

March 2021 | www.hs2.org.uk

High Speed Two (HS2) is the new high speed railway for Britain. We are continually reviewing the works on our construction sites in line with Government and Public Health England (PHE) advice on dealing with COVID-19. The Government's current strategy makes it clear that construction activity can continue as long as it complies with this guidance.

Please be assured that only sites that can operate within the guidelines are operational. All sites will remain under constant review. We have postponed all face-to-face engagement events and meetings and have put in place a number of channels to communicate with communities, such as letters and phone calls, as well as updates and alerts from each of the local community websites. You can sign up for regular updates in your local area at www.hs2inbucksandox.co.uk

What will we be doing?

As part of our continuing works ahead of the construction of the railway we need to undertake some further work in your area, these works will consist of:

- Compound set up
- Featherbed Lane closure
- Archaeological mitigation
- Grass and hedgerow maintenance

A site compound will be set up off Featherbed Lane, to facilitate future works in the area. The compound set up will begin from mid-March 2021 and will be used for welfare vehicles, staff car parking and the site storage of machinery and materials for the workforce completing the bridge survey and future works. The site will be secured with 24/7 security and have temporary low-level lighting.

If you have a question about HS2 or our works, please contact our HS2 Helpdesk team on 08081 434 434 or email hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk

Notification



Duration of works

The works will start in March 2021 and will be completed by summer 2021

Normal working hours Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm. and Saturday 8am -1pm. We may also be on site for one hour's start up and shutdown outside of these times

Our contractors may also be on site for one hour's quite start-up and shutdown outside of these times.

What to expect

Road closure with diversion route. Some noise from equipment used for the works. Site storage and welfare vehicles. Site operated with 24-hour security and temporary lighting

What we will do

Manage any impacts, such as traffic and noise with the aim of reducing or removing them

Notification

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Featherbed Lane closure - bridge surveys

Engineering surveys need to be carried out to the existing Featherbed Lane overbridge. A full structural assessment is required which will include condition, topographical and dimensional surveys, as well as intrusive investigations. The majority of these works, including the survey of the underside of the bridge and abutments, can be completed without closing the road. However, a full road closure will be required to carry out intrusive utility trial holes in the highway. This is needed to identify the type, depth and condition of any buried services.

The road will be closed on 22 March 2021 for one day between 8am and 5pm to conduct the initial ground penetrating utility radar surveys. Outside of these times the road will be open as usual

Please see the traffic management and diversion routes put in place during this time, please see enclosed map.

Archaeological mitigation

We are carrying on with our archaeological investigations at Grove Hill Farm. We have already conducted initial trial trenching and bore hole survey activity. The next steps of our archaeological investigation works will involve mitigation, this means we will be stripping the top soil and recording any finds.

The digging and investigations are carried out by our archaeology subcontractor with supervision staff visiting the site to ensure the works are progressing safely. Once the work is complete, the area will be backfilled.

These works are a continuation of activity which began in August 2020 and will be completed by summer 2021.



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Grass and hedgerow maintenance

We are also going to undertake some grass and hedgerow maintenance under the instruction of the ecologist on site. This is required to establish the compound, undertake the survey of the existing bridge and ahead of the archaeological investigations. This involves a detailed hand search to determine if any ecology is present. If it is found that the area is clear of ecology, then the works will be allowed to take place. A small workforce will use machinery and hand-held equipment to maintain sections of grass and hedgerows. Grass will be cut down to 15 centimetres above ground. Hedges will only be removed if required for access.

Areas that have been previously cleared of protected species will be maintained in a condition that makes it unsuitable for them to return. A second cut will be undertaken on the following day, after a recheck of the area has been thoroughly carried out. The second cut will take the vegetation down to 50 millimetres above ground level. The vegetation will then be maintained at this height to discourage species from re-entering the area.

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Location of compound and road closure diversion route for 22 March 2021



Keeping you informed

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-residentscharter

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-ltdresidents-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 by emailing: 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

Contact Us

Contact our HS2 Helpdesk team all day, every day of the year on:



🔭 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 local area, visit: www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk

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https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ high-speed-two-ltd-privacy-notice

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