



Ground Investigations Surveys

Background – why the surveys are necessary

The purpose of these surveys is to gain a detailed understanding of the ground conditions along the route of the new Metrolink line to Droylsden. These surveys are standard practice for projects of this nature. By completing these surveys, the ground conditions can be evaluated and any necessary ground improvement works can be designed prior to the start of construction, to make sure the new line is built on a solid base.

Nature of the work

This survey work will involve drilling small boreholes or trial pits to allow samples to be taken. The samples will then be tested to show underlying soil and ground conditions. Ground Investigation surveys will take place in the area between Ashton New Road, Holt Town and Cambrian Street, where the new stop will be built. Further investigations will take place along the East Manchester line as part of the advanced works to prepare for the start of construction.

The work will be completed by a specialist contractor appointed by MPact-Thales, the main design, build and maintain contractor for the project. All the work will be carried out in accordance with GMPTE's Code of Construction Practice (COCP). This includes measures to ensure that safety procedures are followed and to control activities which may affect local residents and businesses including noise, working hours and pollution

Duration of the surveys

The ground investigations along this section of the East Manchester Line will take place over the next month. Each individual survey will take between 1 and 3 days in each location. In most cases, no equipment will be left on site overnight and each individual sample taken will be completed in the same day. This will enable the land to be reinstated before the end of the working day. However, there will be instances where taking the sample will take more than one day to complete. In these cases, the area will be tidied at the end of each day, securely fenced and any holes covered over. Any vehicles, plant, materials and equipment will be positioned in a safe manner. This work can sometimes take slightly longer if we encounter difficult conditions or need to take additional samples.



Metrolink Extensions

Equipment to be used

These surveys will involve using drilling equipment and small excavators. These will normally be transported to and from the sites using 4 wheel drive vehicles / vans.

Working hours

The work will take place between 8am to 6pm, Monday to Saturday, in line with the COCP. Any requirement to work outside these hours will be agreed with the local authority and nearby residents will be notified in advance.

Traffic management

These surveys will not require any traffic management measures to be put in place.

Notifying residents and businesses

Please find enclosed a copy of the letter that has been sent to approximately 150 residents and businesses within 150m of the area where the surveys will take place. This is shown on the enclosed map outlining the distribution area.

Frequently Asked Questions

Will the surveys be noisy?

Some of the survey work may be noisy depending on the equipment used. In line with the COCP, every effort will be made to minimise both the duration and level of the noise.

Will the surveys be dusty?

Whilst some dust is inevitable and can be affected by weather conditions, we do not anticipate a significant amount of dust being created. In line with the COCP, every effort will be made to minimise any dust from this work, for example, by dampening down any debris.

Are there any safety risks to local people?

The stringent COCP specifies the health and safety practices that must be observed by the contractor carrying out this work. This includes measures to protect the general public during works. In most cases, no equipment will be left on site overnight and each individual sample taken will be completed in the same day. However, if individual samples take more than one day to complete, the area will be tidied at the end of each day, securely fenced and any holes covered over. Please note that sites are fenced in for the protection of the public – for your own safety, please do not try to access the site.



Metrolink Extensions

Will this work create a lot of traffic to and from the sites?

No, the work requires very few vehicles (see photographs at the top of this section), and each site will usually only need one or two vehicles to complete the work.

Will there be any need to close or restrict roads as a result of this survey work?

For these initial surveys there will be no need to close or restrict any roads.