

Working collaboratively to pave the way for the A47 upgrade

Essential surveys which were required for the final design of the project were hampered by trees and vegetation which had established within the highway verges surrounding the Vauxhall roundabout on the A47. Highway service provider, Ringway sought the support of Chevron Green Services to undertake the vegetation clearance to facilitate the surveys.

The Challenge

The timing of the project presented the initial challenge for a number of reasons:

- The project's final design stage had to be delivered imminently.
- The clearance was scheduled to take place during school summer holidays when traffic count increases.
- There were environmental factors to consider such as noise management and bird breeding season.
- There were a number of key stakeholders in the vicinity of the site that had specific interests or concerns that that to be considered. These included:
 - Breydon Water who has a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) to the west of the project site.
 - Vauxhall Holiday Park was entering their busy holiday season and is located to the northeast of the site.
 - Network Rail has live tracks to the northwest and southwest of the site.
 - There is a Premier Inn located to the southeast of the site.

The Solution

Chevron Green Services appointed a dedicated Contract Supervisor, James Curtis to manage this project. His primary objective was to work collaboratively with all customers including Ringway, National Highways, their supply chain partners and key stakeholders to deliver this important piece of work for the local area.

Key to the success of this project was our flexibility, ability and collaboration to adapt to changing requirements and project scope.



Flexibility

The initial scope of work identified clearance in a number of locations to facilitate ground investigation surveys. Upon completion of this work, the teams were requested by the client to undertake further work for topographical surveys and further ground investigation works.

This increase in scope extended the project from a 2-week to a 12-week programme which Chevron Green Services were able to weave into their overall programme of works.

As part of the wider scope, Chevron Green Consultancy were commissioned to undertake additional survey requirements and were able to realign resource to facilitate this work.

Adaptability

We made a significant change to the initial scope following discussions with Network Rail who had initial concerns with clearance work taking place close to their boundary fence and their signal cabling. Having listened to their concerns and reassessed the original plans, we identified an alternative route through the site which was cleared and provided greater peace of mind for a key stakeholder.

Collaboration

In addition to working collaboratively with the client and stakeholders to ensure timely completion of the work, Chevron Green Services coordinated the necessary traffic management services to ensure the project operated within the local authority constraints of the summer holiday season.



The Outcome

The ecological surveys and vegetation clearance allowed for unrestricted safe access around the site, enabling all National Highways contractors the space they needed to undertake the surveys required for the final design of the project.

“Chevron Green Services were very helpful throughout the scheme. The team undertook the works safely and used appropriate technology (such as robocutters) to eliminate risks where possible. The team were knowledgeable and even managed to easily accommodate vast changes to the scope of works when this was required”.

Shaun Craig
Site Agent
Ringway



About the client

Ringway teams are responsible for looking after over 50,000 kms of the UK's highways network. They deliver specialist highway services across the largest highways maintenance portfolio within the UK, including strategic road network, DBFO motorway and trunk roads, and the local authority network.