

HS2

Local Area Engagement Plan Northamptonshire

2019





Department for Transport

High Speed Two (HS2) Limited has been tasked by the Department for Transport (DfT) with managing the delivery of a new national high speed rail network. It is a non-departmental public body wholly owned by the DfT.

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About this plan

Our Community Engagement Strategy outlines all the ways that we'll engage with people and communities that are affected along the route. We've written this Local Area Engagement Plan to explain how we'll deliver our Strategy in your area. It sets out how we'll engage with communities in Northamptonshire to ensure that we meet our commitments and continue to be a good neighbour. This is particularly important in 2019 as we begin our main construction work.

This plan:

- introduces you to your local Community Engagement team and partners working on our behalf;
- provides maps showing where our key works are in your area;
- informs you about the different ways you can contact us; and
- explains how we'll measure how well we're doing against our 10 Community Commitments.

How we will engage

We're committed to being a good neighbour and we'll ensure that you can find out about our planned works and activities in your area easily. Equally, we want you to have the opportunity to give us your comments and tell us your concerns.

We will engage with you by:

Informing. We'll keep you informed through clear, timely and tailored communication about issues that affect you. This includes:

- engagement events in your area;
- regular newsletters;
- sending you information sheets about our planned works before they start; and
- making sure we keep up-to-date information on our local community websites, called Commonplace.

Involving. We'll create opportunities for you to get involved throughout the design and delivery of the Project. This includes:

- workshops and discussions on the design of key design elements along the route (such as stations, vent shafts, viaducts and hoardings);
- interactive archaeology and ecology programmes;
- meetings and events; and
- local community investment programmes.

Responding. We'll provide free and accessible ways for you to contact us to answer your questions about the Project and help with any problems that may arise from our works. This includes:

- our Helpdesk team, who are available all day, every day via Freephone 08081 434 434, Minicom 08081 456 472 or email hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk;
- making sure that your local Engagement Manager is available in your area at least once a week; and
- replying promptly to information requests.



Who we are

It's important for everyone working on HS2 to understand the impact that their decisions and actions have. This includes all the companies and people working on our behalf. Your local Community Engagement team is here to speak on your behalf and to act as your voice within HS2 Ltd and our supply chain. Your local team is made up of staff from HS2 Ltd and our partners, all working together to listen and respond to local communities. You can see their details below:

Your HS2 Ltd contacts

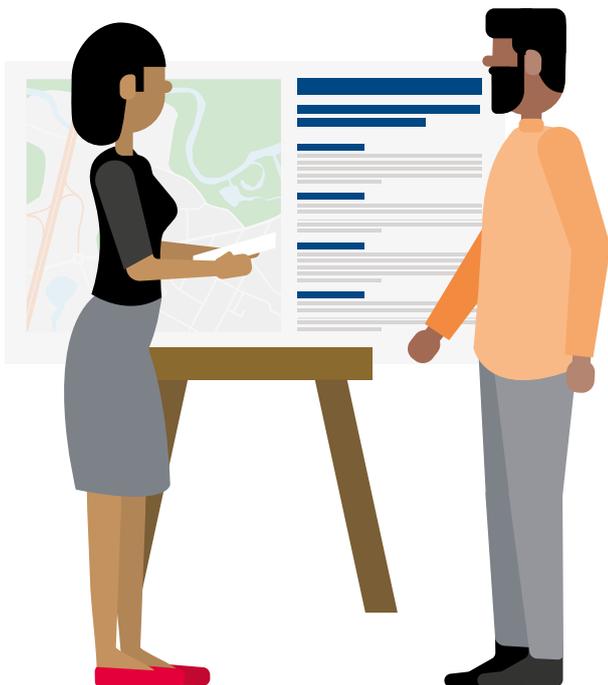


Nisha Mejer
Community Engagement Manager

Nisha is your first point of contact and is responsible for engagement in the Northamptonshire area.



