

## CASE STUDY

## FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT

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### PROJECT:

The Highland Council

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### DATE AWARDED:

DECEMBER 2010

### PROJECT TIMESCALES:

4 YEARS

### WORK COMPLETED:

£460,000 +

### PROJECTS COMPLETED:

50+

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### FRAMEWORK SCOPE:

**ERS was selected, through open competition, as the preferred contractor for The Highland Council's Framework for Contaminated Land Consultancy Services. The main function is to provide support for the assessment of sites under Part IIA of the Environmental Protection Act (1990). However, services to other departments, including Housing Services and Development Services have been included.**

**The initial three year framework was extended by a further year, until December 2014.**

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### OUR APPROACH:

ERS has appointed a dedicated Contracts Manager to oversee all the works completed under the Framework and to ensure good client relations and a consistent approach.

For each work package awarded, a dedicated project manager is appointed to ensure site investigations progress as efficiently as possible. Since the award of the framework, in excess of 50 site investigations have been completed on a variety of sites, including residential and public open spaces. The scope of works include: the design and supervision of the intrusive site investigations; gas, vapour and groundwater monitoring, and detailed quantitative risk assessment for human health and the environment, including use of the multiple lines of evidence approach.

ERS has also offered advice on remediation activities, waste management, Japanese knotweed management and waste licencing activities.

Some example projects are demonstrated overleaf.

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**PROJECT:**

Granttown On Spey Gasworks

**DATE AWARDED:**

January 2011

**PROJECT VALUE:**

£15,000

**PROJECT SUMMARY:**

This site was a former gasworks located within a primary school playing field. ERS developed a site investigation strategy; following which intrusive works were undertaken.

A Tier 1 (Generic) Human Health Risk Assessment found several contaminants of concern above generic assessment criteria. Therefore a Tier 2 (Detailed) Human Health Risk Assessment was undertaken based on exposure to school pupils of primary school age – considered a non-standard land use. The risk assessment concluded there was unlikely to be a significant possibility of significant harm (SPOSH) from concentrations of contaminants recorded in the soils and groundwater samples.

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**PROJECT:**

Former Longman Landfill, Inverness

**DATE AWARDED:**

June 2011

**PROJECT VALUE:**

£70,000

**PROJECT SUMMARY:**

This site, a former unlicensed landfill, is to be re-developed for commercial use. ERS was commissioned to develop a site investigation strategy and undertake a Phase II site investigation.

The intrusive investigation and soil analysis enabled characterisation of the extent and depth of the waste body and confirmed that a capping layer was only in evidence in a small area of the site.

The groundwater monitoring and analysis of the drift aquifer enabled an assessment of the hydrogeological regime at the site, and, together with soil leachate analysis, a water environment risk assessment was undertaken.

Shallower boreholes were also installed for gas monitoring; following the monitoring period, a gas risk assessment was undertaken which indicated the majority of the site was low or very low risk. The human health risk assessment, undertaken for a commercial end use on soil samples taken from the capping layer, indicated that this area of the site was suitable for use as a commercial development.

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**PROJECT:**

Former Petrol Filling Station, Onich

**DATE AWARDED:**

2011-2012

**PROJECT VALUE:**

£18,000

**PROJECT SUMMARY:**

ERS was appointed to investigate environmental conditions at a former petrol filling station which had been re-developed and was being used for residential housing. ERS developed and agreed a Site Investigation Strategy with the Council.

Tier 1 and subsequent Tier 2 Human Health Risk Assessments undertaken concluded that there were potential pollutant linkages that required further assessment.

Additional works were undertaken to assess the significant possibility of significant harm (SPOSH) to human health from concentrations of TPH and VOC in soils and groundwater via inhalation of indoor air. Passive vapour monitoring was undertaken from the boreholes in closest proximity to the residential property; elevated concentrations were recorded. Additional works have yet to be agreed with the Local Authority.

A Tier 1 and subsequent Tier 2 Water Environment Risk Assessment (WERA) undertaken concluded that the site soils were unlikely to represent significant pollution of the water environment (SPWE).

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**PROJECT:**

Former Sawmill, Golspie

**DATE AWARDED:**

2012

**PROJECT VALUE:**

£4,000

**PROJECT SUMMARY:**

ERS completed Phase I and Phase II investigations of this former timber treatment yard; to assess the potential risks to human health, the water environment and property. A Tier 1 human health risk assessment was conducted; along with Tier 1 and 2 environmental risk assessments. Ground gas monitoring was also undertaken.

The assessments concluded that there was no significant possibility of significant pollution to the water environment or of significant harm to human health from soils.

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**PROJECT:**

Former Distillery, Fort William

**DATE AWARDED:**

2012

**PROJECT VALUE:**

£23,000

**PROJECT SUMMARY:**

ERS completed a Phase II site investigation for Housing Services, prior to the purchase and re-development of the site for social housing. ERS provided supervision during remedial action for invasive weeds.