

Case Study – High Level Rock Catch Fence

Project

- Stabilisation of a 3km length of chalk sea cliff above an under-cliff promenade, as part of a major coastal protection scheme.

Client Requirements

- Access and working methods suited to a near vertical 20m high face, located immediately above the splash zone, with limited access along the promenade beneath the cliff.
- Works to be undertaken during the winter / spring months to a tight programme to provide the main contractor with safe access to his work sites.

CAN Solution

- A comprehensive scaling and block removal exercise was undertaken, yielding hundreds of tonnes of flint and chalk debris.
- Concealed rock bolts, dowels and pigmented sprayed concrete were then installed to provide targeted support measures to discrete chalk flakes / pillars. These measures were designed to mitigate visual impact.
- A high level cantilevered catch fence was installed over approximately 250m length of sea cliff to protect the promenade from rockfall, where the risk was assessed as being high. This was the preferred solution as it was considered to be visually less obtrusive than a larger toe structure or the installation of rockfall netting over the height of the face.
- A combination of rope access, drill baskets mounted on telehandlers and MEWPs were employed to minimise manual handling and accommodate the minimal working width on the promenade.

