

## **Question**

Two of the piling contractors I've gone out to are asking for the Ground Investigation in order to be able to complete their quotation.

## **Response from C2C Consulting Engineers Ltd**

Piling contractors would generally want a full site investigation with boreholes in order to inform their pile design, depending on their type of pile. Bored piles would need

We performance specify piles and in this case we have specified the pile location, design loads and pile type. The pile type we have specified is a driven steel tube minipile, which are a self-testing pile driven to practical refusal or a 'set', and as such do not necessarily require boreholes and geotechnical design.

In this case, there is no warranty provider (NHBC etc) who usually stipulate a geotechnically designed pile (i.e. requires borehole logs), and providing that Building control are happy with the driven piles with no boreholes, we are satisfied that there is no requirement for intrusive site investigation.

As you say, I was on site to inspect shallow trial holes and we found that the ground below around 1m depth was dark brown very soft silty clay. This is typical of Nantwich town centre where soft clays over-lie firmer clays and glacial till at around 3 to 6m.

I would suggest that if the piling contractor still requires site investigation, then they should include for the cost.