

STREETWORKS IN THE VICINITY OF LONDON UNDERGROUND STRUCTURES

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The London Underground network operates below thousands of streets in which LU structures provide support to the highway.

Many of these structures are over 100 years old. They include not only conventional bridges but also many areas of cut-and-cover shallow depth tunnels, station buildings, cable routes and other structures. It should not be assumed that all the underground is at a deep level.

London Underground have notified the appropriate authorities requesting that these locations are registered as Streets of Engineering Difficulty or Streets of Special Interest in accordance with the New Roads and Streetworks Act 1991 – Section 63. Accordingly, any excavations over or adjacent to, London Underground Shallow Cover Structures should be carried out in a manner which ensures minimal vibration and avoids any damage. The use of mechanical or hydraulic breakers and excavators is not permitted and hand-breakers or hand dig methods only should be used.

LU requires a method statement with regard to your proposed works over our structures to be sent to the Streetworks Section prior to the start of works. We will also require to monitor all the excavation works including trial holes and should be sent details of your contact on site and the date and time of proposed works. These details should be sent preferably a week in advance, but in any event not less than 48 hours before their commencement.

The Streetworks Section will provide information regarding the location and approximate depth of cover of LU's structures relative to proposed works. Information supplied by LU must be passed on to the operatives engaged in excavation work, who should be made aware of the approximate position of the LU Shallow Cover Structures.

Where works require excavations in close proximity to, or even exposing, LU's structures extra care must be taken and we recommend that trial holes be undertaken to prove the exact depth/position of the structure.

In event of minor accidental damage occurring to a LU structure, the Streetworks Section – shown above – should be notified immediately so that attendance on site can be arranged to agree on a safe method of repair.

In the event of an emergency, where serious damage, has been caused to an LU structure, the following number should be contacted immediately:

Network Operations Centre Freephone 0800 616031