

Dust Action Plan and Monitoring Garden Centre Fire, London

WDE Consulting Ltd (WDE) was appointed by the site owner following a large fire at a garden centre in which the build up of heat beneath an Asbestos roofing material (ACM) caused an explosion and the disintegration of the roofing materials. The garden centre needed to remain open as it was one of their busiest trading months so half the site was cordoned off with them still trading from an external area.



WDE Scope of Works:

- Emergency Site Walkover
- Emergency dust monitoring set up
- ACM Method Statement to comply with CAR and HSE guidance
- Regulatory Approval
- Implementation of a Dust and airborne Asbestos monitoring program
- Monitoring of the demolition works
- Closure of the incident and reporting to demonstrate compliance with air quality guidance.

Following an initial emergency site walkover (<4 hours after receiving the call) it was identified that the roofing materials contained Asbestos which had been scattered across the site and was hanging loose where parts of the structure still stood. The client immediately cordoned off the area and WDE set up dust monitoring stations and the site boundaries to identify if any dust, including asbestos, was migrating offsite.

WDE was able to recommend a suitably qualified and experienced demolition contractor who could deal with the clearance of the site and complete demolition of the substantially impacted structure. WDE also completed an ACM method statement, with regulatory approval, that outlined how the contractors would remove the materials and also protect themselves/ the public whilst doing so.



A full dust and airborne asbestos monitoring program was implemented, including the use of **pumped and deposition (Frisbee) stations**. This program was put in place during the entire demolition period to ensure the mitigation measures such as dust suppression, barriers and careful hand-picking techniques were preventing the migration and generation of excess dust or airborne asbestos. Following the clearance of the site WDE was able to demonstrate that during the demolition works and following the incident there was no excess dust being generated with both dust deposition and airborne asbestos rates falling below the adopted trigger levels.