

Geothermal Drilling Management

Real projects. Real experience. A genuine differentiator.

RAMS | Surveys & Defects | Geothermal Drilling Management

Shane Leonce, Managing Director | 23 years in construction

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A genuine differentiator

Almost no construction compliance consultant offers geothermal drilling management. SML does, built on years managing ground source heat pump drilling programmes for social housing retrofit, working directly with drilling rigs, casing and grouting sequences on live occupied sites.

Borehole drilling for ground source heat pumps is CDM notifiable construction work, not a specialist sideline that falls outside the rules. It carries real risk: wrong access equipment for a confined yard, poor sequencing between rigs and other trades, confined space entry at the borehole head, and geotechnical risk that changes from one plot to the next. It needs the same documentation discipline as any other high risk activity, RAMS that reflect what the rig actually does, a construction phase plan that sequences drilling around the rest of the site, and a Principal Designer function that has actually stood next to a rig rather than read about one.

That is the gap SML fills. The photographs on the following pages are from real SML managed sites, not stock images, spanning rig set up, casing installation, grouting and the groundworks that sit around a drilling programme.

What geothermal drilling management covers

- RAMS and method statements written for the actual rig, casing and grouting sequence on site, not a generic template
- CDM construction phase plans that sequence drilling around groundworks, other trades and occupied buildings
- Principal Designer support through pre-construction, with genuine drilling experience behind the sign off
- Subcontractor vetting for drilling and specialist ground works subcontractors
- Building condition and defects surveys before and after drilling, protecting against damage claims from neighbouring structures



Rig set up and casing ready for a ground source borehole, social housing retrofit programme.



Drilling in progress. Sequencing a rig safely around an occupied site is a RAMS and phase plan discipline, not an afterthought.



Casing installation, mid borehole. Geotechnical conditions change plot to plot across a single scheme.



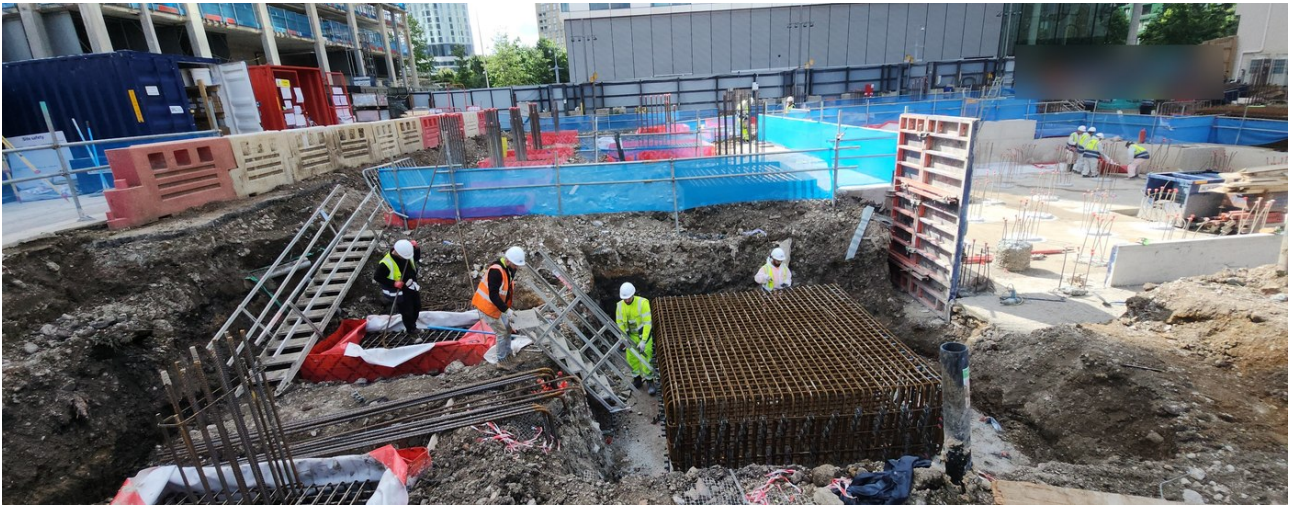
Close quarters drilling access. Confined yard working is one of the most common access risks on retrofit drilling.



Grouting and borehole completion works, part of the sequence that has to be documented and signed off.



Rig on a live occupied site. Coordination with residents and other trades sits alongside the technical drilling risk.



A full drilling run across multiple boreholes on the same scheme, the kind of volume that needs a proper phase plan.



Site management during an active drilling phase, groundworks and drilling plant sharing the same footprint.



Reinforcement and groundworks ahead of a drilling and piling sequence on a larger scheme.



Concrete operations running alongside structural works on a live multi phase site.

Let's talk about your next drilling programme

RAMS, CDM and Principal Designer support built around
the realities of ground source drilling on live sites.

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