

2. Land Use

WINNER

M25 Widening J16–23 & J27–30 & Hatfield Tunnel Refurbishment

Client: Highways Agency | Designers: Atkins and Ramboll WSP
PFI Contractors: Connect Plus / Skanska Balfour Beatty JV

DESCRIPTION: Junctions 16–23 and 27–30 of the M25 interfaced with 10 historic landfills. Approximately 90% of the 7km section between Junctions 21a and 22 involved works in or adjacent to these landfill sites. As a result, the M25 developed an innovative method to identify contamination and make it clear and simple to understand at site level. Only 8,000m³ of material was removed from site over the duration of the project, the vast majority of this being material from the landfill areas. This figure was half of that planned during this phase and a huge reduction when compared with >1 million m³ indicated in the Environmental Statements. In addition to the time and cost benefits offered by minimising excavation, the strategy minimised workforce contact with the landfill materials, leachate and gases.

ACHIEVEMENTS: Desk based Ground Investigation Report produced from historical information – addressing geotechnical risks to the project. Project also won a Brownfield Briefing Award in 2011 for the 'Best Re-use of Material'. Retaining solutions were used to create space, widening the carriageway within the existing boundary.

JUDGES' QUOTE: *The use of a simplified colour coding system for different contaminated material categories along with the innovative use of electronic tracking technology usually used in the parcels sector has simplified what many find to be a complex issue and enabled the M25 team to achieve very high levels of reuse of contaminated material.*



[Sharon Gratton, CEEQUAL]

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