

NEW TESCO STORE

SITE:

West Bromwich Town Centre



KEY FACTS AND INFORMATION

Green Remediation Limited successfully completed the removal of free hydrocarbon product (fuel oil) from above groundwater at the new Tesco Development in West Bromwich town centre.

Site investigations of the former Hilti Works, West Bromwich identified the presence of fuel hydrocarbons in groundwater. Detailed field investigations identified up to 500mm of free-phase fuel oil floating on groundwater trapped below clay at a depth of 6 metres below the proposed Tesco Store. A detailed risk assessment and remediation options appraisal indicated that whilst the fuel was not currently impacting the nearest watercourse, should groundwater levels drop, then the oil could migrate and potentially impact the nearby brook.

Following consultation with the Environment Agency, the strategy adopted comprised the drilling of additional, large diameter boreholes within the identified source area, to enable the use of an automated down-well skimmer pump system to extract the oil with the minimum disturbance of the groundwater body. The pumps were driven by an air compressor from an on-site control room to optimise recovery of free product. A total of 1500 litres of oil was pumped to a holding tank and disposed off site by an approved disposal contractor. During the pumping exercise external monitoring wells were monitored at regular intervals to ensure the floating oil did not migrate outside the treatment area and to confirm that contamination of groundwater had not occurred. The works were completed to the satisfaction of the Environment Agency and Sandwell MBC in June 2012.

