

Finchley Road Extraordinary Measures

Cadent Gas Lane Rental Industry Publication



Introduction

The existing gas pipe infrastructure was installed over one hundred years ago. This now needs to be replaced with safer, more durable pipes to ensure a reliable gas supply for years to come. Almost £1 billion is being invested into London's gas infrastructure which will reduce the amount of unplanned work in future. Smaller sections of gas main are also being replaced and upgraded throughout London as part of this investment; helping to pave the way for essential regeneration programmes. As part of this investment, works were due to be undertaken on Finchley Road. After various discussions with stakeholders, it was agreed that these works should be undertaken in collaboration with Thames Water, who also had essential water mains replacement works in the area.



The Project

In order to mitigate disruption to road users that would have ordinarily ensued from these works had they been executed in a conventional manner, it was agreed to remove sections of the centre islands that separate directional for a considerable extent of Finchley Road.

Implementing these far-reaching measures meant that substantive sections of the road network could continue to operate as they would if roadworks were not present; thus safeguarding journey reliability.

Delivering both mains replacement works for each different utility provider in a collaborative fashion ensured the same stretch of street would not suffer disruption twice-over through separate occupation periods.

Once the central islands had started to be removed, it became apparent that existing street furniture and highway assets required replacing due to erosion and general wear and tear. To mitigate disruption further new street furniture along with new kerbs and modular setts were provided upon the reinstatement of the islands within the duration of the main project.



Outcomes

Carrying out these additional activities and working collaboratively with Thames Water and Transport for London have ensured that further disruption to Finchley Road is mitigated. The estimated social cost of delay saved is calculated at £2,070,107.

In addition to renewing the utility infrastructure lifespan, it was also decided to increase the resilience of the highway asset by replacing street furniture in the area and reinstating the central reservation with new kerbing and modular setts.

Conclusion/ Recommendations

This project was successfully completed, while mitigating immediate and potential future impact to the network. More projects are encouraged to access Lane Rental funding for implementing extraordinary measures where similar opportunities arise.

TfL Lane Rental Scheme

Optimising customer journeys through the delivery of safer, innovative and sustainable roadworks



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