

Contaminated Land Capital Projects

Summary of spend from 1990 to today (version 2)

October 2011

The Contaminated Land Capital Projects Programme helps Local Authorities deal with the legacy of our industrial past by supporting the investigation and remediation of contaminated land sites.

Introduction

The contaminated land programme provides funding to Local Authorities and the Environment Agency for the capital costs associated with investigating or cleaning up contaminated land in England.

Defra originally set up the programme in 1990 to support to Local Authorities and Waste Disposal Authorities in tackling problems associated with gas or leachate from closed landfill sites. As the programme developed, funds were used to deal with other forms of land contamination; and by 1998 Defra gave the Environment Agency access to additional grant-in-aid to deal with water pollution caused by land contamination.

The new contaminated land regime came into force in April 2000, and by April 2001 the main focus of the programme switched to supporting capital works carried out under Part 2A of the Environmental Protection Act. Management of the programme transferred from Defra to us in July 2010.

Local Authorities submit bids for funding during bid 'windows', and these are assessed for both technical and value for money merits. If the amount requested by Local Authorities exceeds the available funding, we use a prioritisation tool to make sure money goes to those sites that pose the greatest risks to the environment and human health.

Summary of spend to date

The tables below show how much money has been offered to Local Authorities over the past 20 years. When the programme started, grant was provided through Supplementary Credit Agreements (SCA), which later became Supported Capital Expenditure (Revenue) payments (SCE(R)), in a single funding window each year. This is shown in Table 1. The system changed to the current Capital Grants on 01 April 2006, and spend since then is shown in Table 2. The introduction of two bid windows per year began in 2008. The tables are as accurate as possible, however the reader should note the following:

- until 2009/10, spend could be spread over 2 financial years
- approved works may have slipped and funds allocated for one year may have been spent the following year as a pre-payment against that following year's budget
- some works didn't start and money was returned to be reallocated.

Rather than try to include this information, the tables have been simplified, all figures are approximate and have been rounded up or down.



Table 1: Contaminated land Capital Programme spend from 1990 (figures from Defra)

Year	Budget	Local Authority spend (SCA or SCE)	Environment Agency spend	Total spend
1990/1991	£33m	£7.9m		£7.9m
1991/1992	£30m	£9.3m		£9.3m
1992/1993	£25m	£9.6m		£9.6m
1993/1994	£12m	£12.8m		£12.8m
1994/1995	£12m	£14.1m		£14.1m
1995/1996	£13m	£13.4m		£13.4m
1996/1997	£14m	£13.4m		£13.4m
1997/1998	£14m	£13.7m	£0.5m	£14.2m
1998/1999	£15m	£11.2m	£1.4m	£12.6m
1999/2000	£17m	£10.4m	£1.5m	£11.9m
2000/2001	£21m	£11.3m	£1.1m	£12.4m
2001/2002	£21m	£9.9m	£1.3m	£11.2m
2002/2003	£20m	£11.8m	£1.9m	£13.7m
2003/2004	£20m	£8.9m	£2.3m	£11.2m
2004/2005	£20m	£10.7m	£2.4m	£13.1m
2005/2006	£20m	£9.01m		£9.01m
TOTAL	£307m	£177.4m	£12.4m	£189.98m

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Table 2: Spend from 2006, when the Programme changed to Capital Grants

Year	Bids	Site investigation work	Remediation work	Total for window	Totals for year
2006/07	No. bids received	105	25		130
	Value of received bids	£4.78m	£20.66m		£25.4m
	No. bids rejected (ineligible)	19	4		23
	Value of rejected bids	£744K	£6.4m		£7.13m
	Amount offered	£3.1m	£12.7m		£15.8m
2007/08	No. bids received	164	34		198
	Value of received bids	£7.8m	£15.4m		£23.2m
	No. bids rejected (ineligible)	42	4		46
	Value of rejected bids	£1.2m	£714K		£1.96m
	Amount offered	£5m	£9.4m		£14.4m
2008/09 Window 1	No. bids received	63	10	73	
	Value of received bids	£1.9m	£2.2m	£4.1m	
	No. bids rejected (ineligible)	5	3	8	

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Year	Bids	Site investigation work	Remediation work	Total for window	Totals for year
2008/09 Window 1	Value of rejected bids	£100K	£618K	£717m	
	Amount offered	£1.76m	£2.17m	£3.94m	
2008/09 Window 2	No. bids received	58	13	71	144
	Value of received bids	£1.5m	£2.4m	£4m	£8.1m
	No. bids rejected (ineligible)	4	5	9	17
	Value of rejected bids	£310K	£3.5m	£3.8m	£4.5m
	Amount offered	£1.5m	£2.44m	£3.97m	£7.91m
2009/10 Window 1	No. bids received	59	15	74	
	Value of received bids	£2.7m	£8.7m	£11.4m	
	No. bids rejected (ineligible)	9	4	13	
	Value of rejected bids	£772K	£3.44m	£4.21m	
	Amount offered	£1.65m	£2.3m	£3.95m	

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Year	Bids	Site investigation work	Remediation work	Total for window	Totals for year
2009/10 Window 2	No. bids received	82	13	95	169
	Value of received bids	£3.83m	£11m	£14.84m	£26.25m
	No. bids rejected (ineligible)	14	3	17	30
	Value of rejected bids	£338K	£4.02m	£4.35m	£8.56m
	Amount offered	£3.04m	£5.92m	£8.96m	£12.92m
2010/11 Window 1	No. bids received	88	16	104	
	Value of received bids	£3.03m	£4.35m	£7.38m	
	No. bids rejected (ineligible)	17	4	21	
	Value of rejected bids	£389K	£2.37m	£2.76m	
	Amount offered	£1.45m	£823K	£2.27m	
2010/11 Window 2	No. bids received	82	23	105	209
	Value of received bids	£2.73m	£4.6m	£7.33m	£14.71m
	No. bids rejected (ineligible)	22	8	30	51

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Year	Bids	Site investigation work	Remediation work	Total for window	Totals for year
2010/11 Window 2	Value of rejected bids	£614K	£1.86m	£2.47m	£5.23m
	Amount offered	£1.54m	£2.09m	£3.63m	£5.91m
2011/12 Window 1	No. bids received	58	38	96	
	Value of received bids	£1.89m	£8.2m	£10.09m	
	No. bids rejected (ineligible)	14	5	19	
	Value of rejected bids	£616K	£768K	£1.38m	
	Bids approved in principle and in draft Medium Term Plan	44	33	77	
	Value of bids in Medium Term Plan	£1m	£6.48m	£7.49m	
	No. bids offered grant after prioritisation	17	30	47	
	Amount offered	£476k	£3.82m	£4.30m	
Amount offered to date	£21.70m	£48.63m	£70m		

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Conclusion

Since it began, the programme has funded work to investigate and clean up a significant number of sites. Sometimes investigations have found that levels of contamination did not pose a significant risk to human health or the environment, and thus no further work was needed. This is a positive outcome as it means the full market value of the land can be realised through removing blight. In other cases, investigations then led on to remediation, making sure the land is suitable for its current use.

As of the 2011/12 financial year we have updated the application forms so we can capture more precise information on how many houses are affected, how much land (Ha) and other environmental outcomes. This means that in future we will be able to report on the environmental benefits of the programme, as well as the financial aspects.

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