



REGULAR NEWS AND VIEWS FROM **ROGERS GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES**

> **ASSESSING RISK. PROTECTING CLIENTS.**

**COAL AND CONSTRUCTION**

**GROUND GAS RISK MITIGATION**

**DIGGING UP THE PAST**

**MINDS MATTER**

**Welcome to RGS insite issue 53**

Our regular newsletter celebrates more than a decade of drilling and keeps you up to date with RGS and industry news.

**Rogers Geotechnical Services Ltd** are **site investigation specialists** offering ground investigation and geotechnical services to developers, builders, structural and consulting engineers, architects, insurance companies, local authorities, piling and foundation engineers, private individuals and other geotechnical consultants.

# COAL AND CONSTRUCTION: MANAGING THE RISKS!

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Developing land that's **on or close to coal seams** and mine workings (whether in use or not) is usually perfectly feasible.

However, as you might expect, these features bring a number of risks and hazards which demand expert identification and mitigation. Shafts, adits, cavities, gases, subsidence, fault lines and weaknesses all pose a significant threat which must be eliminated or minimised, and may influence the design and development of your build.

## HOW DO I FIND OUT IF MY SITE IS AFFECTED BY COAL OR MINING?

If you're in any doubt at all whether your site might be on or near coal seams or mine workings, [click here](#) to check your site location on the Coal Authority's interactive viewer and use the buttons on the right hand side to find out whether the site is in a Coal Mining Reporting Area and identify features such as mine entries, coal outcrops and shallow coal mine workings. Alternatively, **simply call RGS** and our experts will help you through the whole process.



## WHAT HAPPENS IF MY SITE IS ON OR NEAR COAL?

If your site falls within a Coal Mining Reporting Area, it will be necessary to order a Coal Authority Consultants Report within a Phase 1 Desk Study to cover the coal mining aspect. Should your site fall in a **Development High Risk Area**, your local Planning Authority will probably ask you to submit a Coal Mining Risk Assessment along with your planning application. These documents must be researched, reported and signed off by suitably qualified experts.

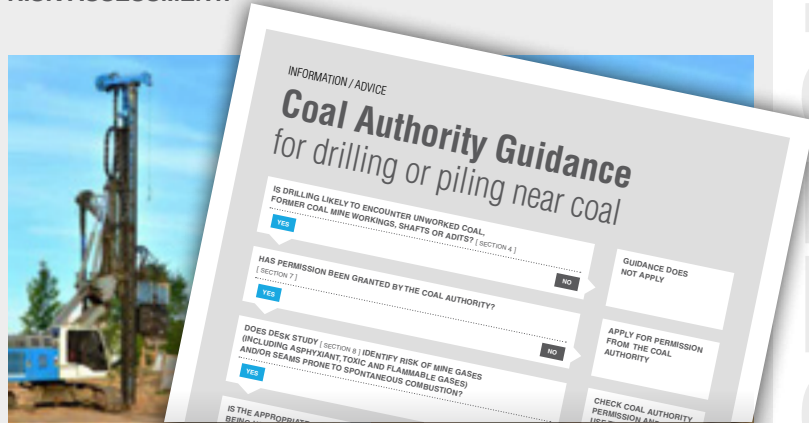


As geotechnical and geoenvironmental specialists, RGS not only identifies the risks that coal and mining pose to your development, we also ensure that you have all the documentation, help and guidance you need to get through the process as smoothly and simply as possible.

WE CHECK OUT **CRITICAL FEATURES** SUCH AS:

- // RECORDED COAL MINE ENTRANCES ON YOUR SITE OR WITHIN 20 METRES OF ITS BOUNDARIES
- // THE POTENTIAL FOR UNRECORDED SHALLOW MINE WORKINGS OR MINE ENTRIES
- // FAULTS OR LINES OF WEAKNESS CAUSED BY COAL MINING
- // WHETHER THE SITE IS CURRENTLY LICENSED FOR REMOVING COAL
- // ANY RECORDS OF MINE GASES WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES
- // ... AND MUCH MORE.

[Click here](#) to take a look at our flowchart to see what's involved when we carry out a PHASE 1 DESK STUDY and COAL MINING RISK ASSESSMENT.



