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| **Bramley - Update on Investigations and Remedial Actions**  **A Technical Working Group monitors progress and provides a forum for utilities and consultants to work together, with input from regulators, on the remediation/control of contamination. Please see** [**roadmaps**](https://www.waverley.gov.uk/Services/Benefits-and-community-support/Bramley-petrol-contamination-Information-and-advice) **agreed with EPS, Openreach and Thames Water** | | | **Date**  18/12/2024 |
| **From Openreach and their consultants, OHES** | **Progress on the provision of alternative Comms and repair of assets** | Our network remains inaccessible, and we continue to monitor the changing landscape that we are working within. We continue to assess the exclusion zone and its size, as well as further control measures that can be applied.  There are currently 234 impacted end users, this will show as slow speeds or intermittent service. All the impacted customers have been assessed by their CP’s and either have a dongle/alternative service or have been confirmed as service ok and no further action taken. This figure does fluctuate, we continue to assess and act, it’s a very fluid situation.  We continue to prioritise welfare and vulnerable customers throughout this period. And the emergency mast remains in the car park of Bramley Telephone Exchange, the primary purpose is to ensure that everyone, regardless of mobile operator, maintains the ability to dial 999.  We have progressed and cleared over two thirds of faults in the area and have also completed over 200 provisions during this time.  Star links are deployed in 3 locations in the village, The Parish Hall, The Nest Coffee Shop and The Wheatsheaf pub, a 4th will be rolled out in the new year.  In the new year, with new control measures being applied, we are hopeful that we will be able to access the network to carry out priority repairs. | |
| **Progress on investigations and actions to enable repair of assets** | OHES continue to monitor vapour levels across the network to assess safe and stable conditions for access. Since the previous update, OHES and Openreach have been working closely with SGN and Thames Water to address their respective losses of gas and water, which are entering the network and further hindering access. Thames Water successfully repaired the water leak on 12th December 2024, and OHES is now reviewing changes to vapour levels as water levels continue to decrease. Collaborative efforts with SGN are ongoing to stop methane from entering the network.  The VEU unit is currently paused, and the site compound has been reduced in size to provide the residents of Bramley with better access along the High Street. OHES will continue to monitor vapour levels into the New Year, and if vapour levels rise, the VEU unit can be reactivated at short notice to reduce vapours within the network.  Further flushing and cleaning of cables and chambers around Bramley High Street have been carried out and are planned to continue into early 2025 to address residual impacts within the network.  Looking ahead to 2025, OHES and Openreach are collaborating on mitigation measures to reduce the risk of vapour infiltration into the E-side (Cables coming from the exchange) cables. Once these risks are mitigated, the initial steps to repair the network can commence. | |
| **From Asda and their consultants,**  **EPS** | **Progress on investigations and actions re remediation on site** | We continue to run groundwater and soil vapour extraction (SVE) on the PFS. There remains no floating product in monitoring wells on the site. We continue to monitor vapour levels through the SVE, and a downward trend has been noted. We expect some variation with the seasonal changes in groundwater levels increasing the unsaturated soil zone. We will continue to monitor the groundwater and vapour levels. | |
| **Progress on investigations and actions re remediation off site** | The second system is now operational, and we are in a phase of optimisation, meaning we are regularly on-site tweaking the pumping rates in the network and monitoring the effect.  We have observed product in the two boreholes closest to the petrol station and they are the focus of the pumping efforts at present. Once we are confident that there is no free product in the offsite remedial wells, we will apply SVE. If we turn on the SVE with product in the wells then we will simply burn through carbon at an unsustainable rate.  No free product was recorded in any offsite wells (other than OSBH01 & OSBH02) in the recent monitoring round.  We issued new traffic management plans for the ‘Land South of High Street’ and await input from Highways. It looks like that will be end of January at the earliest. | |
| **Other investigations and actions** | The booms on the stream continue to be checked and replaced regularly. There have been no reports of product in the stream or on the booms during recent visits. | |
| **From Thames Water** | **Feedback on sampling** | Enhanced monitoring continues to be undertaken around the village and samples continue to show no concerns with the drinking water quality. | |
| **Other investigations and actions** | Repairs to a leaking hydrant located on Station Road were completed on 12 December 2024. We continue to work with other stakeholders to support ongoing investigations. | |
| **From SGN** | **Progress on investigations and actions** | We’re currently monitoring a minor gas reading at Snowdenham Lane’s junction with Bramley High Street roundabout.  We plan to carry out further investigations and any required remediation measures to address the issue**.** We’ll update the local community with details of our work once it has been planned in consultation with the local authorities. | |
| **Comments From the Regulators** | | **Environment Agency** – Please see [statement](https://www.waverley.gov.uk/Portals/0/Documents/services/benefits-and-support/Bramley/EA%20Update%20for%2029-11-2024_27112024_jt.pdf?ver=giohrm1MK4lX-qXQZq11qA%3d%3d) previously made by the EA.  **Waverley Borough Council (Environmental Protection)** – Asda/EPS and Openreach/OHES were pleased to be able to feedback on actions they have been taking at the Public Meeting on 29 November. Since then, the Technical Working Group, which includes SGN (currently) and SCC Highways, have been working together to facilitate the repair of a Thames Water leak and planning for the investigation and repair of the SGN’s assets. These actions were/are needed before Openreach can resume their investigations/repair of their assets. Now the Thames Water leak is repaired Asda/EPS can also run their extraction and treatment plant more efficiently.  Thanks to everyone on the Technical Working Group for your efforts. | |