



WICHELSTOWE RAIL FOOTBRIDGE

Client

Swindon Borough
Council

Location

Swindon

Value

£1.1m



Located approximately 2.5 miles to the south west of Swindon Town Centre and approximately 1.6 miles to the east of junction 16 of the M4 the new bridge provides pedestrian and cycle access over the Great Western Railway Line.

The bridge has a 27m main span and is a Warren truss, steel superstructure. The height of the structure gives railway track headroom of 5.8m to allow for the future electrification of the line. The upper 50m of the approach ramps are of steel construction and the lower ramps are bitumen macadam surfaced pathways constructed on earth embankments. The embankment at the south abutment incorporates a concrete crib wall approximately 60m long varying from 1.5 to 5.5m in height Works carried out prior to the main construction phase included:

- Advance vegetation clearance/tree stump removal
- Great Crested Newt fencing under an ecological licence
- Tree protection fencing

Access to the site was challenging only being accessible through farmland on the south side and an existing cycleway on the north. A temporary haul road was designed to allow for all construction vehicles including the abnormal load vehicles required to transport the main bridge to the location and for the 500ft crane required for the lift.