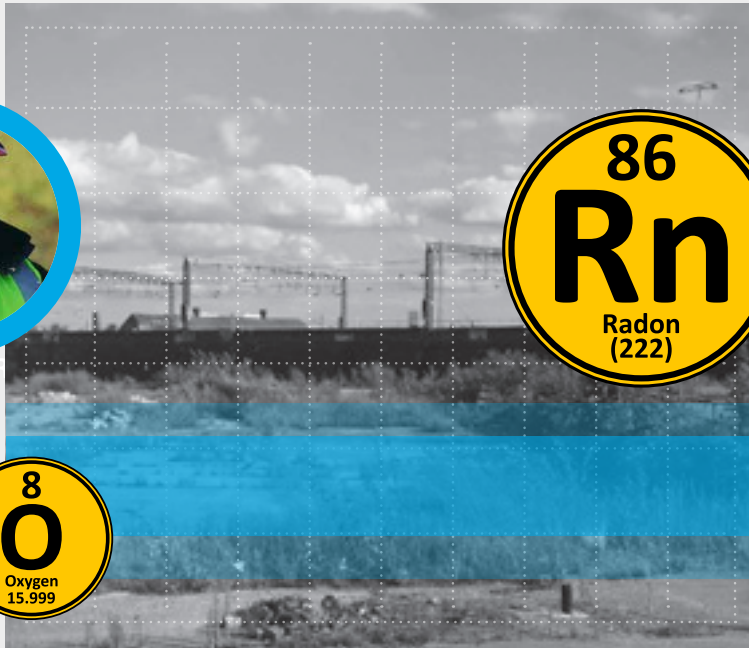
## MITIGATING THE RISKS

Our reports clarify how coal mining issues influence your development and identify any other mitigation measures that might be needed. Safety is always paramount in any project, and our work is all about facilitating a safe build and helping you to avoid making expensive mistakes.

**CONCERNED ABOUT THE IMPACT OF COAL OR MINING ON OR NEAR YOUR SITE? CALL OUR FRIENDLY TEAM ON 01484 604354 AND LET OUR EXPERTS GUIDE YOU THROUGH!**

HELPSHEETS

# Ground gas risk mitigation: a closer look



Our **GAS ALERT!** feature in last month's Insite has generated significant interest in this high-priority topic, so we're following up with a **useful HelpSheet prepared by Charlotte Mason**, one of our highly skilled Geotechnical Engineers.

If you discover or suspect that your site may be **impacted by ground gases** e.g. if it's on or close to farms, brownfield sites or landfill, our HelpSheet explains the risk mitigation procedure in more detail. Most importantly, by showing how our expert team safely manages this specialist process it'll also give you valuable peace of mind.

[Click here](#) to download our new HelpSheet and find out more.



Environmental Geotechnical Specialists





HEALTH AND WELLBEING

## Minds Matter



At long last, mental health is becoming **widely recognised and discussed** as something that impacts every single one of us. Crucially, mental health in the workplace is also beginning to receive the time and attention it deserves.

Knowledge, insight and resources are crucial to supporting mental wellbeing for all and these key themes have **inspired a valuable and helpful website, Mental Health at Work**. Curated by the national mental health charity, Mind, and funded by The Royal Foundation, the website offers a wide portfolio of resources, case studies, help and advice for employers and workers in many different sectors and settings. There's also an 'Urgent help' button for anyone who is (or is supporting someone else) in crisis.

We urge you to take a look at this excellent website, and over the coming months we'll highlight some of the great and free! toolkits it provides.

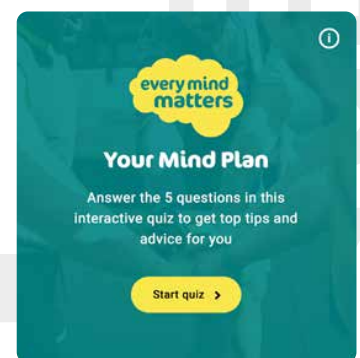
First up...