Luke Nipen
Senior Engagement Manager



Who else is working with us?

We work closely with all our contractors to ensure that details of the Project are shared with you. Several companies, known as our partners, will help us to build the railway. These include our enabling works and main works contractors, who will help us deliver the new railway and stations. Our partners also include other companies such as utility companies who will help us undertake the work needed to deliver HS2.

Enabling works contractor



Fusion

Carley Richards
Community Liaison Officer

Fusion's job is to prepare the land ready for the construction of the railway. The Community Liaison Officer for Fusion is Carley Richards.

Main works contractor



Eiffage Kier (EK)

Chris James
Community Engagement Manager

EK is responsible for the design development and construction of the new high speed railway line between Evenley and Boddington. EK's Community Engagement Officer for Northamptonshire is Chris James.

Our year ahead

Late 2019 and beyond, we'll enter the main works delivery phase of the Project and so the impact and frequency of our works is likely to increase. We're committed to minimising these impacts and measuring the effectiveness of our engagement to ensure that we're doing the best we possibly can.

We measure and report on how we're being a good neighbour through our regular progress reports. These are published every six months and show how we're performing against our 10 Community Commitments.

You can read our 10 Community Commitments on page 21 of our Community Engagement Strategy. You can read our latest progress report and our Community Engagement Strategy online at hs2.org.uk/in-your-area. For hard copies contact our Helpdesk team or attend one of our larger engagement events where, we have hard copies to hand.

Our key works and activities planned for your area over the next year are outlined in the following section. There's a map of the area to show you where they're happening. We can't include all of the works that we'll be carrying out during this time as some of them are unconfirmed and may change.

You can find details of the works not mentioned in this Plan in our Construction Forward Look published every three months for your area. You can find a copy of this on your local community website hs2innorthants.co.uk, or by contacting our Helpdesk team for a copy. Further details can be found on page 10.

This year, we'll continue with our enabling works, to get us ready for construction. This includes site clearance, road improvements, surveys and archaeology work. There are a number of archaeological sites that we'll be exploring across this section of the route, including Edgcote battleground where a decisive battle took place in the Wars of the Roses. This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity that will allow us to reveal over 10,000 years of British history.

