



Press Release - Paris, July 1st, 2020

Meridiam selected preferred bidder for final section of A465 road in Wales

Meridiam and its partner FCC, a global leader in Environmental Services, Water and Infrastructure Development, have been selected as preferred bidder for the final section A465 road in South East of Wales. This 30-year concession is the first one procured by Welsh Government under the Mutual Investment Model (MIM) framework, a new Public Private Partnership model. MIM schemes have been developed to provide and support more than £1 billion of social and economic infrastructure projects in Wales and help improve the public services of the country.

The project aims to upgrade to two lanes in each direction, the last 18-km section of A465 road which runs across the northern edge of industrial South Wales. This road will provide a safe, fast and strategic east-west connection between Swansea and the English Midlands, improve traffic flow and reduce congestion.

As well as improving Wales' mobility infrastructure, the A465 road will support economic growth and community benefits in the region. The Welsh Government expects the project to deliver around £400m of direct spend in the country and to generate over £675m of Gross Value Added for the wider Welsh economy. This vital route for business, tourism as well as local residents, will also facilitate economic regeneration of the region by improving accessibility while reducing journey time.

It will also deliver a sustainable and resilient scheme by improving environmental standards. Measures will be enforced to protect the watercourses, ecological sites and public rights of way as well as improving air quality and reducing noise impacts on residents. The new road will provide landscape integration planting and screening. The environmental design of the project is driven by nature conservation objectives and aim to create improved quality habitats for the different living species.

This project illustrates Meridiam's constant commitment to build sustainable transport infrastructure and will directly contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Construction is to start in late 2020 and should end in 2024.

About Meridiam

Meridiam was founded in 2005 by Thierry Déau, with the belief that the alignment of interests between the public and private sector can provide critical solutions to the collective needs of communities. Meridiam is an independent investment Benefit Corporation under French law and an asset manager. The firm specializes in the development, financing, and long-term management of sustainable public infrastructure in three core sectors: mobility, energy transition and environment, and social infrastructure. With offices in, Addis Ababa, Amman, Dakar, Istanbul, New York, Luxembourg, Paris, Toronto and Vienna, Meridiam currently manages US\$8 billion and more than 80 projects and assets to date. Meridiam is certified ISO 9001: 2015, Advanced Sustainability Rating by VigeoEiris and applies a proprietary methodology in relation to ESG and impact based on United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). www.meridiam.com [Twitter Meridiam](#) [LinkedIn Meridiam](#) [YouTube Meridiam](#)

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