

# [Diamond Princess: Foreign Secretary statement](#)



The Foreign Secretary, Dominic Raab, said:

We've organised an evacuation flight for British nationals on board the Diamond Princess cruise ship to depart Tokyo on Friday.

Details have been sent to those who have registered for the flight. We urge other British nationals still seeking to leave to contact us.

We will continue to support British nationals who wish to stay in Japan.

Further information:

British nationals can contact the British Embassy Tokyo on +81 3 5211 1100 and select the option for consular assistance.

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## [New £65 million package for 5G trials](#)

Rural areas will benefit from a series of government-funded trials to help them seize the potential of modern technology, the Digital Secretary Oliver

## **Dowden announced today.**

Nine projects across the country will receive a share of £35 million from our rural and industrial 5G competitions, and a new £30 million open competition – 5G Create – will look at how 5G can create new opportunities in industries including film, TV, video games, logistics and tourism.

Sherwood Forest in Nottinghamshire will see cutting-edge apps transform the visitor experience, with Robin Hood telling the history of the medieval forest via virtual and augmented reality on 5G networks. New robotic environmental management will also be tested alongside live monitoring of the health of Sherwood Forest to preserve the site for future generations.

Funding will also go to 5G trials in air and sea search and rescue in Dorset to help save lives using terrestrial and satellite connectivity. This project will also trial 5G connectivity for remote farms to track crop growth, monitor livestock and reduce water pollution using 5G.

These new trials will help spread the benefits of technology across the country and allow the UK to grasp an early advantage by using the new applications 5G networks can enable.

This forms part of our £200 million investment in testbeds and trials across the UK to explore new ways that 5G can boost business growth and productivity, improve the lives of people in rural areas and maximise the productivity benefits of new technologies. Our innovative trials will also support the Government's ambition to diversify the supply chain for digital infrastructure in the UK, a key recommendation from the Supply Chain Review.

### **Digital Secretary Oliver Dowden said:**

We're determined to make the UK a world-leader in 5G and deliver on our promise to improve connections for people and businesses across the country.

Today we're announcing new funding to seize the new opportunities this technology will offer us.

This includes seeing how it could create new jobs in the countryside, make businesses more productive and unleash even more ideas in our cutting-edge creative industries.

### **Councillor Kay Cutts, leader of Nottinghamshire County Council, said:**

This project will be front and centre of retelling the story of Robin Hood to future generations. It will be situated in the ancient royal forest of Sherwood, which has been wooded since the end of the last Glacial Period. There is no better opportunity to trial 5G in a forest setting anywhere else in the UK – not just for the area's geography, but for its rich and fascinating history.

I see this project as the start of a journey that will truly see Nottinghamshire on the regional, national and international tourism and environment management maps; as well as providing us with the opportunity to build the digital skills and opportunities of our residents and businesses.

**Research lead professor Mohammad Patwary, from Birmingham City University, said:**

This is a unique opportunity for the UK to become a world-leader exploiting the technological innovation that 5G can offer by developing and using innovative technology for destination branding for the visitor economy, preserving the wellbeing of the environment, and creating a scalable and sustainable commercial grade experimental network; a world first.

5G has speeds up to ten times faster than 4G and will greatly increase mobile capacity across the UK, meaning more people will be able to get online and find and download the content they want, without slowdown.

But 5G is about more than a speedier internet connection. It uses technology that is far more advanced than that of our current mobile networks, so as time goes on it could transform the way we interact with critical services – from energy and water, to transport and healthcare.

It will also drive the adoption of new technologies such as driverless cars, remote healthcare and the ‘smart’ devices we increasingly use in our homes and at work.

**The £65 million package announced today includes:**

- £30 million for the Rural Connected Communities (RCC) competition for seven 5G research and development projects across the UK. This includes five in England, one in Wales and one in Scotland with plans to expand into Northern Ireland. Test sites will be set up in Yorkshire, Gwent, Monmouthshire, Orkney, Wiltshire, Nottinghamshire, Dorset, Shropshire and Worcestershire.
- More than £5 million of funding will be awarded to two industrial projects, led by Ford Motor Company and Zeetta Networks, to test the benefits of using 5G to boost productivity in the manufacturing sector.
- A new £30 million open competition – 5G Create – has been launched to develop new uses for 5G in a variety of industries, including our creative sectors such as film, TV and video games. From enabling remote production to supporting the expansion of the increasingly popular world of esports, 5G has the potential to revolutionise the UK’s booming creative industries.

