# Notice update – Washwood Heath Brook Diversion

May 2022 | www.hs2.org.uk



**Notification** 

High Speed Two (HS2) is the new high speed railway for Britain. Balfour Beatty VINCI (BBV) is working in partnership with HS2 Ltd to build the new railway in your area.

### Wash Brook diversion

We previously notified you that we will need to temporarily divert a section of the Wash Brook that runs through the site in underground pipes known as a culvert into the River Thame, and that these works would be completed by the end of July 2022. We now expect to carry out this work in phases until 2 September 2022.

We need to do this work because the HS2 construction works will be taking place close to the current location of the culverted brook. This means that if the brook remains in its current location there is a risk of damaging the pipes as we dig deep down into the ground to lay the foundations for the structures of the new railway.

# **Sheet Piling**

Due to the onsite ground conditions creating more resistance than expected we have had to change our technique to install the sheet piles. We had planned to use a pre-augered vibration technique, where we pre bore the ground and use a vibration hammer to vibrate the sheet piles in to place. We however have had to switch to a more forceful piling hammer technique to install the sheet piles into the resistant ground.

Unfortunately, the piling hammer produces more noise than our original method which may be heard from streets surrounding our site. To help reduce the noise heard by neighbours we have been installing acoustic fencing on our site, the installation is now complete. We are also carrying out noise monitoring on our site boundaries and in some nearby properties to ensure that we do not exceed the noise levels that we are permitted to work within.

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

### **Duration of works**

Sheet piling works early February 2022 – 2 September 2022

Working hours weekdays 8am – 5pm with breaks at 10am and 1pm

Our workforce can be on site up to 1 hour before work begins to set up the site and again afterwards to take down our work equipment.

## What to expect

Piling plant platform located on site.

Noise from the piling hammer may be heard from streets surrounding the site as we install sheet piles. This will be monitored continuously to ensure that we are working to the required limits and reducing our impact on our neighbours.

## What we will do

Ensure that our work areas are safe and secure.

Keep you up to date through www.hs2inbirmingham. co.uk

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#### www.hs2.org.uk

## How we will monitor our impact

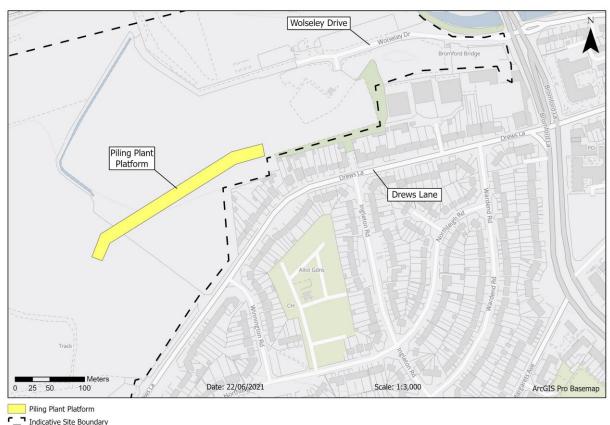
To reduce the number of HGV's on the roads, we are reusing the site material stored at our site compound. This is to stop the amount of new materials being delivered to our working areas, reducing the amount of overall deliveries to site.

We will also carry out continuous dust, noise and vibration monitoring as we complete the brook diversion works. This will help us to ensure that we are working in a way that limits the impacts on our neighbours and the local environment. It will also help us to ensure that we are complying with the agreed conditions for our work set out by Birmingham City Council.

## **HS2 during the COVID-19 pandemic**

We are continually reviewing the works on our construction sites in line with the Government and Public Health England (PHE) advice on dealing with coronavirus. The Government's current coronavirus strategy makes clear that construction activity can continue as long as it complies with the guidance. The health and safety of our workforce and the communities we affect is our key priority. Please be assured that those sites that are currently still working are doing so because they can operate within PHE and construction industry guidelines.

# Map showing location of piling plant platform at HS2's Washwood Heath site



# What else is happening in your area?

### www.hs2.org.uk

# **Contact our HS2 Helpdesk team**

Our team is here to listen and respond to your enquiry, complaint or feedback to help us be a good neighbour.

You can contact our Helpdesk team all day, every day of the year on:

Freephone: **08081 434 434**Minicom: **08081 456 472** 

Email: hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk



To find out more about what's happening in your area and receive regular email updates, you can sign up to our local community websites at: www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk.

# **About our Community and Business Funds**

We are offering two funds that are available to local communities and businesses between the West Midlands and London, to help with the disruption caused by our construction work. These are the Community and Environment Fund (CEF) and the Business and Local Economy Fund (BLEF).

The CEF is designed to give communities the opportunity to share in the benefits of HS2. It is an allocated fund that communities are able to apply for, to help to support local projects that aim to improve their local area.

The BLEF is designed to support local economies that may be disrupted by the construction of HS2. BLEF grants are for local business support organisations and local authorities to help maintain business activity in local communities.

For more information about each of these funds, including how to apply, please visit: https://www.groundwork.org.uk/hs2funds





# **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-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-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:

T 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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