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Press release

Kier and Eiffage are pursuing the delivery of HS2* in a 50/50 partnership and are offering to employ Carillion HS2 team

- Eiffage and Kier are pursuing the delivery of HS2 in a 50/50 partnership and are offering to employ all 51 Carillion employees including apprentices currently working on the HS2 joint venture
- Apprentices will continue training through the joint venture programme

Kier and Eiffage, who were in joint venture with Carillion to deliver £1.4bn of projects in the HS2 programme, confirm that they are offering employment to the 51 Carillion employees including apprentices, currently working on the HS2 joint venture.

Eiffage and Kier, now working in a 50/50 joint venture partnership, are delivering two of the seven civil engineering packages, lots C2 and C3. The Kier and Eiffage joint venture collectively boasts specialist expertise in the design, construction, operation, financing and maintenance of railway networks, including high speed rail systems, spanning across the UK and in Europe.

Lot C2 will see the construction of the north portal Chiltern tunnels to Brackley in an £724m project, while Lot C3 is for the £616m Brackley to Long Itchington Wood Green tunnel south portal.

The design phase of work began on these projects last year and the project as a whole is expected to take between four and five years to complete.

Haydn Mursell, Kier chief executive, said: "We have been working collaboratively with our client HS2 to reach a solution, which has been ratified by Government. We are pleased to offer continuity of employment to all the 51 Carillion employees including apprentices, currently working as part of the HS2 joint venture team, and we will step in to ensure continuity of delivery of the programme".

“The joint venture teams from Eiffage, Kier and Carillion have all worked incredibly well together, collaborating to produce a strong and successful bid. I look forward to welcoming all new employees and have confidence in the continued successful delivery of this project” adds Benoît de Ruffray, Eiffage Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

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(*) The future HS2 (High Speed 2) rail line will link London to Birmingham in 2026. The two civil engineering packages (C2 and C3) awarded to the joint venture are located at the center of the route in the Midlands, and represent a total of 80 km of railway line. They cover earthworks and bridging structures, representing a total of 23 million cubic meters of earthmoving, 14 viaducts, 86 bridges structures and more than five kilometers of green tunnels. The Contracts provide for two separate stages, the design scheme stage (stage 1) and the construction stage (stage 2) which will be launched upon agreeing the conditions between the parties at the end of stage 1.

Kier

Kier is a leading property, residential, construction and services group that invests in, builds, maintains and renews the places where we work, live and play. We operate across a range of sectors including defence, education, health, housing, industrials, power, transport and utilities. Listed on the London Stock Exchange, we are a constituent of the FTSE 250 Index.

With a head office at Tempsford Hall in Bedfordshire and a network of 88 UK offices, Kier offers national coverage across all of its core activities. Employing over 21,000 people, with a turnover in excess of £4bn, Kier has the financial strength and technical expertise to undertake some of the most significant construction, civil engineering and service contracts in the country.

Eiffage

Eiffage is a one of Europe's leading construction and concessions companies. The Group's activities are organised on the basis of the following business lines: construction, real estate, regional development, civil engineering, metal, roads, energy and concessions. Thanks to the experience of more than 63,000 employees, Eiffage generated revenues of €14 billion in 2016, including nearly 20% outside France.

Eiffage completed in 2017 the construction of the Bretagne-Pays de la Loire project, one of Europe's latest high speed rail line projects, which stretches 214kms and aims to greatly improve access to Western France. It has also delivered key projects including the Channel Tunnel Rail Link.