

# Hackney *Environment Directorate*

Jim Paterson, Assistant Director (Environment), Dorothy Hodgkin House, 12 Reading Lane, London E8 1HJ

Phone: 020 8356 4827

Fax: 020 8356 4980

E-mail: [Donal.fitzgibbon@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:Donal.fitzgibbon@hackney.gov.uk)

Our ref: ED/PCO/DF

Your ref: N/A

Date: 08 December 2004

## **Findings of final sampling at Spring Hill Allotment**

Dear Allotment Holder,

The Council has completed the additional sampling of Spring Hill allotment. Nineteen additional samples were collected and analysed for lead and arsenic, the contaminants of primary concern. The purpose of this additional sampling was to determine whether exceedences detected during the initial site investigation were outliers or indicated more widespread contamination.

In accordance with CLR 7, Assessment of risks to human health from land contamination: an overview of the development of guideline values and related research, published by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Environment Agency the results were statistically analysed to determine the potential risks to human health.

Statistical analysis indicates that the following plots: 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11 are contaminated and will require remediation.

However the council is confident that the remaining plots do not pose a risk to human health and that the site can be continued to be used and enjoyed as an allotment.

As promised at the recent public meeting on this issue, I would like to repeat the Council's commitment to retaining and supporting allotments in the borough and to confirm that the Council has no other plans for any allotment sites.

I am sorry if the initial assessment of the potential risk on this allotment may have caused you concern, but the Council has a duty to take any potential risks to public health very seriously and to be as open and transparent as possible with residents of the borough.

If you require any further information, or require further clarification about this letter please do not hesitate to contact me at 020 8356 4827, and I will be pleased to answer any questions you may have.

Yours sincerely

Donal Fitzgibbon  
Contaminated Land Officer  
Environment Division