

Contact our HS2 Helpdesk team on **08081 434 434**

HS2 Update

Aylesbury Area | December 2021

High Speed Two (HS2) is the new high speed railway for Britain. We are following Government and Public Health England (PHE) advice on working safely during the pandemic. As we increase face to face engagement, in addition to virtual engagement, we will ensure all events and meetings adhere to the guidelines. The health and safety of our workforce and the communities we work within is our priority. If you have any questions about this, please contact our Helpdesk to find out more. We will be keeping our local website www.hs2inbucksandox.co.uk up to date with information on our works in the local area.

Update on our continuing works

Over the next couple of months, you can expect to see the following works in the local area;

- Ground Investigation (GI), topography and survey works;
- Utility works including trial holes;
- UKPN utility connection works around our compound areas
- CCTV drainage works
- Princes Risborough to Aylesbury Railway overnight deliveries;
- Greenway Pedestrian Crossing;
- Test piling works around Fleet Marston for the viaduct;
- Piling works for the A418 overbridge
- A418 re-alignment preparatory works including piling;
- Excavation, movement and storage of earthworks;
- Several breaks from highway in the area to allow for our site access – these will include the need for some short duration traffic management;
- Continued PRow closures in the area;
- Compound progression;
- Vegetation and site clearance
- Concrete batching plant to be operational
- Upcoming You Said, We Did for the Thame Valley Viaduct
- Preparatory works for the Stoke Mandeville Relief road.



Join us ...

Drop-in sessions

In line with current Government guidelines, we are gradually reintroducing face to face events and engagement. The safety of our communities, stakeholders and staff remains a priority and we will ensure all events and engagement activities are Covid safe.

Please contact the HS2 Helpdesk or visit hs2.org.uk/events for more information on events in your area.

www.hs2.org.uk/events



Update on works

Site access road crossing points

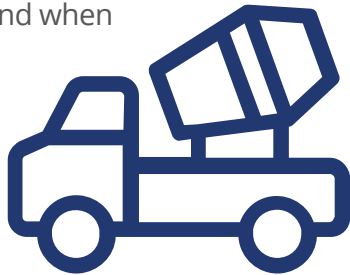
We are coming to complete the first stage of our crossing points across the Aylesbury area.

There are several locations where our internal site access road meets the local road network where we have needed to install these crossing points;

- A418
- A41
- Blackgrove Road
- Station Road
- Quainton Road

There are still some activities which we need to return to complete, such as installing the traffic lights that will control the traffic flows and install bridges which will carry our traffic over the road network (A418). Whilst we finish these tie in points there will be the need for temporary traffic management to complete the construction.

Our internal site access road will continue to be constructed and when operational, will keep all of our HS2 construction traffic within our work areas.



Station Road, Break from Highway

As part of the site access crossing points, we'll be constructing a break from highway on Station Road, Quainton in January. Our works will involve locating utilities below ground and installing concrete protection slabs to protect the road and any utilities underneath it. For more information and to see the diversion route, please view the **in your area** section of the HS2 website.

A41 Temporary roundabout

This autumn saw a vast change to the landscape around the A41 as we implemented our temporary roundabout to help facilitate access to our work sites and safe continuous travel for road users.

This will eventually be removed when the permanent re-alignment of the A41 takes place. The re-alignment will see new roundabouts created which improve the current Blackgrove Road junction.

We thank you for your patience during the construction period it took, and we have received feedback from local road users who feel it has made a positive impact on the road.



Aerial shot above of the A41 roundabout before completion.

A418 works

The A418 will see us complete the breaks from highways in early 2022 which will become our main access point onto the Golf Course land from the A418. This will then allow our aggregate deliveries and site access road progress through this area, towards the Thame Valley Viaduct area. Whilst we finish these crossing points there will be the need for some temporary traffic management in the area. Once operational, the traffic light system will allow safe access for site vehicles across the A418.

Greenway Pedestrian Crossing

To protect the public we will have a marshalled crossing in place along our at grade crossing point on the Greenway. This will be in place for the duration of the project during operational hours. This is to segregate the public from the construction vehicles. PRoW interfaces see HS2 in your area website.



Hartwell Wall

The Hartwell Wall is a structure of historical significance in the Aylesbury Area. It was built C1800 to form the boundaries of Hartwell House and is Grade I listed.

Hartwell House's longest, south-east, boundary is a rustic stone wall of Portland limestone around 2m high, adjacent to the A418 road. Works for HS2 required the removal of a section of this south-east boundary wall.

When a section of the wall was removed in November, EKFB worked with Hartwell House and the National Trust as well as Historic England, to ensure the preservation of the stone. Each stone was removed by hand, recorded and numbered.

