

Environmental Practices in Euston Approaches

Frequently Asked Questions

High Speed Two (HS2) is the new high-speed railway for Britain.

Skanska Costain STRABAG (SCS) is the main works contractor that will build the section of HS2 between Parkway and Hampstead Road, known as Euston Approaches.

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What are your working hours?

Our core hours are 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, and 8am to 1pm, Saturday. We are also permitted an hour either side of this for preparation and pack up.

What approvals do you have to work day and night?

All our works are discussed in advance with Camden Council and set out in a Section 61 consents agreement. We explain the detail of our planned works, the necessary machinery and equipment, and the proposed programme. This enables us to agree with the council on which activities are permitted to take place within our core hours and request any exceptions for works which need to take place during extended hours or overnight. We try to avoid this wherever possible but due to the works programme and the proximity of works to the live railway and busy roads, this is occasionally necessary.

We have monthly meetings with Camden allow for updates on progress and compliance, and to discuss any changes. These meetings also provide an opportunity to discuss upcoming works.

Are you using generators?

We are now connected to mains supply for all our large works, including all welfare and office buildings, which is a big undertaking for a site of this size. We worked closely with UK Power Networks (UKPN) to complete this work to eliminate the need for long-term use of generators and therefore reduce our environmental impact.

We now only use generators, if required, for small bits of machinery which need to be mobile, such as jet washers and water bowzers. However, to further keep the use of generators to a minimum, we are using electric options where possible.

What are you doing about generator noise and fumes?

For the rare occasions where we need to use a generator, we completely surround them with an acoustic tent to minimise noise levels. Where we cannot use electric options, we have chosen the quietest generators available that can produce the necessary power.

What are you doing about keeping our streets clean?

We jet wash the mud and debris off the wheels of every vehicle that leaves our site so that it is not carried out on to the highway.

We also have two dedicated road sweepers in circulation along both sides of Hampstead Road and Cardington Street to keep the roads free from mud and debris.

The haul road within our site is regularly surfaced, maintained and sprayed down to control dust created by site vehicles. We also have speed limits in place for safety reasons, and to further minimise dust levels.

What are you doing to protect trees?

We avoid removing trees wherever possible and we leave them in place for as long as we can before the space is required to continue with our works. We are also required to gain approval from Camden Tree Panel for each tree removed and must provide reasonable explanation for each proposed removal, as well as why it cannot be avoided. We also have a legal requirement to replace every felled tree.

How are you minimising the impacts of lighting?

During periods of low-light or darkness we use artificial lighting to ensure the health and safety working onsite. This lighting is positioned to shine directly onto the work site and not into neighbouring properties. Floodlights are programmed by timers to switch off at night between 8pm or 10pm, and 5.30am, dependent on location. Lights are also placed on hoardings for safe vehicle movement and pedestrian safety, illuminating the footpath and discouraging anti-social behaviour.

We regularly conduct checks of our lighting to ensure we are doing all we can to minimise impacts to nearby residents while also meeting the safety requirements for our workers.

What else are you doing to reduce environmental impacts?

We have a meticulous inspection and maintenance arrangement in place to ensure we are always doing all we can to reduce the impacts of our site.

We use Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) in place of diesel or petrol for all our vehicles, plants, and generators to reduce our impacts on local air quality. We are also using electric plant options where possible as another alternative to diesel.

HVO is a bio oil produced from waste materials from vegetable fats and oils. As an alternative to traditional petroleum-based diesel, it has an overall lower carbon footprint. We require suppliers to provide audit certification for their production, raw materials, and fuel batches. We also continue to work with our supply chain partners to encourage the change to more sustainable fuels to help conserve the environment.

We also ensure any stockpiled materials and earth are kept away from residential buildings and kept enclosed and/or covered. We have a robust waste management system and the mixing of grout or cement-based materials is undertaken using appropriate techniques to prevent increased levels of dust.

More information

For other ways in which HS2 is monitoring and reducing the impact of its works, please see the [HS2 Air Quality Factsheet](#) and the [SCS Noise and Vibration Factsheet](#).

Contact us?

If you have a question about this topic, HS2, or our works, you can contact our HS2 Helpdesk team 24 hours a day on 08081 434 434, or email HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk. For those who have speech or hearing difficulties we offer a minicom service on 08081 456 472.

Keeping you informed

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

Residents' and Construction Commissioner

The independent Residents' and Construction Commissioner oversees and monitors our **community engagement strategy**, making sure we fulfil our commitments to you. The commissioner monitors the way we manage and respond to complaints about construction and advises members of the public how to make complaints. The commissioner helps settle disputes involving individuals and organisations that we can't resolve. You can find the commissioner's report and our responses at:
www.gov.uk/government/collections/independent-hs2-commissioner

The commissioner can be contacted on:

hs2commissioner@dft.gov.uk

Property and compensation

You can find out all about HS2 and properties along the 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/contact-us/how-to-complain

Contact us

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

 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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We are committed to protecting personal information. If you would like to know more about how we use your personal information, please see our privacy notice (www.gov.uk/government/publications/high-speed-two-ltd-privacy-notice)

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