

CASE STUDY

Balfour Beatty | Permit to Break Ground – July 2023

Introduction

Prior to commencing pavement coring surveys on the A66 Northern Trans-Pennine (NTP) project, the construction team identified the risk posed by the presence of a number of underground services within close proximity to the survey locations. As part of the planning of works a task specific Safe Systems of Works (SSoW) and the Permit to Break Ground (PtBG) was produced. Following a knowledge share from another enterprise partner about their approach to intrusive survey works, a readiness review was prompted prior to starting works.

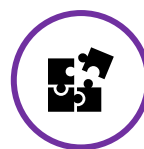


Overview

The A66 NTP project is currently undergoing Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) in order to develop detailed design and complete construction planning.

Following a knowledge share, the construction team prompted a readiness review of the Safe Systems of Works (SSoW) including the Permit to Break Ground (PtBG).

The review found general compliance to Balfour Beatty Avoiding Danger from Services (ADfS) procedure, however some additional arrangements were implemented to enhance the rigor to the SSoW.



Challenges

Due to the nature of ECI and the associated small construction team a number of challenges were encountered:

- Lack of PAS128 verified combined service drawing due to early stage of works
- Availability of suitably qualified and experienced permit issuers / approvers due to small construction team and lack of differentiation within the procedure for various stages of works (e.g. main construction works Vs. ECI survey works)
- Classification of works within Balfour Beatty ADfS procedure

Challenging the status quo takes commitment, courage, imagination, and, above all, dedication to learning.

Marshall Ganz



Action Taken

1. Works stood down for the shift to complete readiness review.
2. Project obtained and reviewed the limited GPR survey overlaid onto combined services and validated the accuracy of the C2 services drawings for use within PtBG.
3. Project reviewed the pavement core survey locations and repositioned a number of cores situated near to underground services recorded on the C2 service drawings in order to mitigate underground service strike risks.
4. Project team completed a review of Balfour Beatty ADfS procedure and satisfied themselves that operations are being carried out in accordance with the ADfS procedure.
5. Project team reviewed the classification of works and ensured compliance with the corresponding training and competency requirements.
6. Appraisal of SSoW completed by Balfour Beatty HS&E Lead and Balfour Beatty PtBG issuer

Taken actions and assessment summarised and issued to Balfour Beatty Head of HSE for approval to commence works



Results

- 1. Positive intervention and empowerment of the team to challenge to status quo.
- 2. Review of the SSoW and process compliance monitoring undertaken followed by verification of deployment and review findings by third party Balfour Beatty resulted in agreement that ADfS process was found to have been followed.



- 3. Works commenced and completed safely and ahead of programme.

Knowledge share on learning distributed to all A66 enterprise partners.



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home
safe
and well