**Tim Davie, Co-Chair of the Creative Industries Council and CEO of BBC Studios, said:**

The Creative Industries Council is delighted that DCMS is launching 5G Create. We have been advocating a funded competition along these lines, as an exciting opportunity for UK creative companies to develop innovative products and services using this transformational technology. 5G offers innovative opportunities right across the sector from film and tv, to games, to music, fashion and advertising. We hope that start-ups and well-established companies alike will bid for the available funds.

The new 5G Create competition will open in early March and run until the end of June.

**ENDS**

#### **More information on the projects**

While the commercial rollout of 5G by mobile companies continues at pace, the government is investing in these testbeds to push the envelope of what high speed connectivity can do across a range of industries and geographic areas.

International firms, SMEs, public sector organisations and universities will come together to prove new ways for 5G to transform rural tourism and farming, tackle loneliness and improve digital skills in some of the UK's remote areas from the Orkney Islands to the Chalke Valley. In North Yorkshire, 5G will be used to monitor the environment to give the county council and its partners an early warning system for flooding.

In the industrial projects, UK tech company Zeetta will lead 5G-ENCODE based at Bristol's National Composites Centre. It will experiment with how 5G can improve the design and manufacture of composite materials, including through augmented reality and the remote monitoring of multiple factories at once. Vodafone Business and Ford will lead a consortium trialling how 5G mobile private networks can improve the manufacture of electric vehicles at two sites in Essex and Cambridge.

5G Create is an open competition with the Government hoping to attract bids from a variety of industries where the UK has a competitive advantage, encouraging dynamic business models and opening up new opportunities and markets. This includes our creative industries but also our rich variety of technology businesses in sectors such as energy, water, health and social care and logistics.

None of the winning projects, or future projects from 5G Create, will use equipment from high risk vendors.

#### **Rural Connected Communities Projects**

#### **Mobile Access North Yorkshire (MANY)**

**Government funding: £4,431,677**

### **Project Summary**

The Mobile Access North Yorkshire (MANY) project will support the development of future rural connectivity in the county by developing new technologies, apps and services tailored for rural areas. These will focus on tourism, mental health, coverage for emergency services and environmental management.

The project will build small mobile phone networks in areas that have no mobile coverage. It aims to understand how the public, private and community sectors can work together to reduce the cost of delivering mobile access in rural areas. The project is led by Quickline Communications, the largest wireless ISP in the country working with North Yorkshire County Council, two universities and four small businesses.

**Steve Jagger, Managing Director, Quickline said:**

Quickline's mission is to use innovation in equipment and approach to bring ubiquitous coverage of high speed data and associated services across the harder to reach parts of the country. We are pleased to be part of a project that shares these values and outcomes and are excited by the opportunity to push the boundaries further.

### **West Mercia Rural 5G**

**Government funding: £3,285,705**

### **Project Summary**

Operating in the rural area where the counties of Shropshire and Worcestershire meet, 'West Mercia Rural 5G' will explore infrastructure challenges when planning, building and operating a rural 5G network and look at how 5G can enhance services for the benefit of residents, particularly researching 5G enabled health and social care applications.

Led by Worcestershire County Council, key partners on the network side are Airband and Three who will plan, build and operate the 5G network. Local NHS organisations alongside Worcestershire County Council and Shropshire Council will work on the health and social care applications. The University of Worcester, University Centre Shrewsbury, and West Midlands Academic Health Science Network are providing their expert support across the project.

**Councillor Ken Pollock, Worcestershire County Council's cabinet member with responsibility for economy and infrastructure, said:**

Worcestershire County Council are delighted to have been successful in leading a bid which will investigate the positive impacts that emerging 5G technologies could have on rural communities, around how 5G networks can be built and their use in supporting health and

social care services. The project highlights the huge joint ambitions of the innovative public and private sector partners we have drawn together, as we strive to find ways to improve connectivity and provide access to key services in rural areas.

At a time of increasing demand for public services, improvements in connected technologies offer new ways of working that can help maintain and improve service delivery and quality of life for residents and businesses alike.

## **5G Connected Forest**

**Government funding: £4,975,948**

### **Project Summary**

Centred around the ancient Sherwood Forest, the focus of the 5G Connected Forest project will be to explore the potential for 5G applications in the preservation of forests and their environment, and in enhancing the experience of visitors to the forest and surrounding area.

