

Business Practice Working Group Report- 08/09

The aim of the Business Practice Working Group is to promote and enhance the quality of professional practice in geotechnical and geoenvironmental engineering.

This will be achieved through

- Liaisons between all geotechnical and geoenvironmental organisations
- Representing and upholding member's interests in commercial and professional matters
- Publishing guidelines on good practice

IT & e-Commerce

A questionnaire targeting S.I Contractors and Consulting Engineers employing drillers will be sent out to determine the ability to produce AGS data as fact report within the industry. The questionnaire would be sent to selected companies as a pilot study and following the results of the, necessary amendments would be made and the questionnaire would be sent to S.I Contractors (including Consultants acting as contractors) and Laboratories. A database of AGS Members, BDA Members and Ground Engineering Members would be compiled and de-duped to provide contact details.

Site Investigation in Construction

- Part 1: Without site investigation ground is a hazard
- Part 2: Planning, procurement and quality management
- Part 3: Specification for ground investigation
- Part 4: Guidelines for the safe investigation by drilling of landfills and contaminated land

Part One would be published as an A4 flyer which would contain an order form on the reverse. Part Two was still being drafted and had not been circulated for public comment.

Part Three (draft 11) and Part Four had been circulated for final comments. SISG Members had been divided into four sub groups to collate and review comments received on each document which would be passed onto the authors.

Making Site Investigation a Regulatory Requirement

Objective: to make SI a regulatory requirement for Planning Applications. The working group agreed that the Building Regulations should be looked at to clarify which parts needed amending so that proposals could be made concerning amendments, (possibly adopting Eurocode 7 categories to define when sign off should be required). Lobbying could take place if a list of decisive amendments had been proposed to the Building Regulations.