

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 4th OCTOBER 2001

CONTAMINATED LAND INSPECTION STRATEGY (FINAL DRAFT)

Report by Director of Community Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To submit East Ayrshire Council's Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy (Final Draft) document for consideration and formal adoption prior to publication in October 2001.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Under the new contaminated land provisions contained in Part IIA of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, statutory guidance requires that a strategic approach be taken with regard to inspection of Local Authority land, and that this approach be described in a written strategy. This Inspection Strategy should be formally adopted and published within fifteen months of the issue of the statutory guidance, i.e. by 14th October 2001.

3 DISCUSSION

- 3.1 The first draft of the strategy was approved for release for external consultation by the Policy & Resources Committee on 4th April 2001.
- 3.2 The Scottish Environmental Protection Agency, Scottish Natural Heritage, Historic Scotland, The Food Standards Agency, Enterprise Ayrshire and the Scottish Executive were invited to comment on the strategy as external consultees.
- 3.3 The consultation period has now expired, the comments received have been noted and, where valid, have been incorporated into the final draft. A copy of the Strategy is available in the Members' Lounge and will also be placed on the Council's Intranet.

4 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Environmental Protection Act 1990, Part IIA.
- 4.2 Environment Act 1995, Section 57.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The investigation and possible remediation of “Council owned “ land may require significant financial resources, depending on the nature of the contaminant in or on the land and the required level of remediation.

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The strategy is commensurate with existing Council policy and other strategies.

7. CONCLUSION

- 7.1 In adoption of this strategy East Ayrshire Council is fulfilling its statutory obligations and complying with the underlying principles of Part IIA of the Act.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 It is recommended that Committee approve the Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy for publication, and remit to the Director of Community Services to make the necessary arrangements.

William Stafford
Director of Community Services

WS/JS

14 September 2001

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. The Contaminated Land (Scotland) Regulations 2000
2. Scottish Executive Circular 1/2000 (Statutory Guidance) July 2000
3. Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy (Advice for Scottish Local Authorities) July 2001

Any person wishing to inspect the background papers listed above should telephone 01563 576111 and ask for John F Crawford, Head of Protective Services.

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AGENDA