



# Northwich Land Stabilisation Programme

## Saved from that Sinking feeling!

Once the salt-producing capital of Britain, Northwich sits on abandoned rock-salt mines hundreds of feet below its surface, and they are unstable. Not only have they kept the Cheshire town on edge, they have deterred new development or regeneration for more than a decade. A £32m project to 'underpin' an entire town centre was imple-

mented in 2004. Work ceased on the four salt mines in the 19th Century. They were abandoned with rock salt pillars left to support the roofs of the mine cavities, upto 300 feet below the surface. In the 1920s, they were flooded with brine to provide further support. The plan is to pump out the mines and fill them, with more than a million tonnes of a pulverised fuel ash and cement. The ash for Northwich is transported by rail from Drax Power Station to Wrekin Construction's mixing site. It is then mixed with cement and brine and delivered through

temporary pipelines below the River Weaver into the town centre, where it is pumped into the mines through boreholes, at the same rate as concentrated brine is pumped out.

Woodford Plastics supplied and site welded many 1000's of meters of PE pipework throughout the mixing site and Northwich Town centre.



Part of the 560mm PE100 SDR17 pipeline which runs beneath the River Weaver.

## Woodford Plastics Limited

Woodford Plastics underground polyethylene mains division supplies, installs, and tests a wide range of pipework including; Water mains, Gas mains, Fire hydrant/sprinkler mains, Effluent & waste pipelines. Using the latest welding tech-

nology and the highest quality materials.



We also operate a successful leak detection service using tracer gas technology for locating leaks in



### Other products and services:

Plastic pipe & fittings supply

Plastic pipe & fittings installation

Plastic tanks & vessels

Secondary containment systems

GRP walkways & structures

PTFE lined pipes & fittings

Bespoke plastic fabrications

### Special points of interest:

- Long lengths of large diameter pipework butt welded on site.
- Pipeline dragged through bore holes underneath the River Weaver.
- Bespoke plastic trough fabricated to run down the side of the railway line to contain spills during loading / unloading.
- Process pipework, valves and tanks supplied
- Railway tanker unloading / loading pipework fabricated and installed.