

## North Weald Airfield



<b>Client</b>	Jubb Consulting Ltd
<b>Program</b>	November to December 2022
<b>Value</b>	£100K
<b>Role</b>	Principal contractor
<b>Works undertaken</b>	Management of all SI activities: rotary drilling, trial pitting, in-situ testing, engineers' logs, laboratory testing, factual report
<b>Geology</b>	Made Ground, Lowestoft Formation, London Clay Formation

### The Contract

The purpose of the ground investigation was to provide information to assist in the design of a housing development.

### The Challenge

The main challenge faced on site was the nationwide drop of temperatures around the UK, which in North Weald was forecast as minus 10°C with associated weather warnings as briefed from the nearby Air Traffic Control Tower. With such low temperatures, the rigs may struggle to operate optimally and working conditions become difficult for site staff. As the weather conditions deteriorated snow drifts and hidden ice became a hazard.

Additionally the site itself was partially an airfield and partially was being used primarily for a local market and emergency service driver training. These activities created additional hazards in the form of private planes, emergency helicopters, accessibility to the public, and vehicles travelling at speed during emergency driver training.

### The Solution

Excellent preparation and maintenance by our drill teams meant that all hoses were flushed with antifreeze to prevent freezing overnight. Rock salt was used to maintain a safe environment underfoot. For all site staff there was provision for good site welfare that enabled a respite from the extremely cold conditions.

To mitigate the additional hazards the site manager was in continual communication with landowners, site occupiers and aircraft control to plan operations on a daily basis. This enabled our operational activities to be located away from these hazards so as to avoid any incidents.

