and what is best practice.
- Is high, medium and low risk categorisation appropriate?
- Need to consider practicalities of enforcement.
- Committed to retrofit of NRMM – possibly a LEZ for NRMM?

# Next steps

- Establishing review group – links with BRE/ IAQM?
- Seeking more data on dust impacts of construction and demolition sites.
- Intention for review to be minor – so a few months only.
- Possible demonstration project for retrofitting NRMM.
- GLA intends to include BPG within Supplementary Planning Guidance to aid enforcement.
- GLA to include within procurement processes.

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