

## **Standing Advice Note – Land Contamination Malkins Bank Golf Course**

This advice note has been produced for the use of staff of the golf course, in order to assist them whilst at work but also to provide general advice to members.

### ***History and Background***

Malkins Bank Golf Course previously had a salt works, chemical works, railway line on it and been subject to landfilling before being redeveloped into a golf course. Due to the historical use of the golf course, Congleton Borough Council (latterly Cheshire East Council) and the Environment Agency carried out investigations into what was left over from these industrial activities. These investigations found elevated levels of contamination in the soils and groundwater at the site. This groundwater feeds in to the Birchenwood Brook which is partially culverted and flows through the site, meaning that there could be pollution of the brook.

In 2011, Cheshire East Council made the decision to formally determine the site as Contaminated Land due to the pollution of the groundwater by several contaminants. No other pollutant linkages were considered to be significant, including all those relating to human health.

A further investigation and assessment was undertaken in 2018. This considered the users of the site i.e. maintenance workers, golfers (adult and child) and general users (e.g. those using the public right of way). The assessment concluded that assuming typical measures were followed (e.g. wearing gloves, regular cleaning of shoes etc.) the contaminants present at the site did not pose a risk to site users. Investigations have continued at the site to monitor site conditions and work towards a remedial solution.

### ***The Golf Course Now***

It is recommended that the following basic precautions are undertaken by staff and the advice provided to users of the golf course also.

- Boots/golf shoes should be removed before entering buildings and the air line should be used to remove excess dirt/soil before putting them in your car or bag.
- Workers should wear appropriate PPE (personal protective equipment) when working on the golf course. This includes boots, gloves and overalls, and goggles where necessary.