

THURSDAY 27TH MARCH 09:30 – 13:30



WELCOME

Welcome to the SiLC Annual Forum 2025! This year is special as we celebrate 25 years of SiLC. I will be starting the event

by reflecting on the origins of SiLC, the reasons why it was set up and how they are just as relevant today. The first part of the forum will focus on a topic that I'm sure we've all come across: risk communication. We know from feedback that you like to hear about projects that others have been involved in so Joe Jackson will present a case study on the value of transparency. We are excited to then have Tom Pashby a senior reporter at New Civil Engineer discuss "communicating technical stuff in a way that doesn't freak communities out". The middle part of the forum will cover current hot topics including climate change and materials reuse before going into our panel discussion on, 'How can SiLCs support the government's drive for growth through brownfield development'. This part will include updates about CIRIA and SOBRA guidance. The final part of the forum will look to the future and include presentations on AI (Innovate UK project), Big Data (National Underground Asset Register) and PFAS (innovative remediation). 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.



Louise Beale
SLR Consulting and Chair of SiLC PTP

TIME

SPEAKER

09:30

Opening Address

- Louise Beale, Integration Manager at SLR Consulting and Chair of the SiLC PTP
- Lucy Bethell, Technical Director at Mott MacDonald, Deputy Chair of the SiLC PTP

SESSION 1: PAST: SiLC AT 25

09:40

25 years of SiLC

Louise Beale

09:55

High Stakes Stakeholder Engagement!

Joe Jackson, Managing Director at Jackson Remediation

10:15

Communicating technical stuff in a way that doesn't freak communities out

Tom Pashby, Senior Reporter at New Civil Engineer

10:45

Comfort Break

SESSION 2: PRESENT: CURRENT HOT TOPICS

10:55

Welcome back from Louise

Louise Beale

10:55

Land Development, Climate Change, and EWE: Industry Survey Insights & Updates

Andrew Fellows, Associate Technical Director at RSK

11:10

Findings of a SiLC and CIRIA Soil CoP Stakeholder Workshop on the Future Policy and Regulation of Excavated Materials

Tom Henman, Director at RSK Geosciences and RSK Environment

11:30

Panel Discussion: How can SiLCs support the government's drive for growth with respect to brownfield development?

- Carrie Rose (Panel Chair, Technical Director at Arcadis)
- Andrew Lawrance (Divisional Director at Mott Macdonald)
- David Carr (Lead Scientific Officer Environmental and Community Protection at Dacorum Borough Council)
- Paul Sheehan (Director at Stantec)

12:15

Comfort Break

SESSION 3: FUTURE: AI & DIGITAL TOOLS, PFAS & INNOVATIVE REMEDIATION

12:30

Welcome back from Louise

Louise Beale

12:30

PDF to AGS: Alchemy or AI-chemy?

Judith Nathanail Director at Land Quality Management

12:45

The Future of Subsurface

Holger Kessler, Senior Stakeholder Manager at AtkinsRéalis

13:05

Risk Based Management of the Emerging contaminants of ca 2050

Paul Nathanail, Director at Land Quality Management

13:20

Closing Address

- Louise Beale
- Lucy Bethell, Technical Director at Mott MacDonald, Deputy Chair of the SiLC PTP



Louise Beale,
Integration Manager at
SLR Consulting, Chair
of the 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 Chair of the SiLC PTP since Spring 2024 and a member of the PTP since 2019.

PRESENTATION 25 Years of SiLC

As SiLC celebrates its 25 year anniversary this year, we reflect on its origins, why those reasons are still relevant today and recognise some of the people who have contributed to SiLC's evolution over the years. We consider how it has evolved and where it can go next.



Joe Jackson, Managing Director at Jackson Remediation

Joe has over 25 years of experience and a very strong technical understanding of contaminated land

/ environmental risk and associated development issues, underpinned by an acute commercial understanding and an entrepreneurial approach to project delivery. Joe established Jackson Remediation in 2021 and has managed its growth to being one of the UK's leading remediation contractors.

PRESENTATION

High Stakes Stakeholder Engagement!

Remediation can give rise to nuisance unless carefully controlled. Furthermore, the engagement with key stakeholders is critical and often perception is just as important as reality. In this session we offer some real-world examples of effective engagement, which have led to stakeholders being the projects' greatest advocates.



Tom Pashby, Senior Reporter at New Civil Engineer

Tom is a senior reporter at New Civil Engineer. They are also the founder of LGBTQIA+ campaign Include Mx.

They previously worked as a digital journalist at IEMA (the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment) and spent 10 years in environmental politics. Tom has run for parliament twice (2017, 2019).

