

Case Study

Service: Shear Vane Testing

Location: Earlswood Junior School,
Redhill, Surrey RH16JX

Client: Miller Construction

Miller Construction sought the services of Swantest on their Earlswood Junior School site to provide shear strength values of cohesive clay at the base of a piling mat.

Following on-site excavations and the reduction of ground to formation level, Swantest tested the cohesive clay using our hand held shear vane tester.

Due to the speed of each test, a large area of ground can be tested in a short space of time. Furthermore, a thorough visual inspection can be conducted to rule out the presence of any soft spots.

This is a very efficient method of obtaining the shear strength of clay & soils while eliminating the use of heavy equipment or kentledge.

We are able to provide same day detailed reports. Based on the shear strengths provided, Miller Construction were able to design the piling mat.

These tests are based on the requirements of BS 1377-9: 1990 Part 9: Section 4.4 - Determination of the in-situ vane shear strength of weak intact cohesive soils

Key to images:

1. Miller site being reduced to formation level.
2. Profile of excavation showing varying soil/clay layers
3. Trial pits dug for quick assessment of natural ground
4. Hand Shear Vane utilises 19mm or 33mm vanes

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