

M20 CCTV Masts - Ground Investigation

Recently Southern Testing completed an investigation to assess ground conditions along the M20 Motorway from Junctions 7 to 12 on both sides of the carriageway for the installation of proposed CCTV masts.

All exploratory hole locations were situated on the verges and required the temporary closure of the hard shoulder during the works.

Accurate timetabling and liaison with the traffic management specialists was vital in order to avoid unnecessary delays and disruptions to the flow of traffic and to ensure a smooth transition from one side of the motorway to the other.

The extent of the geographic area meant that the geology at each site varied significantly, from Gault Clay, Folkestone Beds, Sandgate Beds and Hythe Beds as well as fill soils used to construct the highway embankments.

A 10m borehole and 10m dynamic probe was required at each location, with in-situ resistivity testing.

Several types of low disturbance tracked drilling rigs were required to overcome restricted access to the site and carry out testing on the sloping ground levels.

We were able to provide a Sedidril Flight Auger rig, a Competitor Windowless Sampler rig, a Geotool DPT rig and a Commachio 205 combined Rotary and DTHH rig.

Careful services searches were required. The number of communication cables (electricity and fibre optic) that were situated on the verges meant that extra care was taken over the services search.

One exploratory hole location required a night time closure due the proximity of a slip-road. The rig was mobilised for night works and additional lighting supplied.

All works were completed within the tight specified timescales. The detailed logs and in-situ test data facilitated the design of the mini piles/pads for the CCTV masts.



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