

Contract in brief

Location:

Wobaston Road, Wolverhampton

Client:

Advantage West Midlands

Consultant:

Mouchel Parkman

Blackwell Role:

Main Contractor

Form of Contract:

ICE 7th Edition

Contract Value:

£11.65M (2 Phases)

Contract Start:

June 2004 Phase 1

September 2006 Phase 2

Contract Period:

42 wks

Blackwell site management

Contracts Manager:

Eric Hebden

Project Manager:

Lee Swift

Site Manager:

Tom Bruen

Services Included:

- Civil Engineering ✓
- Earthworks ✓
- Geotechnical
- Remediation ✓

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Contract Summary:

Advantage West Midlands (AWM) has assembled a 220 acre (96ha) site at Wobaston Road, Pendeford, near Wolverhampton. The 'i54' development is earmarked as a technology-based business park. Close to Junction 2 of the M54 Motorway, the site has been used a tipping facility for the waste products from the rayon manufacturing process.

The waste product comprised a white paste, with high water content and elevated levels of zinc contamination, and an ash capping on the surface. Underneath the white paste was a layer of odorous waste of soft clay with ash, clinker, refuse, fabric, timber and metal. It is partly underlain by a layer of peat. AWM required the off-site disposal of the materials, to leave a 'clean' site prior to the start of infrastructure works to service the development.

Key Processes:

Phase 1- Off Site Disposal

The works involved the excavation of more than 200,000t of material by 15t or 30t backacters, loading into road haulage vehicles which rode on a portable metal trackway. Each load was sheeted for security and ease of handling at destination. All trucks, prior to leaving the loading area, passed through a wheel washing facility to remove all traces of material from the truck wheels. Additionally, the permanent haul road was treated to frequent, regular washing to maintain the integrity of the cleaning process. Throughout the contract, regular monitoring of odour, noise and dust and the strict management of specified haulage routes from the site ensured minimum environmental effect.

Phase 2 - Remediation, Earthworks and Infrastructure

This current phase of the development is to prepare the site for above-ground works, and includes:

- Bulk onsite cut to fill to form development plots
- Screening and disposal offsite of asbestos contaminated materials and Japanese knotweed contaminated materials
- Construct 1.1km access road, footways, kerbs, primary drainage, road signs and marking
- Create flood compensation areas, including relocating peat
- Form surface water swales
- Geotechnical and chemical testing
- Environmental monitoring and installation of gas and water monitoring boreholes
- Soft landscaping