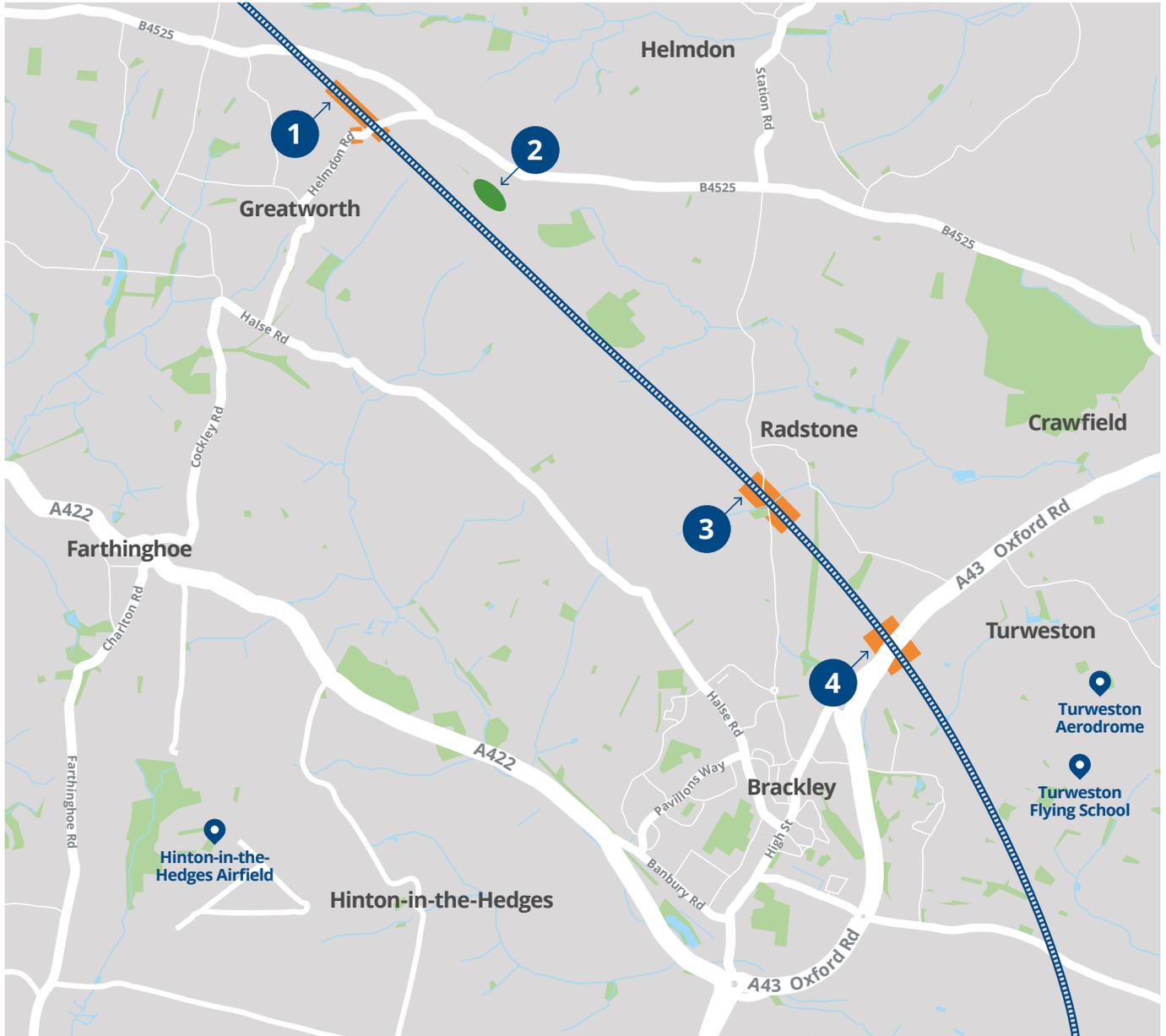
We'll also continue with ground investigation surveys. This type of survey helps us to understand more about the ground where we want to build the railway. It's vital that we know about the soil before construction begins so we can build effectively.

Finally, we're starting to build some of the compounds along this part of the route. Compounds are areas that will allow our workers to build the railway safely and effectively. They will include office space for workers.



Works in your area

Greatworth and Radstone



Key

- Parkland
- Habitat creation site
- HS2 route Phase One overground
- Water/river
- Construction site

We have a number of sites in the area which will help us to construct the railway. Each area is shown below with what is planned in the coming months and further ahead.

Greatworth and Radstone

1 Helmdon Road realignment

Part of Helmdon Road will be closed in 2020 for approximately 18 months, whilst we build Greatworth green tunnel. We'll be diverting traffic along Welsh Road.

2 Habitat creation site

The Halse Copse East and South habitat creation site is now complete and under maintenance. To build the site, we created a new pond, established new habitats for wildlife, built a bat house and planted new woodland.

