**Bridge 1: HS2 becomes new member**

HS2 is the latest member to join Resilience First. HS2 is the new high-speed railway linking up London serving eight of Britain’s 10 largest cities. The project will give greater resilience to our rail infrastructure.

In Phase One of the construction, high-speed trains will travel between London and Birmingham on 134 miles of dedicated track. They will pass through more than 30 miles of tunnels and over 10 miles of viaducts, delivering quicker journeys on more trains with more seats. The first phase has a funding envelope of £45bn and will open between 2029 and 2033.

In the news recently, work to install a 65m bridge, spanning the width of the M42, was completed in just two days and ahead of schedule as the motorway reopened to road users on 9 August. In addition, HS2 revealed on 11 August the first images and publicly-chosen names of the first two completed giant tunnel boring machines that will excavate the twin-bore Chiltern tunnel on the first phase of construction.