

VHE, Lattice Property Holdings, Corus, the Welsh Development Agency, Shanks Waste Solutions, Shell Global Solutions, TRL, Tyser (UK), the Environment Agency, DTLR, Parkman Environment and UKAEA are collectively known as the exSite 'Partners'. These organisations are interested in the recovery and reuse of brownfield land. The reuse of brownfield land is also a current priority area for the UK government. exSite was established to further this aim and co-operate with other significant initiatives in the area. exSite was formed to support and fund the demonstration of new and sustainable methods, approaches and strategies at real scale, to promote the beneficial reuse of redundant land assets. To tackle the recovery of sites either for which there is no commercial end-use or which have been contaminated or impaired by industrial activity, exSite has focussed its activities on four primary areas. These are:

- The restoration of post-industrial sites through minimisation of reliance on landfill;
- Crop-based risk reduction and remediation;
- Rehabilitation of closed landfill sites via reduction, re-use or recovery; and
- Cross sector work i.e. over-reaching issues and projects, e.g. market logistics, strategies, economics and risk management.

In meeting these aims exSite has focussed on those technologies and approaches which:

- Enable the beneficial recycling of recovered materials
- Enable the productive re-use of land as part of the brownfield development process; and
- Minimise reliance on landfill.

exSite seeks to demonstrate the commercial potential of post-industrial land re-use techniques and disseminate the results of its work throughout the stakeholder community. Within industry there is a well-developed interest in developing new and better approaches for land reuse because of the potential advantages of lower costs and reduced environmental impact. Organisations concerned with land reuse such as the exSite Partners aim to bring land back into use in the most efficient and effective manner possible and this may be achievable by promoting re-use of land and materials in a positive and strategic manner.

exSite supports the use of methods, approaches and strategies, which have the potential to be commercially viable. Therefore, exSite's target projects are selected on the basis of the needs of the land reuse industry. Such projects are carried out real scale, subjecting approaches to a greater degree of commercial exposure.

exSite also funds research projects, which investigate how materials recovered from sites can be used as assets. The emphasis is again on funding technologies which, though they may not be commercially viable presently, can show that the level of innovation which they offer, presents significant potential to generate cost effective approaches which will deliver appropriate quality for commercial acceptance in the future.

The venture is therefore specifically focused as an organisation which was formed to fund the field-scale testing of innovative and sustainable land reuse methods, approaches and strategies and which funds projects only if they demonstrate or contribute to the potential to become commercially applicable.

As well as funding projects which directly involve land restoration, recovery and reuse, exSite also supports innovative projects which investigate how the wider issues such as policy, regulation, legislation, planning, the procurement process, economics, and the interests of citizens relate to the long term sustainability of brownfield development decision making. To enable such projects to address all relevant issues in a meaningful way, exSite has created a Consultee Group that includes senior representatives of the Department of Transport Local Authorities and the Regions, together with the Environment Agency and the Transport Research Laboratory. Projects are thus reviewed in a holistic manner for adoption as sustainable solutions to the long term challenges posed by the growth of redundant land assets in the UK