

Sheffield City Council – Environmental Protection Service.

Date: 22/05/13

Acceptable Methods of Validating Capping Thickness.

Option 1

1. Record topographic site levels of the formation layer at a minimum of three locations in every residential garden area (both front and rear) and soft landscaped area prior to capping application. Large soft landscaped areas may require a greater number of levelling locations at the discretion of the Local Authority.
2. Digital photographs for every residential garden area (both front and rear) and soft landscaped area must adequately illustrate formation layer in relation to reference points such as brick/block courses and driveway edges.
3. Record topographic site levels at a minimum of three locations in every residential garden area (both front and rear) and soft landscaped area post capping application. Large soft landscaped areas may require a greater number of levelling locations at the discretion of the Local Authority.
4. Digital photographs for every residential garden area (both front and rear) and soft landscaped area must adequately illustrate capping application in relation to reference points such as brick/block courses and driveway edges.
5. All data to form part of a Validation Report which must include, inter alia, prints of all digital photographs titled with plot number, front or rear garden, or location of soft landscaped area. A CD with files of all digital photographs must be provided with the Validation Report.

Option 2

1. Environmental Engineer to inspect formation layer to verify that site levels permit application of agreed capping thickness. Environmental Engineer to digitally photograph formation layer. Digital photographs for every residential garden area (both front and rear) and soft landscaped area must adequately illustrate formation layer in relation to reference points such as brick/block courses and driveway edges.
2. Environmental Engineer to verify thickness of capping layer via minimum of three augered or hand dug exploratory holes (hand dug or machine excavated only where capillary break layer incorporated) within each residential rear garden area and soft landscaped area. In residential front gardens, for each discrete soft landscaped area (may be one house or two adjacent houses), the minimum number of verification locations to be determined on an area basis; up to 20 m² = 1 hole, 20 to 50m² = 2 holes, over 50m² = 3 holes. Large soft landscaped areas may require a greater number of exploratory verification holes at the discretion of the Local Authority.
3. Environmental Engineer to digitally photograph every residential garden area (both front and rear) and soft landscaped area post capping.
4. All data to form part of a Validation Report which must include, inter alia, prints of all digital photographs titled with plot number, front or rear garden, or location of soft landscaped area. A CD with files of all digital photographs must be provided with the Validation Report.