3 Radstone Road overbridge

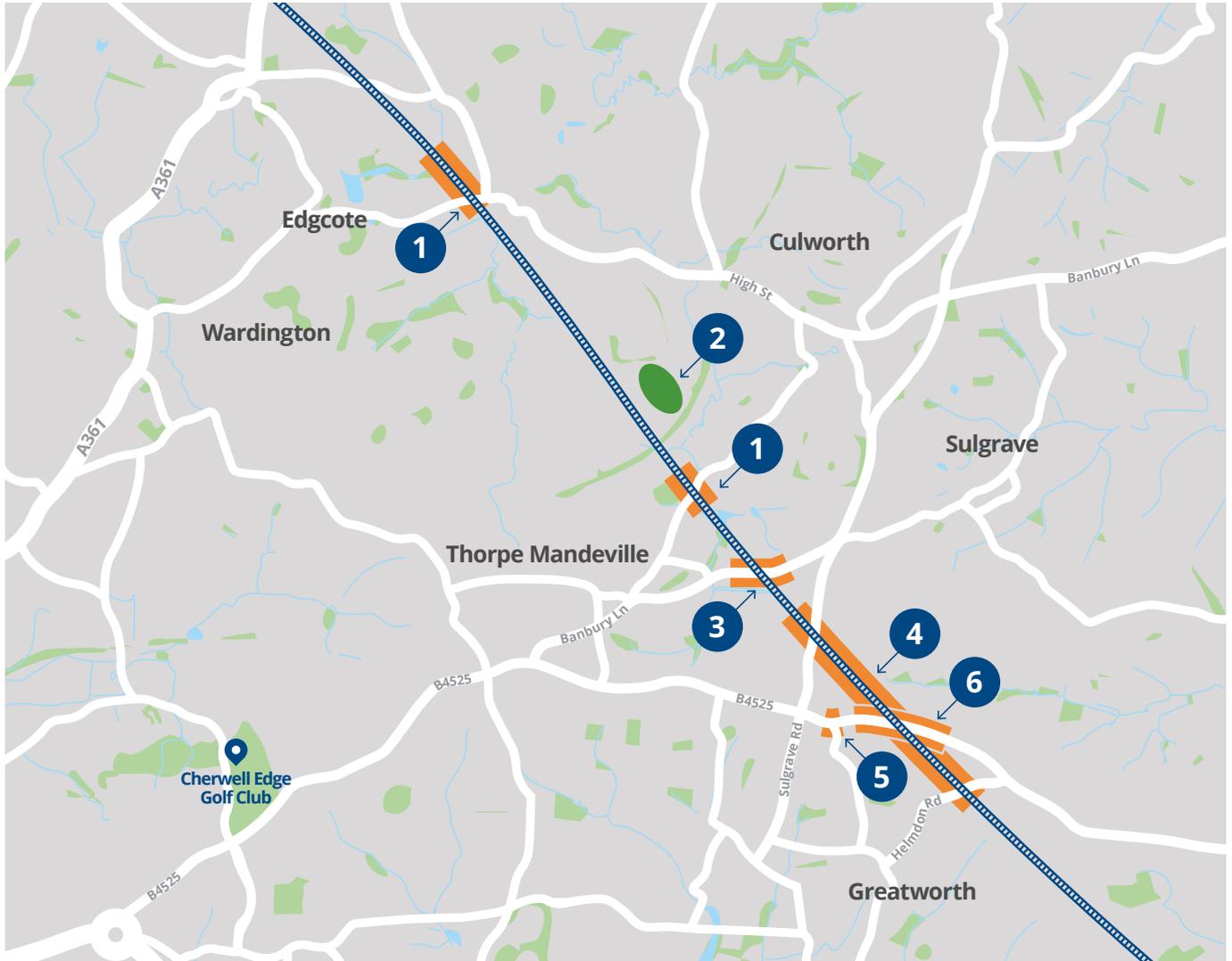
An overbridge is a bridge that will go over the railway. Design of this overbridge is also underway and we plan to start building it in late 2020.

4 A43 Oxford Road overbridge

We have started on the design of the overbridge at Oxford Road and we plan to start construction of the bridge in mid 2020. Before we start these works, we'll set up a compound and start construction of a site access road.

Works in your area

Edgcote, Thorpe Mandeville and Greatworth



Key

- Parkland
- Habitat creation site
- HS2 route Phase One overground
- Water/river
- Construction site

Edgcote, Thorpe Mandeville and Greatworth

1 Edgcote viaduct and Lower Thorpe viaducts

A viaduct is a bridge designed to carry a railway over water, a valley or another road. We're due to start works for the Edgcote viaduct in mid-2020. We're also due to start work on the Lower Thorpe viaduct in mid-2020. We'll hold engagement events to inform you of our works.

