

## NOTE ON BUILDING MATERIALS

Materials incorporated in buildings should be of a suitable nature and quality in relation to the purpose and conditions of their use.

Particular care should be taken to ensure that all materials including

- those which cannot readily be replaced,
- those comprised in or adjoining supporting elements or building services
- those materials which are naturally occurring
- those materials which are recycled,

have been verified to be fit for purpose and to be appropriately incorporated.

Pyrite rich underfloor fill may be associated with problems in cellular type construction such as houses.

Chemical, visual and other analysis can determine the constituents of stone, aggregate, other materials and ground formation. Accordingly you are advised that underlying strata, fill, hardcore, backfill, bedding, concrete constituents and similar materials should be properly evaluated to ensure their suitability and stability under all possible conditions. Excessive depths of underfloor fill should be avoided.

Under the Building Regulations 1997-2007 it is required (among many other things) that:

- **building works be carried out with proper materials and in a workmanlike manner,**
- **contaminants and moisture be excluded from buildings,**
- **buildings not deform or suffer movement impairing stability,**
- **design & construction prevent damage to the fabric of a building.**

Traditional hardcore specifications require that material be granular, well graded and clean (or washed). Properly graded gravel or properly graded crushed rock can be suitable. The hardcore bed should be well compacted, drain readily and form a firm level base.

For traditional ground floor slabs (excluding rafts & sub-floors) hardcore should not be placed under load-bearing walls and internal load bearing partitions or walls should not bear on any construction (including slabs) partly supported or supported in any other way on hardcore.