

Thank you for the work over the last few months and especially in the last few weeks to ensure that you had a well organised operation set up over the Christmas period for the OHLE works in Swindon. The team worked hard to achieve an early completion. Please pass on my thanks to the wider team.”

**Laura Jones**

Swindon Borough Council  
Technical Programme & Strategic Place Delivery Manager



## Case Study

# White Hart Junction A419 Slip Road Bridge & Highways Improvements Minimising Impacts

PROJECT	White Hart Junction
CUSTOMER	Swindon Borough Council
LOCATION	Swindon
CONTRACT	NEC 3 Option C Target Cost
COMPLETION	2022





## Need

Highway improvements were needed to ease anticipated congestion from SBC's New Eastern Villages (NEV) development.

One of the largest in the country, the NEV covers 700 hectares with 8,000 new homes. Swindon Borough Council (SBC) procured five projects to improve network connectivity and journey times and White Hart Junction (WHJ) was one of these projects. The improvements would increase capacity on the gyratory and include a new A419 northbound slip road over the Great Western Railway linking the NEV to the M4 and M5.

## Collaborative Solution

Appointed at ECI stage we provided buildability advice across all five NEV projects working in collaboration with SBC, National Highways, Network Rail, and the designers.

This led to collective traffic management (TM) thinking with the adoption of a "One NEV" TM strategy which engendered close communication between projects. As a result, TM was used efficiently and daily contact with adjacent projects alleviated any evolving

changes on the network to keep everyone safe and moving with no complaints.

TM planning incorporated specific stakeholder needs and a 'blue light' route was in place at all times and two lanes open on the gyratory.

For the rail bridge we ensured the overhead line equipment (OHLE) relocation works were completed over a Christmas rail possession.

A collaborative planning day was held with SBC, Network Rail, Designers Atkins and key supply partners SPL to identify and mitigate programme challenges. The programme could not be extended due to other rail works in the area; therefore, it was critical to achieve the dates. Close working ensured all approvals were completed in advance and in compliance with NR's processes for Delivering Work Within Possessions (DWWP) and Safe Systems of Work to achieve this key milestone. The line was handed back 12 hours early, without incident or accident.



Figure 1 - Collaborative Planning

## Outcome

As accredited suppliers for both Network Rail and National Highways we used our understanding of their requirements and governance to streamline delivery.

ECI brought together the design and delivery teams early in the process to develop a design that fully considered the construction methodology in all aspects of the project.

The result was an efficient rail bridge solution with modular elements fabricated off-site & installed incrementally using standard maintenance line blocks without the need for long blockades. This was in parallel with an efficiently constructed junction improvement, undertaken seamlessly during the pandemic.



Figure 2 – Bridge construction over the Great Western Railway