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PROJECT FOCUS Track drainage failure

| Client: | Sector: |
|--------------------|---------|
| London Underground | Rail |

Location: Newbury Park, East London



Lanes Group is a national wastewater and drainage solutions provider. We sit proudly at the heart of the UK drainage industry, and are serious about delivering excellence in service, safety and innovation.

We have a national network of 23 depots and strategic utility hubs, providing high quality utility, drainage, and maintenance services for commercial, public sector and domestic customers. Our specialist market sectors include water utilities, construction, energy, rail, highways and commercial maintenance.



Project challenge

Newbury Park Station on London Underground's Central Line had experienced intermittent track drainage problems over a number of months. Replacing a collapsed section of drainage pipe did not solve the problem. Lanes Rail was called on to get to the root of what was going on, and deliver the right repair solution.

Client benefits

- Lanes Rail teams showed expertise, experience and determination to get to the root of a persistent drainage problem
- Drainage blockages and a failed connection that could have contributed to train delays and penalty costs were cured
- Lanes Rail delivered a solution safely and effectively, reflecting its strong record and reputation for health and safety.

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PROJECT FOCUS

The project

Major drainage problems at Newbury Park Station, in Redbridge, an over-ground section of the Central Line on London's Tube, threatened to cause serious disruption to train services.

Surface water was building up along the track, causing signalling equipment to trip, potentially delaying train services.

London Underground called in Lanes Rail, its planned drainage maintenance contractor, to replace a six metre section of 300mm diameter track drainage pipe, which was found to have collapsed.

Further investigations by the Lanes Rail maintenance teams found another 22m section of pipe further down the track also blocked by a collapse, and needing to be replaced.

Despite the work, the drainage problems persisted, and Lanes Rail was called in again to carry out further investigations.

Working their way methodically along the track, they found the answer. There was a problem with the drainage outfall.

The track drainage pipe had not been connected to a pump station that was supposed to pump the water into the main surface water sewers.

This fact, combined with the blockages, meant the water had only one way to go, which was back up the pipe and out onto the track.



What started as a call to a simple pipe repair, turned into a sizable civils project, with 33m of new drainage pipe laid, and connected to the pump house.

Before the Lanes team could start work each night, a jet vacuumation tanker was used to pump 3,000 gallons of water from the track bed.

Once the repair work was done, the track drainage system worked properly for the first time in many months.

Front cover – Lanes Rail operatives working on a section of track drainage at Newbury Park Station. **This page:** above, a break in the drainage pipe is identified by a Lanes Rail CCTV survey; bottom left, track ballast build up in the drainage pipe; bottom middle, a drainage collapse is uncovered; bottom right, another pipe fracture is identified.





e f in sales@lanesgroup.co.uk

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