Transco

Your Ref: **01/00522/FUL**
Our Ref: **56681**

Contact: Sue Greene
Telephone: 01204 546816
Fax:01204 546806

Knowsley Metropolitan Borough
Dept. Of Planning & Development
Po Box 26, Yorkon Buildings
Archway Road, Huyton
L36 9FB

North West

Spa Road
Bolton
BL1 4SR

Telephone
Fax
24 hour gas escape number 0800 111 999 *

* Calls will be recorded and may be monitored

15 August 2001

F.A.O. Colin Williams

Dear Sirs,

Re: Planning Application Erection of 'Surestart' Early Years centre Simonswood Primary School, Minstead Avenue Kirkby, knowsley. L33 6NX .

In reply to your letter dated 08 August 2001 please find enclosed one copy of our mains records plan for the above area upon which the approximate positions of all known gas mains are shown.

Service pipes, valves, syphons, stub connections etc. are not necessarily shown but their presence should be anticipated. The actual position of mains and services must be verified and established on site before any mechanical plant is used.

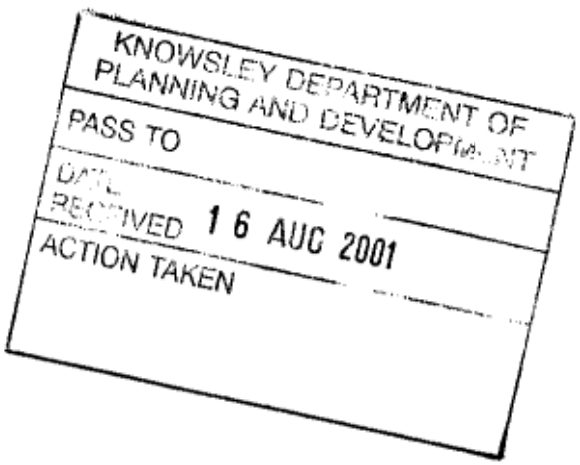
Your attention is drawn to the medium pressure main (indicated in blue) on the plan. Should you wish to undertake any works within 2 metres of this main it is essential that you contact Mr Ian Kearns, the Network Operations Manager for this area, on 0151 494 1907 at least 48 hours prior to the commencement of work in order that he can inform you of any precautions which may be necessary.

A copy of our "General Conditions and Precautions " leaflet, which outlines precautions to be taken whilst excavating in the vicinity of live gas distribution apparatus, is enclosed for your information.

Yours faithfully,

S. Greene

Sue Greene
On behalf of Transco.



Transco

PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN WHEN CARRYING OUT WORK IN THE VICINITY OF UNDERGROUND GAS PIPES

ADVICE TO SITE PERSONNEL

MANAGEMENT NOTE

Please ensure that a copy of this note is read by your site management and a pocket card is issued to your site operatives.

Early consultation with the District prior to excavation is recommended to obtain the location of plant and precautions to be taken when working nearby.

This note has been produced after consultation with and at the request of the Health and Safety Executive, the construction industry and the local authorities as an interim measure pending the issue of an H.S.E. Guidance Note.

Introduction

Damage to Transco plant can result in uncontrolled gas escapes which may be dangerous. In addition these occurrences can cause expense, disruption of work and inconvenience to the public.

Various materials are used for gas pipes and service. Cast Iron, steel and plastic pipes are the most widely found. Modern plastic pipes are bright yellow in colour.

Cast iron water pipes are very similar in appearance to cast iron gas pipes and if any cast iron pipe is uncovered, it should be treated as a gas pipe.

The following general precautions apply to low pressure and other gas mains services normally encountered in general site work and are referred to here as pipes.

Locating Gas Pipes

It should be assumed when working in urban and residential areas that gas mains and services are likely to be present. On request, the local District will give approximate locations of pipes derived from their records. The records do not normally show the position of service pipes but their probable line can be deducted from the gas meter position. Gas staff will visit any site at reasonable notice to assist in the location of gas plant and advice on any precautions that may be required. The records and advice are given in good faith but cannot be guaranteed until hand excavation has taken place. Proprietary pipe and cable locators are available.

Safe working Practices

To achieve safe working conditions adjacent to gas plant the following must be observed:

Observe any specific request made by gas staff.

Gas pipes must be located by hand digging before mechanical excavation. Once located, mechanical excavation must proceed with care. A mechanical excavator must not in any case be used within 0.5 metre of a gas pipe and greater safety distances may be advised by the District depending on mains pressure.

