

Methodologies for Validation of Soil Capping Thickness

Please refer to the YALPAG guidance “Verification Requirements for Cover Systems”, v4.1 dated June 2021 for additional information.

Option 1

Record topographic site levels of the formation layer at a minimum of three locations per residential garden area (both front and rear) or area of soft landscaping, prior to and following the placement of capping material, and take illustrative photographs at each stage. Large soft landscaped areas are likely to require a greater number of survey points. Photographs should be clearly labelled and show the formation layer and/or capping material in relation to reference points such as brick/block courses and driveway edges. Where relevant, photographic confirmation that any no-dig layers, geotextile separation layers or capillary break layers have been installed in line with the approved Remediation Strategy should be provided.

This information should be included within a Validation Report, in line with the YALPAG guidance.

Option 2

All steps to be undertaken under the supervision of a suitably qualified and competent person.

Completion of hand-dug pits to confirm the composition, design and depth of the capping material. The number of pits required will be dependent on the conceptual site model and should be agreed on a site-by-site basis as part of the Remediation Strategy.

Guidelines for a typical residential development would include at least one hand-dug pit per plot, to include coverage of both front and rear gardens across the development, and the sampling of areas of soft landscaping would include at least one per area, two in areas between 20m² and 50m² and 3 holes in areas greater than 50m².

| “Typical” residential development guidelines | Number of pits required |
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| Plots with residential gardens | 1 pit per plot, to include some pits in front gardens |
| Areas of soft landscaping | Minimum 1 pit per area. 2 pits for areas between 20m ² and 50m ² 3 pits for areas greater than 50m ² More pits may be required for very large areas. |

Photographs of the hand-dug pits should be provided in line with the YALPAG Guidance and included within the Validation report.