

Royal Exchange, Kingston

Client:
St George Homes LTD

Status:
Principal Contractor

Project Duration:
December 2018 - August
2019



As Principal Contractor, Wooldridge Demolition carried out the demolition works of three reinforced concrete framed office blocks; Argyll House, Frances House and Brook House using two high reach machines for the majority of the works. The demolition of one of the blocks in particular required careful evaluation from the management team due to the complexity of the original structure.

In addition to this, we soft stripped the original heritage Royal Exchange building in anticipation for it to be refurbished and ultimately incorporated into the client's new development, to make way for 320 residential units, 15 commercial units and further development in its place.



As a result of the site being situated in Kingston Town Centre, it was imperative that our Traffic Management Plan was assiduously assessed throughout the duration of the project to diminish the disruption to the neighbouring public. Two public footpaths ran along side the site boundary, which meant we needed to momentarily put in place two pavement closures in order to erect the pedestrian protection gantry to allow continued use of the footpath around the site.

As Principal Contractor, we ran pervasive ground investigations to identify any buried services and determine service terminations making sure the site was fully decommissioned. In advance to the demolition works being carried out, we undertook asbestos removal from all three of the office blocks using an external asbestos removal company ensuring that the site was completely safe to begin demolition.

We obtained the services of a UXO surveyor to run an Unexploded Bomb Ordinance Survey covering all of the existing building footprints.

As a supplementary strand to the demolition works, Wooldridge Demolition also assisted an external archaeology team by using our excavators to dig trenches on site where the buildings had been removed.

With every Wooldridge Demolition site, our environmental impact and waste management are carefully monitored by our Sustainability Advisor who reviews each individual project and generates a plan of action as to how we can manage any environmental factors that implicate the project in accordance with the company environmental Policy and statutory legislation.

All waste was crushed on site using our Powerscreen R400X crusher, the crush arisings were then recycled into a multi-level piling mat for the client's use.

Wooldridge Demolition scored highly following an audit from the Considerate Constructors Scheme resulting in an award for the site. In addition to this, our innovation was successfully approved by the scheme. This was our 'Dyslexia Campaign' that helps support operatives who suffer with visual stress and dyslexia.

Moving forward, this will now be rolled out

to every Wooldridge Demolition site. This has added to our continual growth and improvement as a company which we have now been able to set as a standard for each site.

