The project began with access and enabling works for a grouting contractor, which substantially finished work in 2016 after completing nearly 13,500 holes in 58 weeks. The next phase was 700,000 m³ of bulk earthworks, which were completed recently following the diversion of a number of overhead HV electricity cables. We worked closely with the designer to successfully deliver an accurate balance of materials.

As areas of the site reached final levels, we started work on the drainage and roadworks. Over 4km of surface and foul water drainage have been installed to date on-site and the significant off-site drainage work is well under way. We have completed the new ‘Strawberry Corner’ roundabout at the north end of the site and approximately 1,100m of the new Spine Road up to binder course, on target to meet the important key dates for access for others. The first house builder commenced work recently. 60% of new utility services have been installed including gas, water, LV & HV power and communication ducting. All five new substations are in progress.

The most notable environmental challenges have been the minimisation of dust during dry weather and the development of a practicable solution for treatment of 4,400m³ of soil containing giant hogweed.

The site is on track for completion towards the end of 2017.