From robotic environmental management and non-intrusive live monitoring of the health of a forest, to live AR and VR experiences for visitors of all ages, and inspiring public transport users; the project will also investigate business models that can enable operators to boost rural connectivity and create innovative applications with the potential for commercial development.

**Councillor Kay Cutts, Leader of Nottinghamshire County Council said:**

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I see this project as the start of a journey that will truly see Nottinghamshire on the regional, national and international tourism and environment management maps; as well as providing us with the opportunity to build the digital skills and opportunities of our residents and businesses.

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environment, and creating a scalable and sustainable commercial grade experimental network; a world first.

#### **MONeH (Multi Operator Neutral Host)**

**Government funding: £2,359,762**

##### **Project Summary**

The MONeH Consortium, led by Telet Research, CH4LKE Mobile and Associated Networks, aims to demonstrate how multi-operator, neutral host cellular networks based upon small cell technology can be used to provide multiple user slices, serving different customer groups within rural areas with little or no coverage. Initial deployment will be in the Chalke Valley, South West Wiltshire with two other sites in Preston Bissett, Buckinghamshire and Lucknam Park, near Bath.

Deployments will utilise unused mobile spectrum, using the new Ofcom-issued Local Access licencing procedures to offer a service that is both technically and financially robust in areas where conventional coverage solutions are not commercially viable for mobile network operators or cannot scale to cover small areas.

**James Body, Technical Architect of the MONeH Consortium, said:**

Instead of building large, expensive and unpopular large masts in our rural areas, we can use inexpensive low power small cells to provide a quality local service to users of all mobile networks, in addition to Emergency Services, National Health Service, Utility companies and any other local private users in a rapidly deployable and cost effective manner. Empowering local organizations to deploy their own networks offers reduced costs, shorter build times and the ability to provide coverage where it is really needed.

#### **5G RuralDorset**

**Government funding: £4,335,000**

##### **Project Summary**

Coastal public services – using 5G to save lives and enhance safety in coastal areas focusing on incident prevention. Using terrestrial and satellite connectivity, we aim to track critical equipment and pilot advanced search and rescue techniques.

Agri-tech – how connectivity needed by remote farms can be delivered cost-effectively. We will pilot leading-edge agricultural technologies to track crop growth, monitor livestock and reduce water pollution.

Commercial connectivity – new 5G services on the Lulworth Estate and festival site, unlocking potential social and commercial uses from tourism and

education to safety.

5G innovation hub – developing Dorset Innovation Park (formerly Winfrith) to allow existing and new businesses to test and develop 5G products and services collaboratively and securely.

**Deputy Leader of Dorset Council Peter Wharf said:**

We are delighted to receive this funding. Improved connectivity is critical to our smart rural place aspirations and making Dorset a great place to live, work and visit.

Introduced sensitively in our world-famous UNESCO-recognised coastline and the wider environment, 5G can help keep vulnerable people safe and well, deliver economic growth, and provide enhanced educational and social opportunities.

The 5G RuralDorset project is an exciting opportunity for our county to become a leader in Europe, showing how next generation connectivity can positively transform lives in rural communities. We look forward to sharing our learning experiences with other parts of the UK.

## **5G New Thinking**

**Government funding: £5,000,000**

### **Project Summary**

The 5G New Thinking project will look at the provision of mobile/wireless connectivity primarily using the shared spectrum and local spectrum licencing options announced by Ofcom in July 2019. Working closely with communities, the project will develop a community toolkit to allow the creation of networks that provide rural connectivity for cooperatives of consumers, local enterprise, councils and other stakeholders. The project will work to create facilities and tools for spectrum sharing and monitoring, neutral hosting, partnerships and B2B engagement models with operators. In its first stage the project will create models, strategies and use case demonstrators on the Orkney Islands network, and engage forward with community and council partners in Borderlands, Scotland, Northern Ireland and areas of rural England to help develop and ultimately roll-out 5G connectivity.

**Dez O' Connor, Cisco and Chief Technologist of 5G New Thinking Project, said:**

We're excited to be working on this new and ambitious rural connected community project with DCMS. The new project, 5G New Thinking, aims to showcase the benefits of 5G rural connectivity and sustainability. Cisco and its partners are bringing forward extensive knowledge from recent projects, including 5G RuralFirst based in Orkney, Somerset and Shropshire.



