

JKC expands public sector treatment programmes nationwide

Leading treatment specialist, Japanese Knotweed Control (JKC) continues to work extensively with local authorities and housing associations throughout the UK, typified by two of its long term clients in Manchester and London.

Wherever Tameside Borough Council, in Greater Manchester, has a Japanese Knotweed outbreak on a new build development, or a site is being refurbished, JKC is approached for a remediation proposal and a quote to treat the problem.

The recommended treatment programme depends largely on the budget, the timescale of the project and the extent to which the knotweed is impacting on surrounding areas. Over the years Tameside has used all the recognised treatment methods including excavation and removal from site, soil screening to remove the knotweed rhizome, chemical treatment such as foliar spraying, and the popular stem injection treatment method.

Lee Holland, Head of Environmental Services at Tameside, has established a strong relationship with JKC: "We get a very good, cost-effective service from JKC with recommendations always bespoke to the specific challenges of each site. JKC's exclusive insurance-backed guarantee on all treatment programmes up to the value of £5 million is also vitally important when it comes to customer reassurance and peace of mind."

Meanwhile JKC's London-based operations team has worked for a number of years with Metropolitan, a leading provider of integrated housing services, care and support and community regeneration. Metropolitan manages over 38,000 affordable homes and serves over 80,000 customers across London, the East of England and the East Midlands.

With housing stock in such numbers, Japanese Knotweed can be a frequent problem and Metropolitan provides ongoing guidance and advice on how to identify this invasive plant and encourages residents to immediately report it to its customer service centre. JKC is then instructed to carry out the specialist treatment work.

As dozens of sites are being treated at any one time, JKC maintains a spreadsheet mapping the progress of every programme, providing Metropolitan with a constant update on all work undertaken.

John Fagan, Estates Contracts Officer, has been delighted with the JKC partnership: "JKC has worked with Metropolitan providing Japanese Knotweed treatment and control to our properties



all over the country. It provides an excellent, courteous and professional service to us and our residents that is second to none at all times."

JKC hosting Amenity Forum Updating event

JKC is looking forward to hosting the Amenity Forum Updating Event on 24th February at Houldsworth Mill, Stockport, in a free half day event. Amenity Forum is the voluntary initiative for the sector promoting best practice in all aspects of weed, pest and disease control. Speakers will address topical issues of interest and relevance to all involved in the amenity sector. Visit www.amenityforum.co.uk for details on how to attend.

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