The two viaducts are also key design elements. We'll be engaging with you around the design of these structures.

Currently, we're working in these areas to carry out archaeological work. We're doing this because these areas are of historical interest.

2 Habitat creation site

This habitat creation site is now complete and under maintenance. To create the site, we established a new pond, new habitats for wildlife, built a bat house and planted new woodland.

3 Banbury Road overbridge

An overbridge is a bridge that will go over the railway. We are due to start work on the overbridge in 2020.

4 Greatworth green tunnel

We have started the design works for this cut and cover tunnel. We are due to start building this tunnel in late 2019. This involves excavating a hole in the ground, building the tunnel structure and then backfilling around the tunnel to the original ground level. We'll provide earthworks and woodland planting to screen the portal and cutting. Our aim is to integrate the new infrastructure into the surrounding landscape.

5 B4525/Sulgrave Road (Dump Road) junction improvement

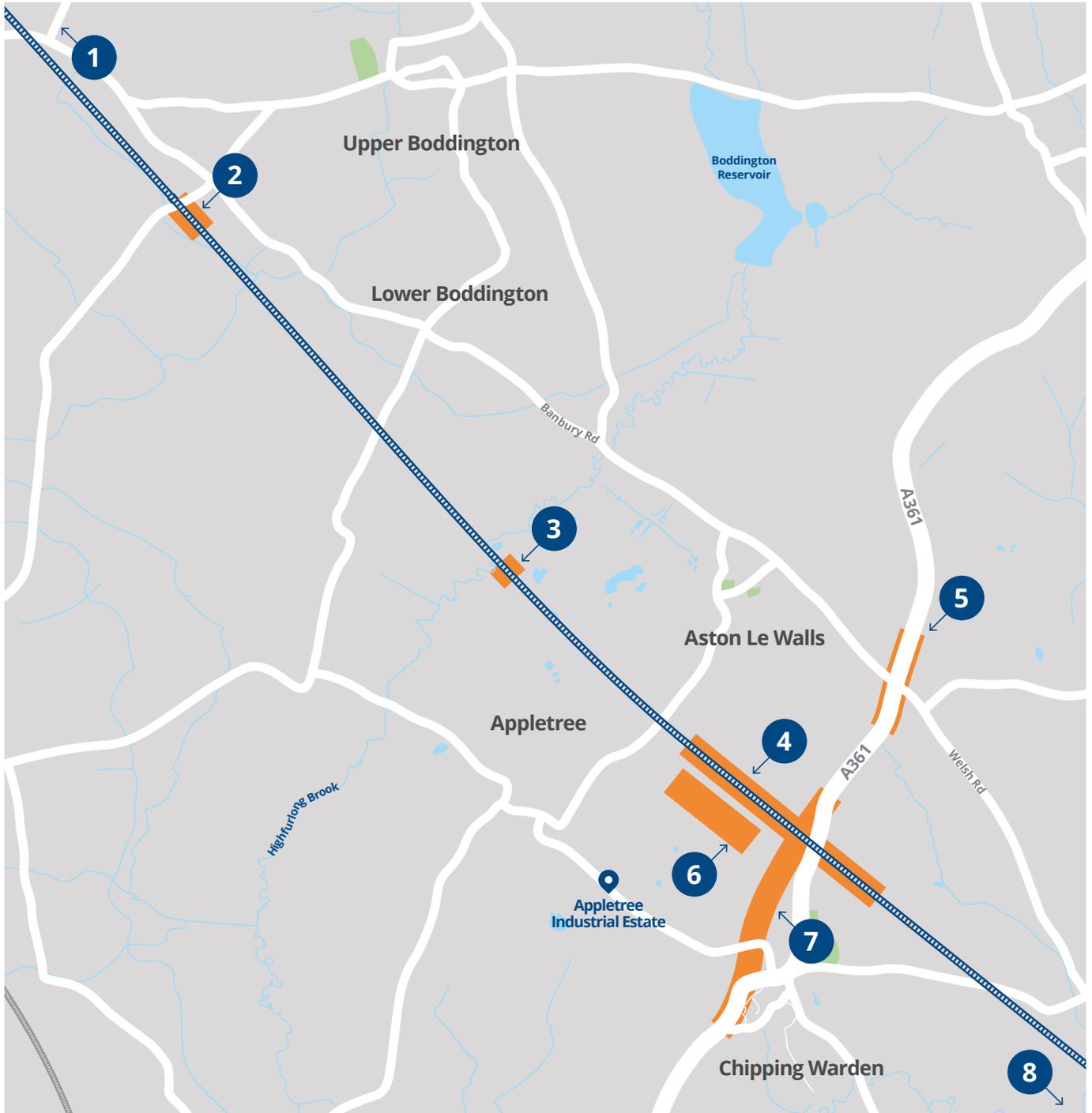
We started work on the junction at the end of last year and completed the vegetation clearance. We expect to start and finish the main roadworks later in 2019.