We're pleased to be working again with principal partner, University of Strathclyde, and others including BBC R&D, CloudNet IT Solutions, and also new partners such as Federated Wireless, Pure Leapfrog and the Scotland 5G Centre. With key ingredients of spectrum, cloud and core, backhaul, and community/civic engagement the project will look at how it can help to address some of the most pressing technology challenges to help the UK in improving connectivity across rural, and indeed so called ultra-rural areas.

#### **Connected Communities in the Rural Economy (CoCoRE)**

**Government funding: £5,000,000**

#### **Project summary**

The project will connect rural communities by demonstrating how 5G technology can open up new opportunities for businesses and citizens. It's focus is centred upon the south east Wales rural region of Monmouthshire and its neighbour Blaenau Gwent. We will innovate in areas such as 'immersive tourism' and 'farming security' as key parts of the rural economy, whilst leveraging related technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, the Internet of Things and Cyber Security as part of an 'innovation platform'. Everyone in every industry will feel the positive effects of 5G and we aim to put rural Wales at the front of the queue through our 'Connected Communities in the Rural Economy' project.

#### **Secretary of State for Wales Simon Hart said:**

The UK Government is committed to eliminating the difference in connection between urban and rural areas whilst exploring innovative ways to use 5G technology to develop emerging industries, supporting our rural economy in Wales.

Today's announcement is a great opportunity for rural parts of Wales to boost the productivity and capacity of their digital infrastructure and forms a key part of our plans to build a UK which is fit for the future.

#### **Industrial 5G Projects**

##### **5GEM – 5G Enabled Manufacture**

**Government funding: £1,942,275**

#### **Project Summary**

This project will focus on the use of 5G in manufacturing to connect machines allowing real-time feedback, control, analysis and remote expert support. Two Vodafone mobile private networks will be installed in Ford Motor Company's Dunton facility and TWI Cambridge, respectively. Ford will focus on the connectivity of welding processes, used in the manufacture of electric

vehicles. TWI will support Vacuum Furnace Engineering in connecting their heat treatment equipment. ATS, TM Forum, HSSMI and Lancaster University join the consortium to work on the associated challenges such as cyber security, scale-up, standards, machine learning and developing the 5G technology for an industrial environment.

**Chris White, Ford 5GEM Project Lead, said:**

Connecting today's shopfloor requires significant time and investment. The technology used is inflexible and bespoke. It can often be viewed as the limiting factor in reconfiguring and deploying reliable manufacturing systems. 5G presents the opportunity to transform the speed of launch and flexibility of present manufacturing facilities, moving us towards tomorrow's factories with mobile assets, remote computing, remote expert support and artificial intelligence.

Through 5GEM, we will build two demonstrators to accelerate this transformation within the UK and beyond. These test beds will be an excellent environment for our partners to resolve the issues around making this technology shop floor ready and supporting the fourth industrial revolution.

## **5G ENCODE**

**Government funding: £3,822,760**

### **Project Summary**

Zeetta, a UK technology company, has been selected to lead the £9m DCMS-funded 5G-ENCODE project at the National Composites Centre (NCC) in Bristol.

The consortium comprises ten companies including Telefonica, Siemens, Toshiba, Solvay and Baker Hughes. Zeetta will be offering its multi-domain orchestration technology based on 5G network splicing and slicing.

The project will examine new business models for private mobile networks in the manufacturing sector. It will investigate three key industrial 5G use cases to improve productivity and effectiveness of composite design and manufacture: interactive augmented reality (AR); asset tracking across multiple sites and locations; and industrial system management.

The 5G-ENCODE project will start in February 2020 and will run until March 2022.

**Vassilis Seferidis, CEO of Zeetta Networks, said:**

Zeetta is proud to be leading the 5G-ENCODE project on behalf of a consortium of leading industrial innovators. The company has a strong track record of delivering 5G solutions based on our network

splicing™ and slicing technology which is a key enabler in delivering multi-domain orchestration across public and private networks for a seamless and customised delivery of 5G services. The ability to dynamically slice and dice the resources of the network according to the demands of users and applications is the fundamental difference between 5G and older technologies and it is expected to play a transformational role in improving industrial productivity.

#### Notes to editors

DCMS press office can be contacted on 020 7211 2210.

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## [Red Falcon and Greylag report published](#)



Our accident investigation report into the ferry Red Falcon colliding with a moored yacht on 21 October 2018 resulting in the yacht sinking, is now published.

The report contains details of what happened, the subsequent actions taken and recommendations made: [read more](#).

