

A435 Evesham Road Land Stabilisation Works

Montel Civil Engineering has been appointed by Gloucestershire County Council as the main contractor to undertake the land stabilisation works on the A435 Evesham Road. The section of road, located south of the Gloucestershire and Warwickshire steam railway bridge, has faced persistent issues over the years including excessive movement, cracking and landslips. This project is designed to deliver a permanent solution to improve the structural integrity of the road and prevent future ground movement, making it safer for all road users.

Montel commenced on site on 4th November, and the progress to date includes:

- The preparation and set up of a site compound with office and welfare facilities for the team in the land adjacent to the works.
- Fencing has been erected along the roadside to ensure the safety of both road users and pedestrians when piling works commence.
- Montel operatives have undertaken trial holes, ground testing and sampling to assess the existing ground conditions. This included ground-bearing tests to confirm the grounds capacity to support maximum loads that will be applied during the piling works.
- A piling platform has been constructed at the bottom of the embankment to accommodate the piling rig and crane. This process involved stripping the topsoil, laying a geotextile membrane followed by a layer of geogrid to improve the bearing capacity. Material was then placed and compacted in layers to create the working platform.
- Vibration monitors have been installed along the length of the proposed sheet piled wall to monitor the vibration levels during the works and ensure these do not exceed the maximum levels specified by the utility providers that have infrastructure running along the highway verge.

Over the next two weeks, the team will excavate additional trial holes to locate and expose the electric cables and fibre optic lines mentioned above to ensure there are no clashes with the proposed piling works. The piling works will commence on 25th November for approximately eight weeks including the Christmas shutdown.

Temporary two-way traffic signals will remain in operation throughout the duration of the project. When the piling operation commences the existing footway along the A435 will be closed and pedestrians will be required to use the public right of way on the opposite side of the road adjacent to the Cheltenham Racecourse boundary fence line.