PRESENTATION

Communicating technical stuff in a way that doesn't freak communities out!

Public relations is a critical part of the job for technical professionals, whether or not it is formally listed in role descriptions. This presentation will provide a snapshot into how communications and public relations have changed, and what specialists in land condition can do to grasp the nettle.



Andrew Fellows,
Associate Technical Director at RSK

Andrew specialises in land contamination and has been a SiLC since 2022.

His specialist area is

in quantitative risk assessment and in 2018 was accredited for all disciplines by SoBRA. In 2023 Andrew won the Environment Analyst 'Technical Lead of the Year' award for his commitment to sustainable solutions and training others.

PRESENTATION

Land Development, Climate Change, and EWE: Industry Survey Insights & Updates

RSK Geosciences are preparing a good practice guide for managing climate change geo-related impacts and liabilities in land development for CIRIA. Andrew will present the key findings of an industry survey that has helped informed this work, provide an update on the status of the guidance document to date, and some key learning points for the construction sector.



Dr. Tom Henman,
Director at RSK, Deputy Chair of the SiLC Board

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 including major brownfield infrastructure and advice to Government on stakeholder engagement and risk communication. He has been actively involved with AGS, EIC, CIRIA and CL:AIRE and has worked with universities on collaborative research projects.

PRESENTATION

Findings of a SiLC and CIRIA Soil CoP Stakeholder Workshop on the Future Policy and Regulation of Excavated Materials

Tom's presentation will cover the findings of a recent joint stakeholder workshop on the current issues and challenges limiting sustainable reuse of excavated materials in England and Wales. He will discuss the resulting 'green paper' and the options to consider, including planning-led approaches, applying the waste hierarchy, making disposal a last resort, and changing the legal definition of waste.



Judith Nathanail,
Director at Land Quality Management

Judith trained as an engineering geologist and has over 30 years consulting experience working

on contaminated land. She is passionate about applying data science to solving geoenvironmental challenges. Recent projects include automating the prioritisation of potentially contaminated land for a local authority, creating a remediation greenhouse gas emissions calculator, using data to map renewable energy potential and an Innovate UK project using AI.

PRESENTATION

PDF to AGS: Alchemy or AI-chemy?

Factual ground investigation information is captured in borehole logs and laboratory certificates but then locked up in PDFs that get passed between multiple professionals during the lifecycle of land (re)development. Judith presents on how Innovate UK's AI in Construction Programme funded LQM's Buried Treasure project to use AI to extract AGS data from borehole log and laboratory certificate PDFs. A quick method to turn PDFs into AGS data will ensure the treasure trove of insights buried in the PDFs can inform ground models and support improved interpretation of land contamination risks



Lucy Bethell,
Technical Director at Mott MacDonald, Deputy Chair of the SiLC PTP

Lucy is a Technical Director in contaminated land

at Mott MacDonald and the SiLC PTP Deputy Chair. Lucy has over 20 years of experience in the sector and has worked on a range of brownfield projects in the UK, Europe and Africa. Lucy has a keen interest in emerging contaminants, Antimicrobial Resistance and big-picture cross-discipline challenges.



Holger Kessler, Senior Stakeholder Manager at AtkinsRéalis
With 25 years of experience in geoscience, Holger has developed scientific, technical, and policy solutions at all scales, connecting stakeholders to drive progress. He has led major projects like the UK National Underground Asset Register and a Foresight project on subsurface resources. Now at AtkinsRéalis, he strengthens networks to enhance infrastructure, sustainability, and decision-making for a better future.

PRESENTATION

The Future of Subsurface

Holger will present key insights from The Future of the Subsurface Foresight Project. The subsurface has long shaped society, providing essential resources and infrastructure. As demands grow, pressures on underground space will intensify. Its role in achieving net zero, adapting to climate change, and supporting innovation is crucial, but congestion risks may challenge future land use and planning.



Paul Nathanail, Director at Land Quality Management
Paul is a director of specialist contaminated land consultancy LQM. He offers expert witness and intelligent client

services, delivers live and online training courses and carries out DQRAs. He balances consultancy, research and knowledge transfer in the fields of sustainable contaminated land management, brownfield redevelopment and circular land use. Paul is the lead author of CIRIA's guide on PFAS (C819), supervised research projects on microplastics, featured in a Maggie Philbin documentary on phthalates, and has burnt several non-stick pans.

PRESENTATION

Risk Based Management of the Emerging contaminants of ca 2050

SiLC marks its 25th birthday at a time when the value of underemployed land is being appreciated – once again. SOME brownfield land is affected by contamination. SOME brownfield land condition is better and some worse than the condition of the previous "green"field land. Paul will look back to look forward to see if the substance that could be emerging contaminants in 2050 can be foreseen and prevented from acquiring that emerging status.