Where heavy plant may have to cross the line of a gas pipe during construction work, the number of crossing points should be kept to a minimum. Crossing points should be clearly indicated and crossings at other places along the line of the pipe should be prevented.

Where the pipe is not adequately protected by an existing road, crossing points should be suitably reinforced with sleepers, steel plates or a specially constructed reinforced concrete raft as necessary. Transco staff will advise on the type of reinforcement necessary.

No explosives should be used within 30 metres of any gas pipe without prior consultation with the local District.

The local District must be consulted prior to carrying out excavation work within 10 metres of any above ground gas installation.

Where it is proposed to carry out piling or boring within 15 metres of any gas pipe, the local District should be consulted prior to the commencement of the works.

Access to gas plant must be available at all times.

Proximity of Other Plant

A minimum clearance of 300 millimetres (mm) should be allowed between any plant being installed and an existing gas main to facilitate repair, whether the adjacent plant be parallel to or crossing the gas pipe. No apparatus should be laid over and along the line of a gas pipe irrespective of clearance.

No manhole or chambers shall be built over or around a gas pipe and no work should be carried out which results in a reduction of cover or protection over a pipe, without consultation with gas staff.

Support and Backfill

Where excavation of trenches adjacent to any pipe affects its support, the pipe must be supported to the satisfaction of gas staff and must not be used as an anchor or support in any way. In some cases, it may be necessary to divert the gas pipe before work commences.

Where a trench is excavated crossing or parallel to the line of the gas pipe, the backfill should be adequately compacted, particularly beneath the pipe to prevent any settlement which could subsequently cause damage to the pipe.

In special cases it may be necessary to provide permanent support to the gas pipe, before backfilling and reinstatement is carried out. Backfill material adjacent to gas plant must be selected fine material or sand, containing no stones, bricks or lumps of concrete, etc., placed to a minimum depth of 150mm around the pipes and well compacted by hand.

No power compaction should take place until 300 mm of selected fine fill has been suitably compacted.

If the road construction is in close proximity to the top of the gas pipe, a "cushion" of selected fine material such as sand must be used to prevent the traffic shock being transmitted to the gas pipe. The road construction depth must not be reduced without permission from the local Highway Authority.

No concrete or other hard material must be placed or left under or adjacent to any cast iron pipe as this can cause fracture of the pipe at a later date.

Concrete backfill should not be used closer than 300 mm to the pipe.

Damage to Coating

Where a gas pipe is coated with special wrapping and this is damaged, even to a minor extent, the local District must be notified so that repairs can be made to prevent future corrosion and subsequent leakage.

Welding or "Hot Works"

When welding or other "hot works" involving naked flames are to be carried out in close proximity to gas plant and the presence of gas is suspected, the local District must be contacted before work commences to check the atmosphere.

Even when a gas free atmosphere exists care must be taken when carrying out hot works in close proximity to gas plant in order to ensure that no damage occurs.

Particular care must be taken to avoid damage by heat or naked flame to plastic gas pipes or to the protective coating on other gas pipes.

Leakage from Gas Mains or Services

If damage or leakage is caused or an escape of gas is smelt or suspected the following action should be taken at once:

