**FPS Position on the LDSA Guidance 2017**

The London District Surveyors Association published a revised version of their guidance notes for straight shafted piles in London Clay in 2017.

FPS members were involved in this re-draft and in general the FPS are in agreement with the document. From a practical perspective there are a number of points that the members of the FPS would like to clarify. This note is intended to provide a consistent way of interpreting the use of the document from an experienced piling contractors perspective to avoid over conservatism in the design solution. This note is intended for use by FPS members only as their governance around design is proven by audit.

* The document is for guidance purposes. The requirements of codes of practice take precedent.
* The FPS support the aim of the document to improve the level of site investigation carried out on sites. This is fundamental to ensure efficient solutions are developed. However, foundation subcontractors are rarely involved in the specification or supervision of site investigations. Experienced piling sub-contractors do have extensive knowledge of piling solution in London. Where they have direct experience to specific sites this should be taken into account in the parameter selection.
* If a full and comprehensive interpretation of the SI is carried out there is no need to have been involved in the supervision of the SI.