### The Every Mind Matters toolkit!

Every Mind Matters is a national initiative aiming **to help everyone** take better care of their mental health. The Every Mind Matters toolkit is a resource-packed digital hub along with a brand new online tool that anyone can use to create an action plan for their own mental wellbeing.

You'll find tools, videos, apps and more to help you make small changes that can make a big difference. **Why not take a look** - and spread the word to as many friends, colleagues and employers as you can?

[Click here](#) to visit the toolkit.



## DEVELOPER TOOLS

### Your site: **digging up the past**

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Every construction site has its own unique history, and that backstory often has implications for its development. By being **fully aware of your site's history**, you'll be better equipped to ensure the future safety and security of your build and of course, your investment.

We collate a vast range of **high quality, site-specific environmental and geological data** in order to give you the best possible information, insights and value - and that range is growing wider all the time.

OUR DETAILED **PHASE 1 REPORTS** INCLUDE:

- // HIGH RESOLUTION, HIGH QUALITY HISTORICAL MAPS
- // HISTORICAL LAND USE DATABASE (HLUD) INFORMATION
- // OS MASTERMAP SITE PLAN (FOR SITES OF LESS THAN 10 ha)
- // WATER QUALITY DATA (WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE)
- // COLOUR AND GREYSSCALE MAPS
- // ROYAL MAIL TUNNELS DATA
- // POLLUTION INVENTORY DATA
- // AERIAL IMAGES - BOTH RECENT AND HISTORICAL
- // ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS, PERMITS AND REGISTERS
- // DETAILED FLOOD DATA
- // HYDROLOGY AND HYDROGEOLOGY DATA  
including abstractions and groundwater source protection zones (SPZs) including those within confined aquifers
- // WHERE RELEVANT, our report may also cover ADDITIONAL DATA.



ENVIRONMENTAL

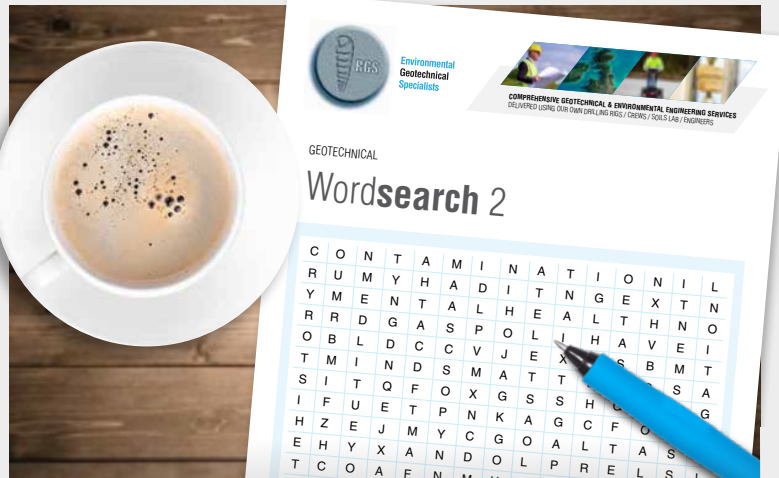
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LOOKING FOR A HIGH QUALITY, COMPREHENSIVE PHASE 1 REPORT WITH ACCURATE DATA YOU CAN TRUST? CALL OUR HELPFUL RGS EXPERTS ON [01484 604354](tel:01484604354): WE'LL SEE YOU RIGHT!

SHOW YOUR KNOWLEDGE

I'm sorry, **I haven't a clue!**



Deserve a break? Fix yourself a coffee, [grab a pen](#) and solve our Wordsearch puzzle. There are TEN words and terms (all related to this month's Insite features) hidden in the grid, but to ramp up the challenge, there are no clues this time! [Click here](#) to download and print.



Do you need  
**a phase one  
environmental  
desk study  
report?**

**RGS STANDARD** **RGS PREMIUM**

Contact us for more details  
and to discuss your options  
for this service

For more information about your investigation requirements  
please don't hesitate to contact us.

Telephone on 01484 604 354

[Click here to email us](#)

CLIENT FEEDBACK

**Talk to us**

“ We're always keen to hear what clients think of our service  
and welcome feedback from within the industry. ”  
We'd love to hear from you.

[Click here](#) to email us your comments

