

# TEMPORARY EVENT POWER

## Location

Leicester Square & Marble Arch  
Gyratory, Westminster

## Client Type

Westminster City Council

## Key Collaborators

Westminster City Council Oxford  
Street District (OSD), UKPN, Contractor  
Awarded Contract Representative

## Workstage

RIBA 4-6 -Detail design, Construction &  
Delivery

## Summary

The Infrastructure Coordinator carried  
out feasibility studies into facilitating  
a permanent 'plug in' power supply,  
removing the need for generators, for  
planned events

## The Challenge

As part of Oxford Street District to  
reinvigorate the West End, Westmin-  
ster City Council were looking at the  
feasibility of the provision of perman-  
ent power supplies in areas frequently  
used for temporary events.

Included in the feasibility was the con-  
sideration of more electricity capacity  
for Leicester Square, for commercial  
businesses and Film Premières.

The IC was asked to investigate the  
timescales, estimated finances and  
desktop feasibility of constructing and  
operating permanent substations to  
enable event companies to connect to  
a metered electricity supply and ne-  
gate the need for polluting generators  
and bulky plant.



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## Our Approach

Using experience and knowledge of  
electricity supply project manage-  
ment, the Coordinator reviewed the  
underground assets at the locations  
using the Data Mapping Tools and the  
Planning System to review landowners,  
developers and other stakeholders that  
would need to be contacted and agree  
to the cable route for this electricity  
provision.

It was immediately apparent that some  
locations would prove complicated  
in terms of the delivery of the power  
supply due to landownership and per-  
missions, as well as in the design of the  
route across very congested corridors  
and close proximity of key transport  
assets. These in turn led the Coordi-  
nator to confirm that the requirement  
for delivery by June 2021 would prove  
a challenge, not least due to the man-  
dated consultation requirements and  
increased costs for the timescale to be  
the priority for the project.

It was recommended that any tempo-  
rary events in 2021 would need to em-  
ploy generators, but that all investiga-  
tions leading to such events would be  
provided for further consideration of  
permanent power without the deadline  
being so close. This would also enable  
WCC to investigate more potential ar-  
eas for permanent power for temporary  
events, potentially being better than  
those identified in the first round of  
discussions.

## Key Outcomes

The Coordinator used their knowledge  
and experience to better inform a  
complex project, convening and me-  
diating between several high-profile  
stakeholders to help unlock the project  
development, establish realistic times-  
cales and mitigate potential delays  
caused by overly complex cable route  
plotting – and subsequent planning  
requirements.

At Leicester Square, liaison and nego-  
tiation resulted in UKPN reinforcing the  
networks to provide extra supply for  
premieres and live events. The findings  
for each location were shared so that  
they could be used as reference for  
future projects and to support perman-  
ent power provision at the sites.



Saved time



Reduced  
Disruption



Data  
Resources



Strategic  
Approach



Local  
Collaboration



Future  
Proofing



Saved money