

SOUTH WEST HIGHWAY AUTHORITIES AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE

CORING POLICY DOCUMENT – (Reviewed July '08 and formatted March '09)

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The information and details contained in this policy document do not override any requirements of the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991, The Traffic Management Act 2004, & Health and Safety legislation and procedures. etc.
- 1.2 Where a Utility carries out a coring programme the results of that programme shall be presented to the Highway Authority.

2 Purpose

- 2.1 The purpose of carrying out a coring programme by either a Utility or a Highway Authority of Utilities street works reinstatement is to ensure that the Specification for the Reinstatement of Openings in Highways and Best Practice Guidelines are being adhered to. Where failures are identified appropriate corrective action should be taken to rectify the situation and improve future standards.

3 Sample Selection

- 3.1 The selected number of sites shall give a representative sample for each Highway Authority area.
- 3.2 Sites shall be selected from a random sample of reinstatements within the life of the works and the guarantee period
- 3.3 Other investigatory works outside the random sample may be carried out by either the Utility or Highway Authority if specific concerns or disputes arise.
- 3.4 Major schemes undertaken by Utility Companies shall be included in the core sample selection to the Highway Authority.
- 3.5 Cores not be taken from reinstatements which, from visual inspection, clearly require re-excavation.

4 Notification

- 4.1 Utilities and Highway Authorities should inform each other one month in advance of their intention to carry out a coring programme. Unless a continual coring programme is in place and the Highway Authority have been informed accordingly.
- 4.2 Notification of actual coring locations is to be given as soon as reasonably practicable and no later than 12:00pm the previous working day by fax and these will not be included in the notice regime or incur charges.

The notification shall include a minimum of: -

- a) Highway Authority or Utility Company logo or name.
- b) The logo or name of the Contractor undertaking the coring.
- c) Date that coring is to take place.
- d) Date that the list is sent.
- e) Contact telephone number of the Contractor undertaking the coring.
- f) Contact telephone number of the coring gang.
- g) Utility NRSWA Reference of each site and site number where appropriate.
- h) Location of each site.

- 4.3 Each party should afford the other the opportunity to monitor the coring process.

5 Testing / Core Report Details

5.1 The following items will be checked and reported;

- a) Surface course bitumen layer thickness.
- b) Binder course layer thickness
- c) Total bitumen layer thickness. Dependant on road reinstatement type. Base (Road base).
- d) Materials used.
- e) Compaction. (Visual / Lab report)
- f) Vertical joint sealant. (Visual / Lab report)

5.2 The following additional information will normally be provided:

- a) Utility NRSWA reference number and site number where appropriate as per ETON (Current Version) Appendix E.
- b) Location address.
- a) Date core taken.
- b) If carriageway, footway or cycle track.
- c) Existing carriageway, reinstatement type and construction.
- d) Inspection result.
- e) Reason for failure.
- f) Remedial action required.
- g) Backfill material used. (Advisory)

5.3 Core diameter to be a minimum of 50mm up to a 100mm core to ascertain material thickness and compaction. Any laboratory tests that are to be carried out on the materials a core diameter, in accordance with the current British Standard, will be required.

5.4 Visual core assessment to be carried out by a competent person e.g. Accredited NRSWA Supervisor.

5.5 Any laboratory testing of materials shall be by a HAPAS approved accredited laboratory.

5.6 Reinstatement of core holes will be in accordance with the Specification for the Reinstatement of Openings in Highways. Section S11.5 Test Holes.

6 Result Advice, Consultation and Reporting.

6.1 Results shall be distributed to each Utility / Highway Authority within one month of results being received unless an alternative time scale has been agreed. All core samples should be assessed and classified as follows:-

- a) Technical Compliance. Where the reinstatement meets the requirements of the HAUC specification.
- b) Technical Non – Compliance. Where a reinstatement does not meet the requirements of the HAUC specification and subject to agreement, remedial works are not necessary.
- c) Defects. Where a technical non-complying reinstatement warrants remedial works.

6.2 Subsequent to the submission of core results it is recommended that a meeting between the individual Utility and the Highway Authority is held to review findings and agree remedial action. Discussion can take place on future core sample size, additional cores, locations, timing, identification needs and any other issues that are causing concern.

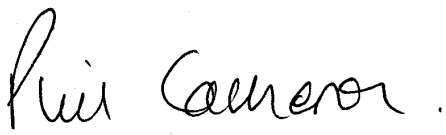
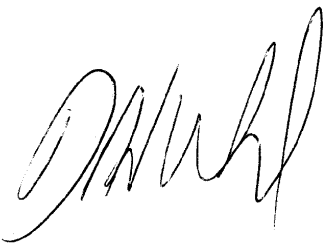
- 6.3 The core samples will be retained for a minimum of 2 months for joint inspection until after the core result meetings or as required, see (6.2).
- 6.4 Coring reports shall be available for presentation to Highway Authorities and Regional HAUC's on a quarterly basis and be available to the National HAUC if required.
- 6.5 A full report of each core sample taken shall be retained by the originator and made available if required.

7 Remedial Action

- 7.1 Where the Highway Authority has carried out the coring then any failed cores will trigger the normal defect procedure. (See 6.1(c) above)
 - a) In the case 6.1b, a joint meeting may be carried out and the joint inspection will be rechargeable, and also to include the cost of the core.
 - b) In the case of 6.1c, normal defect charges will be applicable and also to include the cost of the core.
- 7.2 Where a failed reinstatement is identified by a Utility the defect procedure will not be triggered by the Highway Authority.
- 7.3 Normal notification procedures will apply for remedial works.

References:

- 1. Specification for the Reinstatement of Openings in the Highway 2nd Edition 2002
- 2. Practical Guide to Streetworks [HAUC(UK)] 2006
- 3. SWHAUC Best Practice Reinstatement Code 2008

Signed and approved on behalf of:-	
Joint Authorities Group South West - JAG(SW)	South West Joint Utilities Group - SWJUG
	
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Date:12 th March 2009.....	Date:12 th March 2009.....