### **Statement from the Chief Inspector of Marine Accidents**

Our investigation highlighted how quickly restricted visibility can negatively affect individuals' awareness and orientation, which increases their stress and impacts on decision making. Crews on vessels of any size can be affected, but the consequences can be mitigated by prior preparation and training, effective teamwork, and a full understanding of the capabilities and limitations of the available instrumentation.

As a result of our investigation, Red Funnel has introduced measures to address many of the shortcomings identified in the report, but two recommendations have been made to the company aimed at further improving their operational practices.

It was very fortunate that nobody was on board yacht Greylag when it was struck and overrun by Red Falcon. In this respect, the family on a yacht on a nearby swinging mooring had a lucky escape. When Red Falcon swung around it narrowly missed Cowes Yacht Haven marina wall, and had yachts been rafted there the consequences of this accident could also have been much more severe. Our investigation has highlighted that commercial vessels can pose a danger to people sleeping on yachts in some areas of Cowes Harbour, and recommendations have been made to Cowes Harbour Commissioners and Cowes Yacht Haven to review their risk assessments.

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## [Reiterating the call for an end to conflict in Syria](#)

Thank you, Mr President. And to start, our condolences to the families and friends of those Oxfam workers who were killed, who Mark mentioned. Thank you, Mr Pedersen and thank you to Mark Lowcock for the briefing.

I agree very much with my German and my American colleagues. I'm not going to rehearse the figures that Mark has so starkly set out. But I would like to echo High Commissioner Bachelet, who said how can anyone justify carrying out such indiscriminate and inhumane attacks? She also, said that 93 percent of the deaths since 1 January were caused by the Syrian government and its allies.

So I'd like to put the High Commissioner's question back to the Russians and the Syrians, their representatives here today:

How can you justify carrying out such indiscriminate and inhumane attacks?

What are you doing to uphold international humanitarian law?

What are you doing to protect the people who are fleeing?

Where do you expect those people to flee to?

What are you doing to protect medical facilities and ensure that the people Mark so vividly described get the help that they need?

And when does this start to end?

We've now heard that the Syrian government has said that it will continue its offensive. How can you do that in the face of the accounts that we have heard today, when the entire international community bar about three countries is condemning you for what you are doing to the people of Idlib?

I agree with the German and American representatives. Astana is not working. We have all given it a chance. We have waited enough in effect too long. We need to come off Astana and we need to work with the UN to get the political process underway and uphold 2254.

There is one area where I disagree with Mark, if I may. It's not that the Security Council is doing nothing; 13 – possibly 14 – members of the Security Council are ready to act. But what the Syrian government is doing on the ground is protected by a Russian veto. This was not the purpose of establishing the Security Council and it was not the purpose of giving the P-5 a veto so that these innocent people on the ground could suffer not just once, but multiple times under the cruelty and barbarity of the Syrian regime.

I would like to also echo what my German and American colleagues said about Turkey. We need the attacks on Turkey to stop. Turkey has made efforts to seek a peaceful solution in Idlib. And we are concerned that the impact of the escalation on Turkey, whose already borne the burden of hosting over 3.5 million refugees forced to flee from Syria. So I look forward to what the Turkish representative has to say later.

I join others in calling on Russia to end its support for this murderous campaign and the barbaric Syrian government. I join the Secretary-General in calling for an immediate, genuine and lasting ceasefire in Idlib and for a lasting solution to the situation there. We once more call on Syria and Russia and Iran to observe their obligations under international humanitarian law and to give us an answer on what they are doing to protect civilians and civilian infrastructure.

Turning to what Mr Pedersen said about the Constitutional Committee and the political process, we remain deeply disappointed at the stalling of the Constitutional Committee. It is hard to believe that not only do we have a barbaric situation on the ground, but that the Syrian authorities are actually hindering the political process. They should come to the table. I want to place on record once more the United Kingdom's support for the UN Special Envoy in his efforts to restart the committee. And I want also to assure the UN that the United Kingdom stands ready to support any UN-backed agreement. And we continue to support the Special Envoy's work under 2254.

Thank you.

Right of Reply:

Thank you very much, Mr President. I know it was mentioned in the Russian intervention, so I'd like to respond. I listen very carefully to what the

Russian military say, including in the briefings to this council. I'm waiting for one of the Russian military to answer the High Commissioner's question: how can anyone justify carrying out such indiscriminate and inhumane attacks?

