

DANGER UXB

TOOL BOX TALK

FOR

UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE (UXO) AWARENESS

SCOPE:

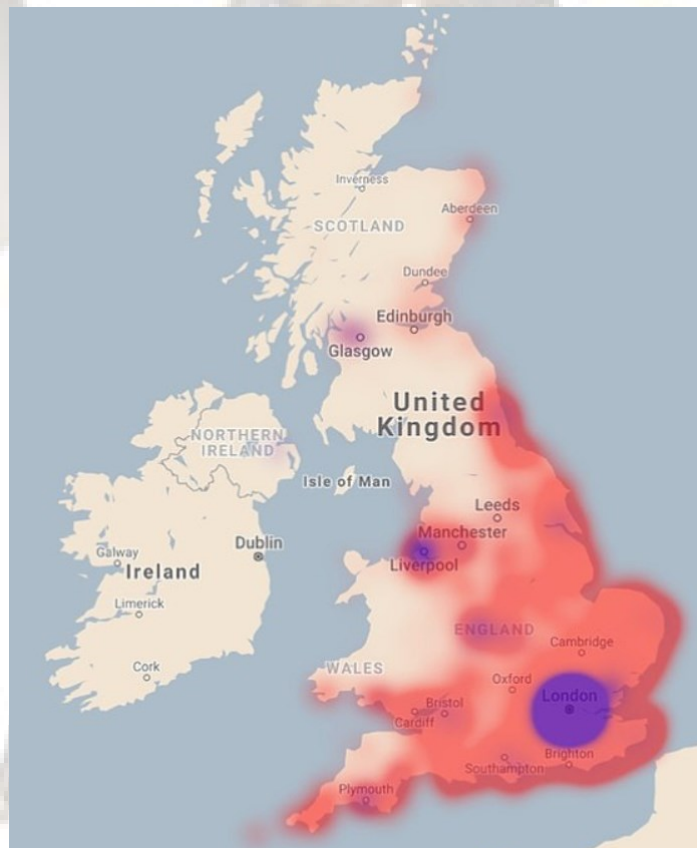
This is a site tool box talk (TBT) to increase awareness of unexploded ordnance, for construction workers that may unexpectedly encounter it on a site. It is important to note that this talk does not qualify anybody to dispose of ordnance!

For this project at Pembrey a UXO risk assessment has been completed for your site, and has specified the requirement for a site-specific TBT.

BACKGROUND:

UXO (Unexploded ordnance) is the general name for any military ordnance that may still contain explosives. This can include air dropped bombs, artillery shells, grenades, mortar bombs, improvised weapons, and small arms ammunition.

The truth is unexploded ordnance can be found at virtually any location in the United Kingdom and most construction projects.



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The UK bomb heat map above reflects the impact of WW2 air raid across the UK, clearly showing the areas especially major cities and strategically important locations that were subject to extensive aerial bombing during WW2. There was also aerial bombing in WW1 and some coastal towns were hit with artillery. Some of these bombs remain hidden on sites and UXO has been found under buildings that were constructed after WW2.

About 20% of the UK's land area has been used by the military, which includes training areas, airfields, defensive positions, explosive factories, barracks, ranges, and decoys to divert enemy bombers. Pembrey Country Park was home to the ROF (Royal Ordnance Factory) during WW2, producing munitions and explosives. The upshot of this was it was a prime target for German Air raids.

SITE HAZARDS:

All UXO or UXB's from WW2 still has the potential to kill, even small items of UXO could easily kill, maim or start fires. If any item which is suspected to be UXO is found, it must be treated with respect and considered dangerous.

CONSTRUCTION SITES:

The potential for a UXO being found at the Pembrey during ground works is Medium to High. This means that those working in the ground such as ground work by hand or machine, piling and digging foundation construction, are most at risk of encountering them. UXO's are also discovered regularly embedded in Hedge lines as well as the fabric of buildings due to ordnance being dropped from a plane, they can also hidden under floorboards and in the attics during refurbishment of post-WW2 buildings.

SEARCH AND CLEAR:

On this site, Danger UXB are undertaking a Search and clear Operation Search, this involves manual and methodical scanning a site or area of a site using a handheld detector to 'search' for UXO's. If any ferrous anomalies are detected, they are carefully excavated and investigated to ascertain whether they are UXO. If the excavated anomaly is UXO, Danger UXB will then identify whether the ordnance is live or inert. After identifying the item of UXO, Danger UXB will then 'clear' the ordnance by either safely defusing/detonating it on-site, removing it from the site to a remote location,

During this time, no one must enter the cordoned off area without authorisation of the Danger UXB EOD safety officer.

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EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN FOR DISCOVERY OF UXO

Your site has a UXO Emergency Response Plan in place, which will be activated if suspected UXO is located. The key steps to remember are:

If you find something suspicious and think it may be a UXO, **DO NOT TOUCH IT**. Switch off all machinery, plant and tools, leaving the area as quickly as possible, but minimising the risk of your equipment becoming a hazard and harming other people. Immediately inform your supervisor or site management about what you have seen, describing the size, shape and location of the object. If you are able to quickly take a photo with your phone, this could help identify the item.

If a UXO emergency is declared, all workers will be instructed to evacuate the site and move to the muster point at least 400 metres away from the suspect UXO, out of a direct line of sight. It is important that you use a safe route and do not move towards the suspect UXO, if possible.

When at the muster point, you must await instructions from your supervisors and management. You will not be allowed to return to the affected area of the site until the Police or the EOD Safety Officer gives you permission.

On completion of this Toolbox Talk, please sign the site register confirming that you understand the requirements whilst working on site!

