

Positive Interventions

Cable Encased in Concrete

Background:

The BLU-3 team were excavating at Partridge Green for a new cross connection. While scanning the ground they received a strong signal from the CAT indicating a cable, either encased or underneath a concrete wall in the ground. There was insufficient cover to bring the new main over the wall and it is not possible to go under the wall due to the risk of the suspected cable.

What the team did:

The team stopped work and contacted their supervisor. With no immediate solutions the issue was escalated. The issue was then escalated to the SMB Supervisor to begin looking at the change to design that's required.

Solution:

The route for the cross connection is to be changed. Trail Holes further down the line are to be dug to see if the buried wall persists. The design is to be revised to facilitate the unknown buried wall.

Remember:

- Never excavate directly over a known utility and dig to the side.
- To assist in the location of utilities, use the Cat on its side within the excavation if possible as this will help you pinpoint the buried utility.
- When services are encased or suspected to be encased in concrete/hard ground STOP and follow the - Decision Map - Services Encased Surrounded in Concrete.
- Ensure that all excavation work is effectively managed and supervised.
- STOP and assess where work deviates away from the risk assessment and method statement (RAMS), revise, approve and re-brief the RAMS.
- Ensure you have clear, legible and in date utility drawings.
- Ensure you have a fully functioning and calibrated eCat 4 and Genny.



SPOT, SORT & REPORT

Don't just walk by, make the area safe
if it is safe to do so and report it.



Call our Freephone
Incident Reporting Helpline

0800 121 4444



eight₂O