But I also, Mr President, want to record again something I've said here before. Russian military and Syrian military who violate international humanitarian law and bomb or allow the bombing of hospitals and medical facilities and of civilians will one day be held personally accountable before the law for those actions. That is a very important point. They won't just be held collectively responsible. One day they will be held personally responsible.

The other thing I wanted to say, Mr President, about reconstruction is to support what the French representative said. As the United Kingdom, we have given some \$2 billion to Syria in aid since the conflict began. The reconstruction of Syria will be made infinitely harder by the destruction, the wanton destruction, that the Syrian and Russian governments are carrying out now. So it will be for Russian taxpayers, Mr President, possibly assisted by Chinese taxpayers, but it will be for Russian taxpayers to put Syria back together again.

Thank you.

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## [Start of construction at HS2's London super-hub moves a step closer](#)

The station in West London will provide a world-class interchange for an estimated 250,000 passengers each day and will be a gateway into Old Oak and Park Royal, one of the largest regeneration sites in the UK. The station design development has been led by engineering professional services consultancy WSP, and architects WilkinsonEyre.

The submission is the next stage in the development of the Old Oak Common site. The local community and wider general public were consulted on the designs for the station in 2019, through a series of formal public engagement events.

Plans to transform the wider area around the station, a former railway and industrial site, are being led by OPDC and they project that the area around the new HS2 station will become a neighbourhood with the potential to create tens of thousands of homes and jobs.

The station in West London will provide a world-class interchange for an estimated 250,000 passengers each day.

The new HS2 station will incorporate passenger and retail facilities, providing a high quality and exemplary customer experience for all passengers and visitors to the station. It will provide direct interchange with conventional rail services through 8 conventional train platforms, to be served by the Elizabeth Line (Crossrail), taking passengers to Heathrow and Central London, and trains to Wales and the West of England.

Designs for the station show that the 6 high-speed platforms will be situated underground with an integrated connection to the adjoining conventional station at ground level via a stylish shared overbridge. A light and airy concourse will link both halves of the station, unified by a vast roof inspired by the site's industrial heritage.

To the west of the station, above the HS2 platforms, there will be a new public park, a green space which will welcome visitors to Old Oak Common and provide a new focal point for the growing community. The submission also includes an application to lower and widen Old Oak Common Lane, which will improve access to the station for buses and pedestrians.

Work at Old Oak Common to prepare for construction of the station has been ongoing since 2017 and the site is near ready to be handed over to HS2's station construction partner, Balfour Beatty Vinci Systra JV (BBVS) who were awarded the contract last September. HS2's Enabling Works Contractor, Costain Skanska JV (CSJV) have to date made considerable progress on the site, clearing 32,000 cubic meters of former rail depot sheds and outbuildings, working through 105,000 cubic meters of earth to clear the site and remove any contamination built up over a century of continuous railway use.

Matthew Botelle, HS2's Stations Director, said:

Significant progress is already being made at Old Oak Common with site clearance ready for station construction to start. The Schedule 17 submission is the next step in HS2's delivery of a world class railway, with landmark station architecture designed with future passengers in mind.

HS2 will transform Old Oak Common, and will be the key to unlocking thousands of new jobs and homes around what will be the UK's best connected transport hub.

Adrian Tooth, WSP Project Director on Old Oak Common, said:

Old Oak Common has been designed to be a landmark destination within the UK's transport network and will be a force for regeneration in West London, supporting new jobs and homes within the wider OPDC area. The design responds to the station's function, as two-thirds of those using the station will be interchanging between the below ground HS2 and the above ground conventional rail services.

HS2 is a transformative project which has already boosted the skills and experience of the apprentices WSP has brought onto the Old Oak Common scheme, and we look forward to being part of its delivery.

Bosco Lam, WilkinsonEyre Project Director, said:

Our architectural approach is inspired by the rich history of the site and its railway heritage. The station unifies the various connecting railways under a single roof, a series of interlocking arched vaults which break down the volume to a more human scale and celebrate the structural engineering as a fundamental part of the architecture. The dramatic volumes underneath have open and clear sightlines that promote intuitive wayfinding for users, and allow natural light and visual links outwards to the present and future context.

Six 450 metre HS2 platforms will be built in an 850 metre long underground box, with twin tunnels taking high speed trains east to the Southern terminus at Euston and west to the outskirts of London. Material excavated during work on the tunnels will be removed by rail from the nearby former Willesden Euroterminal depot.

The planning application will now be considered by OPDC and a decision is expected by Summer 2020.