DBD Cable and Access Routes – as of June 2025

This is a quick view of the relevant slides impacting on Lockington Parishioners



Open cut (trenched method)

This method will be used for the majority of the cable route where there is open land. This involves utilising a temporary construction corridor (we assume approximately 50m wide) for a haul road, storing topsoil, pre-construction drainage, fencing and the working area for excavating trenches to install ducting and electricity cables.



All images are not to scale and for indicative purposes only.

Horizontal directional drilling (HDD)

HDD involves the use of a directional drilling machine to accurately drill along a desired underground route beneath an asset or obstacle and then subsequently install a cable duct. A cable is safely pulled through the conduit as part of the cable installation works.

We will establish two working areas on either side of the feature to be crossed and create a launch pit and a reception pit at each end. At the launch pit, the HDD rig will be brought to site and set up. The operator will drill an initial pilot hole along a desired alignment beneath the asset to be crossed. The diameter of the bore path will then be enlarged using a reaming tool to the desired size for a duct to then be pulled through.



Microtunnelling (pipe jacking)

Microtunnelling is a pipe installation technique that uses microtunnel boring machines, allowing for precise and efficient installation without the need for extensive surface disruption, whilst protecting existing assets.

The process begins with the establishment of two shafts: a launch shaft where the microtunnel boring machine starts and a reception shaft where it finishes. At the launch shaft the machine is advanced through the ground using specially manufactured jacking pipes. The machine and pipes are pushed forward into the ground by hydraulic jacks at a controlled rate, ensuring safe and effective soil cutting.

As each pipe advances through the ground one length at a time, the pistons are retracted and the next pipe section is added to the pipe string. This process is repeated, one pipe length at a time, until the machine reaches the reception shaft.