They were then placed onto pallets, protected from the elements and stored safely.

To retain the historic and aesthetic value of the wall, some of the preserved limestone will be used to reinstate sections of the wall once the break from highway on the A418 has been constructed.

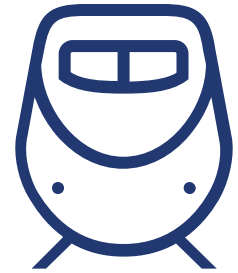
The remaining stone will be returned to the Hartwell estate.

Rail deliveries

Across the whole HS2 project, 15,000 freight trains are set to be used to haul 10 million tonnes of aggregate to construction sites – taking the equivalent of 1.5 million HGVs off the UK's roads.

In mid-December EKFB will be carrying out overnight works to complete train platforms at the Princes Risborough to Aylesbury to Railway, ahead of our deliveries in January.

From early January 2022, we will begin receiving overnight deliveries of material. These deliveries are anticipated to continue to May 2022.



It is estimated, the overnight deliveries expected between January and May will have transported in total approximately 200,000 tonnes of material by rail, helping keep up to 10,000 HGV deliveries off the local road networks.

This significantly reduces our impact on the environment and delivering EKFB's section of the HS2 project.



Waddesdon Primary School Pond

In 2018, the school's students had a vision to transform a disused and overgrown area next to their playground. This area was identified as the perfect spot for a small nature reserve and pond area.

With the help from local councillors, Paul Irwin and Ashley Waite, the school approached EKFB to help them realise their vision.

The build of the pond took place over a one-week period and was completed in late November. Headteacher, Laura Forchione, is thrilled with the new area, saying;

“We are delighted to finally have a pond at Waddesdon Village Primary School after years of planning and the hard work put in by our pupils.

Not only will this attract wildlife into our school grounds, but it will enhance the children's learning in school by providing endless opportunities to learn outside.”

EKFB were proud to support the school in this project.



The picture above shows the teachers and proud students at the completion of the pond.

Mobile Visitor Centre

In 2022, you can expect to see our new mobile visitor centre visiting a town near you! This specialised vehicle will enable us to increase the reach and visibility of our local engagement team, while giving communities a safe, comfortable space where they can find out more about the HS2 project and the work EKFB do.



Through providing regular opportunities for you to talk to us face-to-face as well as meet your local community teams, we will continue to engage, listen and learn from our communities to ensure they feel supported and heard.

Your local engagement manager will send out updates letting communities know where and when they will be visiting with our mobile visitor centre. If you would like to suggest any locations for us to visit, please let us know through the HS2 Helpdesk



Thame Valley Viaduct Event

In Spring 2022 we will be holding an event around the Thame Valley Viaduct. This is called a **You Said, We Did** event where we present your feedback from our Key Design Element event we held in 2021. You'll be able to view what *you said* and see *what we did* about it and how we use that to help develop and shape our current designs.

Your feedback matters to us...



HS2 Helpdesk is an email and freephone service available for all queries.



In your area, we are responding to queries in less than 4 days.

You said, we did...



"The lighting is too bright at your sites at night"

We recently delivered a route wide briefing on minimising lighting at our sites overnight and ensuring we abide to the Code of Construction Practice.



"Can you help us run a Covid-safe community event at Christmas?"

We provided mobile lighting for a Christmas shopping event in Bucks and a school fayre in Northants, so they could take place safely outside.

In the last 6 months, we received 127 complaints across our 80km section:



55%
Traffic and transport



20%
Construction sites & impacts

We also received 103 compliments from our local communities:



30%
Community meetings & engagement

45%
Community investment & volunteering

Frequently Asked Questions

Some of our most commonly asked questions in your area...

Q: I'm concerned about mud on my local roads from your construction sites.

A: We have a suite of road sweepers that are operational throughout our normal working hours, they cover our HGV routes as well as locations near our sites and compounds. Alongside this we have our Traffic Safety Control Officers who are on site daily, monitoring the road conditions, traffic congestion and more.

Q: Why are your worksites lit up at night?

A: We have 24/7 security at our construction sites and therefore we need appropriate lighting for the safety and welfare of our security staff. Where possible we switch off the majority of lights overnight and we ensure all lighting is correctly positioned and monitored in line with HS2's Code of Construction Practice.

Q: How can I get a quick response to a construction related query?

A: The HS2 Helpdesk is open 24 hours a day (08081 434 434 / HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk) and we thank you for raising your queries, comments and concerns with us – these allow us to improve how we work. In your area EKFB are now responding to your queries and complaints within 3.5 working days on average.

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-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 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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