6 Welsh Road (B4525) reinstatement

Before we can build Greatworth green tunnel, we will need to realign part of the B4525 (you can see the area these works cover on the map). This will last for around 18 months while we build the tunnel. Once we've finished our work, we'll return this area of the B4525 (Welsh Road) to its original route.

Works in your area

Boddington and Chipping Warden



Key

-  Parkland
-  Construction site
-  HS2 route Phase One overground
-  Water/river

Boddington and Chipping Warden

1 Works in Wormleighton (Heave Trial)

This area of works is in Warwickshire but it is close to the border of Northamptonshire. Excavation is being carried out in the North East area of the village of Wormleighton, to enable monitoring of potential soil movement in areas of deep cutting. These works are already underway.

2 Claydon road overbridge

An overbridge is a bridge that will go over the railway. We plan to start work on the Claydon Road overbridge in late 2020.

3 Highfurlong Brook Viaduct

A viaduct is a bridge designed to carry a railway over water, a valley or another road. There will be a series of embankments and cuttings and a stretch of viaduct over the Highfurlong Brook. We plan to start work on the High Furlong Brook viaduct in winter 2020.

4 Green Tunnel Chipping Warden

The Green Tunnel is a “cut and cover” tunnel. This involves excavating a hole in the ground, building the tunnel structure and then backfilling around the tunnel to the original ground level. We’ve already started the design work for this and we’ll start preparatory work later in 2019. We intend to integrate the new tunnel into the landscape.

5 Welsh Road/A361 junction improvement

We’ve already started work on the junction improvement at Welsh Road, which we expect to finish by 2019. We’ve carried out a variety of works, including hedge clearance.

6 Chipping Warden compound

Fusion is currently using this compound. We’ll also use it for civil engineering works between Thorpe Mandeville and Lower Boddington, when the railway is being built. We expect the compound to be open and operational for approximately five years.

7 A361 Chipping Warden relief road

By building a relief road, we’ll direct construction and through traffic away from the village centre.

We’ll lower the number of vehicles in the centre of Chipping Warden. The relief road will be a permanent feature so the village will continue to benefit once we’ve finished building the railway.

8 Road widening in Wardington

We’ll be carrying out road widening works in Wardington along the A361 later in 2019.

How to get in touch and find out more

Our HS2 Helpdesk team are available all day, every day of the year

You can contact our Helpdesk team with any questions you may have, to request copies of documents, to register and track complaints, and to coordinate incident responses.

Our Helpdesk team are available via:

Freephone 08081 434 434

Minicom 08081 456 472

Email hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk

Keep up to date with the Project and sign up to notifications from your local community website

Commonplace is a local community website where you can find out what is happening in your local area and sign up for updates about our activities. For regular updates on works happening in Northamptonshire you can sign up for news alerts at hs2innorthants.co.uk. You'll also be able to find out information about roadworks and closures, our noise insulation and property schemes, our community engagement initiatives and how to apply for our community and business funds.