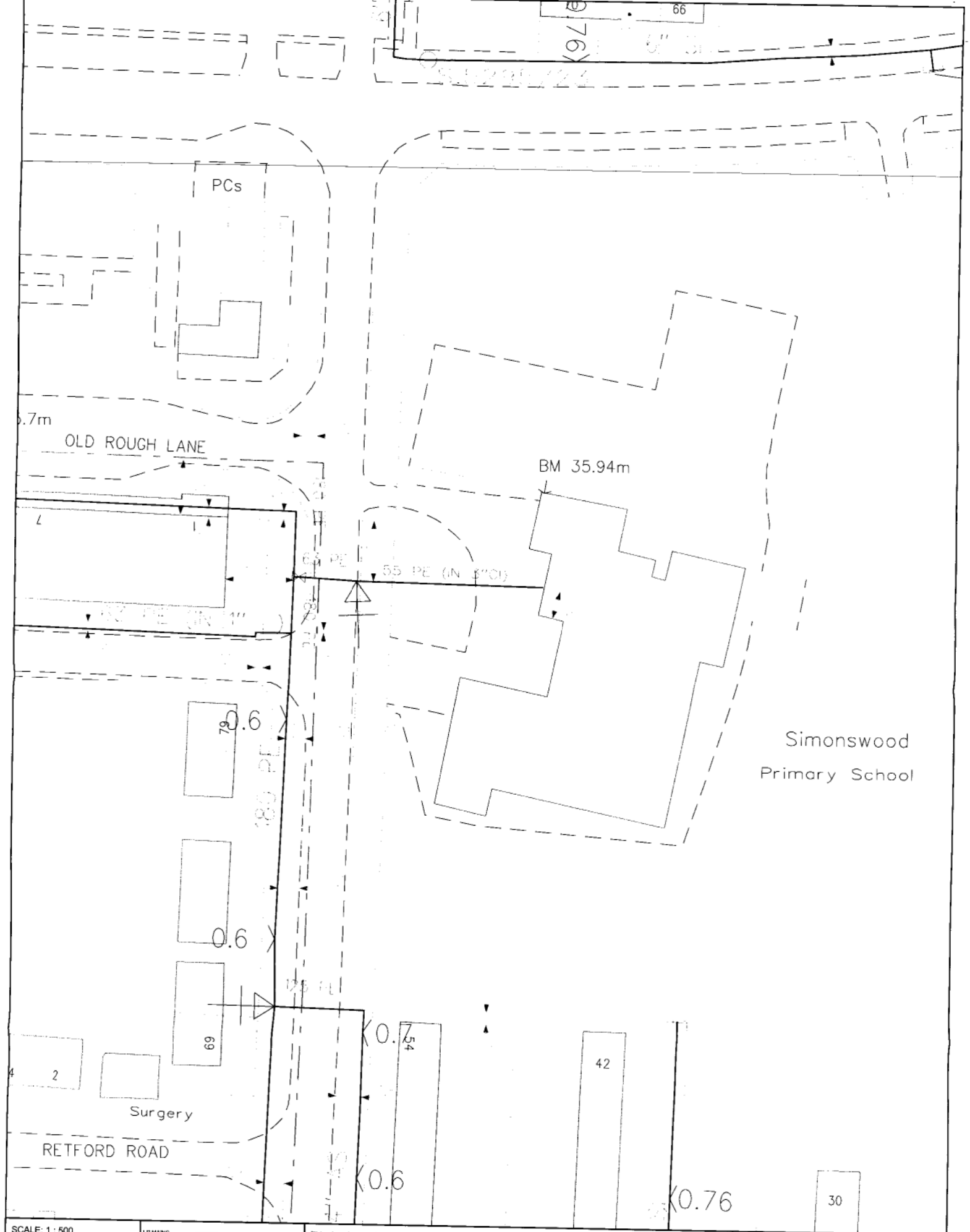
- Remove all personnel from the immediate vicinity of the escape.
- Contact Transco's National Gas Escape Call Centre, on: **0800 111 999**.
- Prevent any approach by the public, prohibit smoking. extinguish all naked flames or other source of ignition for at least 15 metres from the leakage.
- Assist gas personnel, Police or Fire Service as requested.

Remember – if in doubt, seek advice from the local District.

Office _____

Tel: _____

Transco plc
Registered in England No. 2006000 Registered Office 130 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 4UR
Incorporated in England and Wales



SCALE: 1 : 500	LP MAINS
USER ID: sg030	MP MAINS
DATE: 15/08/2001	IP MAINS
NRSWA RESPONSE	LHP MAINS
GRID REFERENCE : 342075, 398933	NHP MAINS

Some examples of Plant Items: Valve, Depth of Cover, Syphon, Diameter Change, Material Change

This plan shows only those pipes owned by Transco plc in its role as a Licensed Public Gas Transporter (PGT). Gas pipes owned by other PGTs and also privately owned may be present in this area. Information with regard to such pipes should be obtained from the owners. The information shown on this plan is given without obligation, or warranty, the accuracy thereof cannot be guaranteed. Service pipes, valves, syphons, stub connections, etc., are not shown but their presence should be anticipated. No liability of any kind whatsoever is accepted by Transco plc, its agents or servants for any error or omission. Safe digging practices, in accordance with HS(G)47, must be used to verify and establish the actual position of mains, pipes, services and other apparatus on site before any mechanical plant is used. It is your responsibility to ensure that this information is provided to all persons (either direct labour or contractors) working for you on or near gas apparatus. The information included on this plan should not be referred to beyond a period of 28 days from the date of issue.

Desktop MAPS Version 2.0.1

Transco

Bolton

This plan is reproduced from or based on the OS map by Transco plc, with the sanction of the controller of HM Stationery Office. Crown Copyright Reserved.