PANEL DISCUSSION:
How can SiLCs support the government's drive for growth with respect to brownfield development?



Carrie Rose, Technical Director at Arcadis
Carrie is a Technical Director and Head of Geoenvironmental at Arcadis. She has 20+ years of experience in the land condition sector and has a broad range of experience. She is a registered SiLC, SQP (NQMS), QP (DoWCoP), CEnv, CSci, CWEM and FCIWEM. She is also on the SiLC Professional Technical Panel.



David Carr, Lead Scientific Officer Environmental and Community Protection at Dacorum Borough Council
David has 21 years of Local Authority Environmental Health

experience focussing on land contamination, environmental permitting and local air quality. Preceded by 6 years in environmental consultancy. He is currently a CIEH Environmental Protection Advisory Panel member and on the National Contaminated Land Officers Group Committee.



Andrew Lawrance, Divisional Director at Mott Macdonald
Andrew is a chartered chemist and scientist and has been a SiLC since 2006. With almost 30 years Mott MacDonald

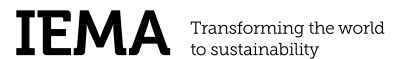
experience, he has moved into operational management roles, whilst maintaining contaminated land technical skills and a passion for urban regeneration projects. He has recently taken on a role leading Mott MacDonald's UK flood defence business.



Paul Sheehan, Director Geo Southeast at Stantec
Paul has 25 years of experience in contaminated land assessment and remediation as a

regulator, consultant, and contractor in the UK and internationally. He specialises in Contaminated Land Regulations, planning, and nuisance. As former Chairman of The National Brownfield Forum, he helped promote sustainable land use, collaborating with regulators, industry, and policymakers.

INSTITUTIONS SUPPORTING OF THE SPECIALISTS IN LAND CONDITION REGISTER



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VertaseFLI is a client focused remediation and enabling contractor. Technical excellence and innovation has always been at the core of our offering and we have been strong supporters of SiLC since its inception. Our strong technical understanding has allowed us to work on and deliver some of the most problematic remediation sites in the UK, utilising a wide range of remediation technologies. www.vertasefli.co.uk

**BIOGENIE**

We are a brownfield remediation and enabling works contractor specialising in cost-effective, risk-based remediation solutions. Our expertise lies in the on-site treatment of contaminated soil and groundwater, utilising advanced biological, chemical, and physical processes to maximise material reuse while minimising costs and programme. www.ortec-group.com/en

**ELEMENT ENVIRONMENTAL**

Element is a leading global provider of Testing, Inspection, and Certification (TIC) services across a diverse set of end markets. Our network of environmental laboratories and scientists delivers fast, precise testing results to meet your environmental analysis needs. We provide analysis on soils, waters, effluents, leachates, wastes, sediments, asbestos, ash, gases, vapors, and emissions. www.element.com/environmental-testing

**JACKSON REMEDIATION**

Jackson Remediation is a specialist Remediation and Enabling contractor which focusses on value creation and quality delivery, drawing upon deep technical expertise and profound understanding of the construction process. By consistently striving to address contamination issues in the most robust yet cost effective manner, clients never need to choose between price and quality again. www.jacksonremediation.co.uk

ARUP

ARUP

For over 75 years, Arup has been recognised for its vision, talent, and tenacity. Committed to sustainable development, our global collective of 18,500 designers, advisers, and engineers drives innovation and excellence. In the UK, we leverage our technical expertise in ground engineering and land contamination to serve a diverse client base across public and private sectors, with a strong emphasis on infrastructure, energy, and the built environment. www.arup.com

**SML LABORATORIES**

SML Laboratories is your trusted partner for environmental, geotechnical, and asbestos analysis. Our senior management team boasts over 90 years of combined experience, specialising in the analysis soil, rock, water, gases, waste, and bulk materials. www.sml-laboratories.co.uk

**ARCADIS**

Arcadis is the world's leading company delivering intelligence-driven sustainable design, engineering, and consultancy solutions for natural and built assets. We are more than 36,000 architects, data analysts, designers, engineers, project planners, water management and sustainability experts, all driven by our passion for improving quality of life. www.arcadis.com

RemTech

Remediation Technologies

REMTECH

Remediation Technologies Ltd (RemTech) offers expert environmental remediation services, specializing in soil and groundwater contamination, spill response and restoration. We provide sustainable, cost-effective solutions for complex contamination issues. Our team delivers end-to-end services across the UK and Europe, ensuring efficient, impactful remediation services.