You can meet us at our drop-in sessions

Our engagement team hold weekly drop-in sessions at Chipping Warden and Culworth. These are hosted by your local Engagement Manager Nisha Mejer. To find out more, including the times of your next drop-in, visit www.hs2.org.uk/events/ or contact our Helpdesk team.

We'll also hold engagement events to inform you about work around the viaducts in Edgcote and Lower Thorpe. We'll publish more information on Commonplace hs2innorthants.co.uk, or you can contact our Helpdesk team to find out more.

Our Engagement team also attend Parish Council meetings and give regular updates at the HS2 Liaison Group meeting held at The Forum, Towcester. For details about these meetings, please visit Commonplace hs2innorthants.co.uk or contact our Helpdesk team.

Our Construction Forward Look is published every three months

This provides you with a more detailed overview of the upcoming works that we plan to undertake in your area over the next three months. The plan is available to download on our local community website hs2innorthants.co.uk

If you'd like a hard copy, you can contact our Helpdesk team or come along to one of our larger engagement events.



Apply for funding for a local project through the community and business funds

We're offering two funds which are available to local communities and businesses – the Community and Environment Fund (CEF), and the Business and Local Economy Fund (BLEF). Both funds give local communities and businesses the opportunity to receive funding of up to £1 million for projects that aim to improve their local area or economy. To find out more and how to apply, visit www.groundwork.org.uk/hs2funds. You can also contact Groundwork UK by calling 0121 237 5880 or emailing hs2funds@groundwork.org.uk. Groundwork UK are an independent charity that assesses applications and manages the funds on our behalf.

We also have a dedicated HS2 website

You can find our website at www.hs2.org.uk – this website is for the whole Project. You can find out more about where the route is planned, the timeline of construction, and more information about our compensation schemes. To view information specifically on what's happening in your area visit your local community website hs2innorthants.co.uk

We have more printed materials at our engagement events

If you would prefer to have more information in a printed format, or you don't have access to the internet, we have takeaway materials at our drop-in sessions and other engagement events. Please come and meet us at our regular drop-ins, or get in touch with our Helpdesk team to request printed copies of information. We are available via:

Freephone 08081 434 434

Minicom 08081 456 472

Email hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk

Alternative formats

If you need any of our printed materials in large print, Braille, audio or easy read please contact us. You can also contact us for help and information in a different language.



Keeping your information safe

If we ask for your personal information, we will:

- let you know why we need it;
- only ask for what we need and not collect excessive or irrelevant information;
- make sure nobody has access to it who should not;
- not share it with other organisations unless we have told you in advance or unless we are obliged to do so by law;
- only keep it for as long as we need to; and
- not make it available, or sell it, for commercial use, such as marketing.

We do share information with our contractors to enable robust and informed responses to queries.

In dealing with your personal information, we will:

- value the personal information entrusted to us and make sure we respect that trust;
- abide by the law when it comes to handling personal information;
- consider the privacy risks when we are planning to use or hold personal information in new ways, such as introducing new systems; and
- provide training to staff who handle personal information and respond appropriately if personal information is not used or protected properly.

To help us keep your information accurate and up to date, we ask you to give us accurate information and tell us as soon as possible of any change of circumstances.

You can find out what personal information, if any, we hold about you by making a 'subject access request'.

If we do hold information about you, once we have confirmed your identity, we will give you a description of it, why we are holding it and who it could be disclosed to. We will also provide you with a copy of the information in an intelligible form.

It will help us to locate any data we might hold about you if, in making your request, you could state what dealings we have had with you and why you expect us to hold information about you.

It is not the policy of HS2 Ltd to charge for subject access requests. If you wish to make a subject access request, please contact us via the details below. Our HS2 Helpdesk team is available all day, every day of the year.

