



Interchange Station, Arup & HS2 Ltd

## Interchange Station

In August the Design Panel attended a second mentoring session with the station design team for Interchange Station - Arup, Arup Associates, and Churchman.

This session built on principles identified in the previous design panel session, and the discussion focused on: green and blue infrastructure; pedestrian routes and movement; public areas as gathering points; and station zoning - including accommodation, terraces and station entry experience. This session was followed by a full review in September.

Overall, the panel has applauded the powerful and evocative designs developing for Interchange Station - welcoming the way environmental and place-based considerations are placed at the core of design thinking and decision making.

Safeguarding design quality as the design is tested through value engineering and construction changes will therefore be critical. The panel has urged the design team and HS2 Ltd to identify those components that are the cornerstones of the design. Defining these critical qualities, without which the design would be substantially diminished or differ, will be essential before Schedule 17 submissions are made in early 2019.

## Design Panel activities August and September 2018

# 5

- site visit of and meeting to discuss the Staveley area
- site visit of and meeting to discuss Manchester Ship Canal Viaduct
- Clayton to Crofton
- Leeds East Rolling Stock,
- Garforth to Church Fenton

### Phase 2b meetings

# 4

- Interchange Station
- Old Oak Common Station
- Euston Station
- Box structures - Area North Main Works Civils Contractors (MWCC)

### Mentoring sessions

# 8

- Five Area North MWCC meetings including: Balsall Common Viaduct; Delta Junction; and River Blythe Viaduct
- Old Oak Common Station
- Curzon Street Station - including virtual reality model
- Interchange Station

### Full reviews

# 4

- August and September Design Panel monthly team meetings attended by the Design Panel chair, vice chair, secretariat and HS2 Ltd staff
- Chair's review meeting to discuss HS2 Green Corridor
- Governance Advisory Group meeting attended by the four Design Panel chairs

### Governance meetings

## Mentoring with the Area North design team

In August the panel attended a mentoring session, revisiting the work of the design team for the Area North Phase One main works civils contractor, Balfour Beatty Vinci (BBV).

This session provided an update on design work undertaken so far on box structures. Following previous Design Panel recommendations, BBV explained how it is exploring opportunities to remove hard edges, introduce lightwells, and remove excess materials. As part of this, the design team is considering a pre-cast construction method to help introduce efficiencies in material use and minimise disruption - particularly where box structures go over motorways.

Key challenges include softening the scale and visual impact of these structures in their individual contexts and integrating the requirements set by different stakeholders, including Highways England.

During the session, the discussion developed around a series of potential ideas for each structure, including how lightness and craft can be introduced. Overall, the session was considered successful, and the Design Panel thanked BBV for its open presentation and their positive attitude to embracing the challenge presented by these complex structures.



HS2 IDP Panel Mentoring Session - August



Christina Wallace  
Senior Project Manager  
for HS2 Ltd

## People's stories

Christina Wallace is a Senior Project Manager working for HS2 Ltd and is responsible for the complex urban Birmingham section of the route.

While supporting Area North Main Works Civils Contractor, Balfour Beatty Vinci, in its response to the HS2 Design Vision, Christina takes a lead in promoting quality in design within both contractor and client organisations.

With over 20 years' of experience in the construction industry, Christina has a background in consultancy, contractor and client roles for major infrastructure projects around the UK and in South Korea. As principal structural engineer for a local authority, she gained experience in more complex urban regeneration projects that included extensive demolition. Christina is a Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers and a member of the Institute of Demolition Engineers.

## Manchester Ship Canal

In September the Design Panel attended a site visit and review for the Manchester Ship Canal Viaduct - part of the Phase 2b route. The panel applauded the design team's thorough approach to understanding the context and how this is influencing design thinking and decisions. The panel stressed that a special response is required here - one that captures a sense of the unique landscape and character, typified by distinctive high bridge crossings over the canal, marking the moment that a 21st century railway passes over a dramatic piece of 19th century infrastructure.



Frame Projects  
Secretariat to the  
HS2 Independent  
Design Panel

**HS2 INDEPENDENT  
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