

The Ultimate Site Enablement Checklist: Preparing for Tilsley Groundworks

Category: Commercial & Technical

A comprehensive pre-start guide for main contractors and developers in the West Midlands. Discover the essential steps required to prepare your commercial or residential site for the arrival of Tilsley Groundworks, ensuring a safe, efficient, and delay-free start to your civil engineering package.

Prepare your construction site for success with the Tilsley Groundworks pre-start checklist. Learn how to manage access, welfare, and engineering set-out to ensure our heavy plant and civil engineering teams can hit the ground running on your Midlands development.

When a developer or main contractor awards a groundworks package, the focus immediately shifts to the start date. The "out of the ground" phase is the most unpredictable part of any construction programme. Delays on day one can cause a ripple effect that disrupts every subsequent trade, pushing back plot handovers and inflating the project budget.

At Tilsley Groundworks, we operate a strict self-delivery model. Because we own our fleet of heavy plant machinery and employ our direct labour force, we do not rely on third party hire companies. When we say we will mobilise on a Monday morning, our low loaders arrive on time. However, to ensure our civil engineering squads can commence bulk earthworks or foundation trenching immediately, the site itself must be fully prepared.

We have created this comprehensive Site Enablement Checklist to help Site Managers and Quantity Surveyors across the West Midlands prepare for our arrival. By ticking off these critical pre-start requirements, you guarantee a seamless transition from the planning phase to live construction.

1. Logistics, Haulage, and Site Access

Heavy civil engineering requires heavy machinery. Our operations involve transporting Volvo excavators, articulated dumpers, and mobile concrete crushers.

- **Low Loader Access:** Have you verified that a heavy haulage low loader can safely navigate the approach roads to your site? Consider tight turning circles,

weight-restricted bridges, and low-hanging tree branches in rural Staffordshire locations.

- **Traffic Management Plan:** Is there a clear, safe point of entry for our grab lorries to operate a "load and go" muck away service? If we are working on a busy Birmingham highway, is the approved traffic management system already in place?
- **Material Storage:** Have you designated a secure, hardstanding area for us to store incoming materials like drainage pipework, reinforcing steel, and aggregate?

2. Health, Safety, and Welfare Compliance

Safety is the absolute priority on every Tilsley Groundworks site. Before our operatives cross the boundary fence, strict Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (CDM) must be satisfied.

- **Site Induction:** Is the Site Manager prepared to deliver a comprehensive site induction for our incoming squads on morning one?
- **Welfare Facilities:** Are the statutory welfare facilities fully operational? Our teams require access to clean toilets, hot and cold running water, and a dedicated rest area before heavy groundworks can commence.
- **RAMS Approval:** Have the Risk Assessments and Method Statements provided by our health and safety team been reviewed and signed off by your Principal Contractor?
- **Perimeter Security:** Is the site boundary fully secured with temporary Heras fencing to protect the public from deep excavations and moving plant?

3. Engineering, Utilities, and Information

Digging blind is the fastest way to cause a catastrophic accident or a severe project delay. We need absolute clarity on what lies beneath the surface and exactly where the new structures are positioned.

- **Construction Issue Drawings:** Have you provided the absolute latest "Construction Issue" revisions of the architectural and structural engineering drawings? Working from superseded plans leads to foundations being poured in the wrong place.

- **Utility Surveys:** Has a comprehensive underground utility survey been conducted? We require detailed mapping of all existing gas, water, high voltage electricity, and fibre optic cables. Our teams will still conduct independent CAT scans, but historical data is vital for safe site clearance.
- **Setting Out Datum:** Has the primary site datum point been established and protected? Our engineers need a reliable reference point to calibrate our laser levels and GPS rovers for precise foundation excavation and block and beam void creation.

4. Environmental and Remediation Factors

The West Midlands is rich in brownfield sites, which often come with complex environmental constraints that must be managed before bulk earthworks begin.

- **Asbestos Surveys:** If our package includes demolition or site clearance, has a Refurbishment and Demolition Asbestos Survey been completed and any hazardous materials safely removed?
- **Tree Protection:** Are all Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) accounted for, and is the required root protection fencing erected around mature trees?
- **Ecology Reports:** Have all ecological constraints been cleared? For example, have nesting bird surveys or badger sett relocations been fully resolved?

The Tilsley Groundworks Commitment

Preparing a site for heavy civil engineering is a collaborative effort. By using this enablement checklist, main contractors and developers ensure that our skilled operatives and owned plant fleet can operate at maximum efficiency from the very first minute. We bring the machinery, the expertise, and the drive to get your project out of the ground safely. When your site is ready, Tilsley Groundworks is ready to build.

Services: Site Enablement, Commercial Groundworks, Residential Foundations, Civil Engineering, Bulk Earthworks, Demolition, Deep Drainage.

Location: West Midlands, Staffordshire, Birmingham, Sutton Coldfield, Lichfield, Tamworth, Derby, Burton upon Trent.