

Please find below text for the method statements for the excavation of trial pit in the land adjacent to the tow path at each of the named sites:

Prior to the arrival the Ground Investigation Contractor (yet to be appointed) will be required to have completed a risk assessment.

In order to undertake the trial pitting activities, the Contractor will undertake the following:

- Ensure safe access and egress to the borehole location taking into consideration of associated risks and the public.
- Determine the type of excavator that will be able to undertake the works depending on access and the ability to reach target depth (it is likely to be either a JCB or a mini digger- see photo's)
- Undertake a safety briefing so that the operators are aware of what is required at each specific location.
- Check services plans then undertake CAT scan to confirm that the location is clear of underground services. The contractor will also check to ensure that there are no overhead services.
- Set up fencing around the works site to prevent public access.
- The topsoil/turf is to be removed and stockpiled separately from the underlying sub soils. The trial pit will be approximately 1.0m wide by 3-4m long in the land adjacent to the tow path and will reach 2 – 4.5m deep. The tow path will not be disturbed allowing the passage of pedestrians.
- The trial pits will be backfilled immediately and will not be left open overnight.

The trial pits will be logged by an engineer whilst the works are being undertaken. The trial pits will determine the nature of the ground at the location. The spoil excavated from the trial pit will be stockpiled on either side of the excavation and will be used for reinstatement once the works are complete. The excavation will not be left open unattended and will be reinstated immediately after completion.

This soils trial pit will allow geotechnical and geochemical properties of the soil to be determined by the following activities:

- In-situ testing
- Collection of representative soil samples

Following completion of the activities, site completion and reinstatement photos will be taken at each location.

A photo of a typical trial pit dug by a JCB type excavator (see below). Details of the actual plant to be used will be confirmed when the ground investigation contractor has been appointed.

The photograph below shows that the topsoil and subsoils have been separated either side of the excavation.



A photo of a typical trial pit dug by a mini digger excavator (see below).

