Public Health England

Protecting and improving the nation's health

Radon Potential Assessment

Customer:	Client Contact
	Client Department
	Org Name
	A1
	A2
	A3
	Postcode

Order Reference:	Client Order Ref
PHE Reference:	10210/3774
Date:	26 October 2016

This document summarises the outcome of the radon potential assessment commissioned by the customer and supports the spreadsheet of results sent by email on the date above. The results reported show the highest radon potential for premises sharing the postcodes provided by the customer. The report includes advice based on whether or not the radon potential is 1% or more and therefore classed as a radon Affected Area. If the customer property list includes large premises, advice is also given based on proximity to the nearest Affected Area.

Commercial in confidence

ASSSESSMENT METHOD AND OUTCOMES

The definitive radon data sets for England (1), Wales (1), Scotland (2) and Northern Ireland (3) allocate a radon potential to every 25m x 25m square. Searches are based on either the Ordnance Survey Address Base® or the Northern Ireland Pointer® files of postal addresses which give a grid reference for the delivery point allocated to each registered address.

Address specific searches are possible but are not a practical approach for large property portfolios. For this reason the advice from Public Health England (PHE) will be based on the maximum radon potential for the postcode.

This indicative search is based on postcodes supplied by the customer. Summary postcode data is used to identify the maximum radon potential for any delivery point within the area covered by the postcode. As a postcode may include the delivery points of just one or many properties, the size and shape of the area covered will vary, but in the majority of cases will be considerably less than 1 sq km.

The search assumes each property is less than 25 metres in length is any direction. For larger premises with a ground floor dimension greater than 25 metres in any direction, it is possible to add a buffer around the location extending the search radius. This allows for larger premises with Affected Areas within a pre-determined distance to be identified. The identification of these larger premises and the setting of an appropriate buffer size should be agreed with the customer in advance.

The validity of postcodes supplied by the customer is not routinely checked as part of the assessment and if they match with an entry on the Address Base® or Pointer® listings, they are deemed to be correct for the address supplied.

<u>Outcomes where the premise footprint is no more than 25 metres in any direction</u>

- The postcode includes delivery points in Affected Areas
- The postcode does not contain any delivery points in Affected Areas
- The postcode supplied does not match with our listings

<u>Outcomes where the premise is a large building with a footprint greater than 25 metres in any direction</u>

- The postcode includes delivery points in Affected Areas
- The postcode contains no delivery points in Affected Areas and there are no Affected Areas nearby*.
- The post code contains no delivery points in Affected Areas but there are Affected Areas nearby*
- The postcode supplied does not match with our listings

*The distance that constitutes ‘nearby’ will depend on the likely size of the customer’s sites as discussed with them and detailed in the report

RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A list of addresses was supplied by the customer on which the postcode indicative assessment was requested.

If a buffer distance was provided for the address this will be indicated in the relavant field in the spreadsheet. Individual buffer distances supplied by the customer are used to determine whether there is an Affected Area near to a larger site. If it transpires that any of the sites are larger than the given buffer, the search result may be incorrect. Addresses without a given buffer distance are indicated with a 0 in the buffer distance field in the spreadsheet.

A summary of the outcomes reported in the accompanying spreadsheet is given below. For this type of assessment the standard advice is based on the worst case radon potential for the postcode and the supplementary information entered in the ‘test required’ and ‘comment’ fields of each record in the spreadsheet.

Summary of results from the indicative postcode assessment

Total number of postcodes assessed	545
Postcode maximum >=1% - Testing should be arranged	257
Small properties (no buffer) in <1% areas - Testing is not needed unless an occupied part of the building is in an underground room	273
Large properties (with buffer) in <1% areas - Testing may be needed - see individual comment for property	0
Large properties (with buffer) in <1% areas - Testing not needed unless an occupied part of the building is in an underground room	0
Addresses in the Crown dependencies:	0
Invalid Postcodes:	15

The postcodes that matched with the Address Base® or Pointer® files were deemed to be correct for the address supplied and PHE will not accept responsibility for misinformation in the report that arises from incorrect postcodes in the customer's property list. In instances where a postcode does not match our listing and a full address is supplied PHE may attempt to locate a correct postcode. Where this has occurred the corrected postcode will be indicated in the spreadsheet. It is your responsibility to check that the postcode we have used is correct.

The advice given in the spreadsheet and summary is intended as a guide. In addition to verifying the postcodes, the customer should use the results, together with knowledge of the sites as regards basements and occupancy, to determine which ones should be tested in order to complete the risk assessment.

Queries regarding the content of this summary report and the spreadsheet should be directed to:

Radon services Team

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Radon Data Sources

1. Miles JCH, Appleton JD, Rees DM, Green BMR, Adlam KAM, Myers AH (2007). Indicative Atlas of England and Wales. Chilton, HPA-RPD-033.

2. Miles JCH, Appleton JD, Rees DM, Adlam KAM, Scheib C, Myers AH, Green BMR, McColl NP (2011). Indicative Atlas of Radon in Scotland. Chilton, HPA-CRCE-

3. Daraktchieva Z, Appleton JD, Rees DM, Adlam KAM, Myers AH, Hodgson SA, McColl NP, Wasson GR, Peake LJ (2015). Radon in Northern Ireland: Indicative Atlas. Chilton, PHE-CRCE-017

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