



Form Ref: HSI-10

## Independent Health & Safety Inspection – Blue Star Item

Version: 3.0 Jan 2017



Awarded for Exceptional Performance or New Initiative not widely used on other sites

Project	Principal Contractor (PC)	Date of Inspection
M4 J3-12	Balfour Beatty Vinci JV (BBV)	19/09/17
Site Contact	Email Address	Telephone Number

## Description of Blue Star Item

The current work involves locating and identifying services before the design is finalised and the main works commence. There are a large number of critical utilities along the scheme route, which is unusual for a Smart Motorways Scheme, with the total number of utility interfaces being close to 500. In order to assess and investigate these, and their potential impact on the scheme, (either direct conflict requiring diversion or protection) or the indirect proximity effect (affecting construction methods), a system of Impact Assessments has been created requiring differing levels of investigation. This input has been in the form of:

- 1. Reviewing C2s obtained by the project to ensure, as far as possible, no companies that are likely to have assets in the area have been missed. Any gaps in the data have been identified and filled. This review identified those utility assets deemed critical by their nature with regards to; strategic importance, cost or time taken to divert, or ability to cause major harm. This has enabled the project to focus on these assets as priorities for investigation.
- 2. Using existing contacts within the utilities companies to facilitate meetings and discussions to help the project understand the utility conflicts and the constraints they impose upon the scheme through constructive dialogue with the affected utility companies.
- 3. Producing and maintaining a Top 10 Key Issues log for utility related issues. This is discussed in the monthly project progress meetings, and covers issues ranging from: HE utility payment issues, utility conflicts that are scheme blockers, resourcing levels within the project dealing with the large number of utility interfaces, and the need for early way-leave discussions for new road side power supplies.
- 4. Assisting HE to log and track utility payments from initial identification, through approvals, ordering and finally to payment.
- 5. A survey of the overhead services has also been undertaken. The assets owner for services identified as a risk due to their low height have been identified to gain permission to set the overhead clearance between the goalposts and service at a reduced level. This allows the goalposts to be set at a consistent height throughout the whole scheme, removing confusion for those working on the scheme. BBV has a procedure for Avoiding Danger from Services'. This includes information on; Planning, Construction and the Hierarchy of Control during pre-construction / design and when working near underground and overhead utilities. They also have procedures covering: 'Competency Requirements for Breaking Ground', 'Minimum Exclusion Zones Underground Utilities', and 'Digging Techniques for Utilities Below Hard Surfaces'. A 'Safety Clearance Check Sheet' has to be completed when working next to overhead utilities.





Benefits of Blue Star Item	These impact assessments enable Balfour Beatty Vinci (BBV), in conjunction with supply chain partner Paige Solution to help identify the possible utilities interfaces and agree how the effects of these on the scheme are to be mitigated. These assessments have then been prioritised to make best use of the investigation funds at this point of the project.
Details and Cost of any Specific Product	There are no direct cost benefits to the project however the savings that will be made by getting services diverted in advance of the scheme works will save months on the programme reducing risks to the public due to the shorter duration of traffic management and construction work being undertaken.