

## Wednesbury

Site Area: 3 Hectares  
Former Use: Former Colliery and HE College  
Client: Bellway Homes  
Value: £3,500,000

A higher education college and former colliery contributed to a long history of potentially contaminative land use at this site in Wednesbury. Significant areas of ground contamination associated with deep Made Ground, coupled with significant historical underground mining features, represented the main constraints to redevelopment at the site.

Following initial appraisal and investigation, Provectus worked closely with the developer, Bellway Homes Limited (Bellway) to determine an appropriate remedial strategy and engineering solution for the site.

Treatment of twenty three recorded and two unrecorded mine entries and layout specific treatment of unconsolidated shallow workings was undertaken under the supervision of Provectus to the satisfaction of the Local Authority and Coal Authority and sign off was obtained to discharge relevant planning conditions.

In addition, vibro ground improvement was carried out for all structures across the site to mitigate the potential risks associated with consolidation and settlement of the deep and variable Made Ground. This included modelling of cut and fill requirements on behalf of Bellway as part of the overall remediation strategy. Provectus supervised the ground improvement works and liaised closely with Bellway to determine appropriate foundation requirements for the proposed plots.



Ground contamination issues were mitigated by source removal and treatment followed by placement of a clean cover layer, and close liaison with the Environment Agency was necessary due to the proximity of the River Tame to the site. All issues relating to soil and groundwater contamination were satisfactorily remediated and sign off obtained as appropriate.

Long term supervision of the clean cover layer placement and validation was carried out by Provectus throughout the build programme to ensure discharge of NHBC conditions relating to land quality.

This project provided Provectus with the opportunity to work with Bellway throughout the entire lifetime of the site, from initial appraisal through investigation and assessment to remediation and engineering works and ultimately on to regulator approvals and sign off.