

13 August 2019



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE
& PETERBOROUGH**
COMBINED AUTHORITY

Dear [REDACTED]

With reference to your request received on 25 July 2019 reference EIR01, please find the response provided below:

Question:

Has the Combined Authority undertaken/have access to any subterranean/underground assessment for Cambridge related to the Cambridgeshire Autonomous Metro plan? This can include feasibility assessments or surveys of the ground under the city where the underground is intended to run. This can also include any subterranean SPD or planning considerations.

If so, please can you send the information?

If you cannot send the information, please can you say when the work was carried out, and provide a brief summary of its conclusions and its suitability to dig into/construct tunnels underneath/in?

Has the combined authority contacted a contractor/specialist to seek information on the subterranean geography/viability of tunnelling under the city? If so, when? (please provide the date in days, months and the year.)

Answer:

As part of the Mass Transit Option Study (published early 2018) the Combined Authority sub-contracted London Bridge Associates (LBA) to provide high-level advice on tunnelling. LBA supplied the Combined Authority with their report (copy attached). The LBA report wasn't published but informed the main report, and the conclusion was that the gault clay was well suited to tunnelling.

The extract below confirms that publicly available information was used based on existing borehole surveys (the sites referred to are Cambridge Station, the city centre, CBC, Cambridge North and West Cambridge), along with the link.

<https://www.bgs.ac.uk/data/boreholescans/home.html>

The Combined Authority subcontracted both Mott MacDonald and LBA for the SOBC work, but no further work/bespoke survey was undertaken on subterranean conditions.

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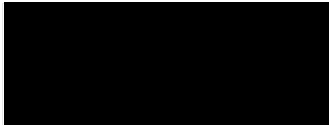
The engineering and technical suppliers have now been identified from the recent procurement exercise for the Outline Business Case work which will commence imminently and further work in relation to the tunnelling will subsequently be undertaken for the report next year.

I hope this information is helpful but if you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review, you should write to us via our contact us email address – contactus@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk or write a letter to Complaints, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, Incubator 2, The Boulevard, Enterprise Campus, Alconbury Weald, Huntingdon, PE28 4XA within 40 days of the date of this e-mail.


If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF, or via their website: <https://ico.org.uk/>

Generally, the ICO will not undertake a review or make a decision on a request until the internal review process has been completed.

Yours sincerely

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Sue Hall.

Sue Hall
Governance Assistant

A decorative graphic in the bottom left corner consisting of several overlapping, curved, leaf-like shapes in shades of purple, blue, green, and brown.

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