They're available via:

Freephone [08081 434 434](tel:08081434434)

Minicom [08081 456 472](tel:08081456472)

Email hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk

Write to us at:

FREEPOST
HS2 Community Engagement

To read our privacy policy regarding your personal information, go to:
www.hs2.org.uk/privacy-notice/

Our key documents

We have a range of documents on hand to help you understand our approach to community engagement and keep up to date with our works in your area.

Community Engagement Strategy

Our Community Engagement Strategy explains all the ways that we'll engage with people, businesses and communities along the route. It also includes our 10 Community Commitments.

You can read our Community Engagement Strategy here:

www.hs2.org.uk/documents/community-engagement-strategy/



Residents' Charter

Our Residents' Charter sets out our 10 Community Commitments. It explains the roles of the independent Residents' Commissioner and the Construction Commissioner in ensuring that we're held to account on these Commitments.

You can read our Residents' Charter here:

www.hs2.org.uk/documents/hs2-residents-charter/



Our progress reports

Our six-monthly progress reports are published twice a year and measure how well we're performing against our 10 Community Commitments. You'll be able to read about practical real-life examples of how we're fulfilling our Commitments in areas surrounding the route.

You can read our latest progress report here:

www.hs2.org.uk/documents/community-engagement-progress-report-july-to-december-2018/



Construction Forward Look

Every three months, we publish a Construction Forward Look. These provide a high-level overview of works coming up in your area.

The most recent Forward Look for your area is published on your local community website:

hs2innorthants.co.uk



Local Area Engagement Plans

We have a collection of Local Area Engagement Plans for Phase One. Each Plan is localised to a specific area and explains how we'll deliver our Strategy at a local level. It sets out how we'll engage with you to make sure that we meet our Commitments and continue to be a good neighbour.

Our most recent Local Area Engagement Plans are published on your local community website:

hs2innorthants.co.uk



Land and Property guidance

We have several guidance documents about our different property schemes. These documents help you to understand the different types of compensation that's available if your property is affected by the HS2 route. These documents include specific booklets about the Need to Sell scheme, Rural Support Zone and safeguarding and compensation guidance.

You can find these at:

www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/assistance-for-property-owners/



We are committed to keeping you informed about work on HS2. This includes ensuring you know what to expect and when to expect it, as well as how we can help.

Residents' Charter and Commissioner

The Residents' Charter is our promise to communicate as clearly as we possibly can with people who live along or near the HS2 route. www.gov.uk/government/publications/hs2-residents-charter

We also have an independent Residents' Commissioner whose job is to make sure we keep to the promises we make in the Charter and to keep it under constant review. Find reports at: www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-ltd-residents-commissioner

You can contact the Commissioner at: residentscommissioner@hs2.org.uk

Construction Commissioner

The Construction Commissioner's role is to mediate and monitor the way in which HS2 Ltd manages and responds to construction complaints. You can contact the Construction Commissioner at: complaints@hs2-cc.org.uk

Property and compensation

You can find out all about HS2 and properties along the line of route by visiting: www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-property

Find out if you're eligible for compensation at: www.gov.uk/claim-compensation-if-affected-by-hs2

Holding us to account

If you are unhappy for any reason, you can make a complaint by contacting our HS2 Helpdesk team. For more details on our complaints process, please visit our website: www.hs2.org.uk/how-to-complain

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High Speed Two (HS2) Limited, registered in England and Wales.

Registered office: Two Snowhill, Snow Hill Queensway, Birmingham B4 6GA. Company registration number: 06791686. VAT registration number: 181 4312 30.

Contact us

Our HS2 Helpdesk team are available all day, every day. You can contact them via:

 Freephone **08081 434 434**

 Minicom **08081 456 472**

@ Email **hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk**

Write to

FREEPOST
HS2 Community Engagement

Website **www.hs2.org.uk**

To keep up to date with what is happening in your area, visit:

www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk

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