

# More than a railway

## Benefits update March 2022

### HS2 will provide zero carbon travel, better connect major towns and cities and increase capacity on the rail network.

We are already delivering benefits as we build the high-speed railway. More than 22,000 jobs are being supported by HS2 and more than 800 apprentices have started their careers on the Project.

The awarding of our £2 billion rolling stock contracts, which will see HS2 trains built in Crewe, Derby and County Durham, is just one example of how HS2 is creating opportunities for skilled workers and British-based businesses.

As well as creating jobs, the project is also helping to develop new, clean construction methods and supporting community projects along the route.

We are now seeking legislative approval to extend HS2 between Crewe and Manchester (known as the Phase 2b Western Leg), extending high-speed rail infrastructure to the North West.

### Our vision

Our vision is to be a catalyst for growth across Britain. By linking our towns and cities in the Midlands and North, HS2 will provide economic opportunities for development and regeneration as part of the plan to level up Britain. HS2 will transform our rail network, offering zero carbon long distance travel and freeing up space for more regional and freight trains across the network. HS2 is being delivered within the budget and timetable set by Government.

### Our strategic goals

HS2 represents a significant investment by the UK taxpayer, which is why the HS2 Project has always been about building more than a railway. Our strategic goals provide seven areas of focus:

**Sustainability and being a good neighbour**



**Health, safety and security**



**Jobs and skills**



**Customer experience**



**Value for money**



**Increasing capacity and improving connectivity**



**A catalyst for growth**



Over **2,400**  
UK-registered businesses  
in the supply chain



Over **1,700**  
unique SMEs

HS2's Net Zero Carbon Plan maps the progress we will make in the years ahead on our journey towards 'destination net zero'.



All construction sites will be **diesel-free** by 2029, with the first diesel-free site established this year



**100%** residual carbon emissions offset from 2035



**Net zero** construction and operation from 2035

The next phase of HS2, from Crewe to Manchester, will bring benefits to the North West by better connecting people and businesses.



Birmingham to Manchester

**twice per hour**  
in just 41 minutes\*



**A doubling of capacity**  
between Manchester and London

\* Based on the current assumed train service.



**825**  
apprenticeships created



Over **22,000**  
jobs supported



## Kickstarting careers

Our goal is to encourage the next generation to pursue careers in construction and help unemployed people and under-represented groups secure jobs on Europe's biggest infrastructure project.

To date, we have created 825 apprenticeships on HS2. They include civil engineering apprentice Samuel Morris, who joined our West Midlands construction partner Balfour Beatty VINCI (BBV) after completing a work placement through the Government's Kickstart Scheme in 2021. The scheme funds job placements for young people, aged 16 to 24, who are at risk of long-term unemployment.

Samuel was previously working as a labourer but was laid off during the pandemic. He had always set his sights on becoming a mechanical engineer. After completing his work placement, BBV offered him a Level 4 site engineering technician apprenticeship.

He said: "The scale and challenge that this role offers are huge and I know I'll probably never work on a project this big ever again. It's exciting to know I'm going to be part of the team laying the tracks for Britain's new railway."



**HS2 has committed to creating 2,000 apprenticeship opportunities during the life span of the project.**



## HS2 trains to be built in Britain

HS2's trains, some of the fastest and quietest in the world, will be designed, built and maintained in Britain at factories in County Durham, Derby and Crewe.

We announced in late 2021 that Hitachi-Alstom joint venture has been appointed to build our fleet of 54 trains, capable of speeds up to 225mph.

The landmark rolling stock contracts are worth about £2 billion. They will support more than 2,500 jobs and boost the economy by an estimated £157 million a year.

Local representatives welcomed the train award as an example of HS2 supporting the development of high-skilled jobs and British-based businesses.

"The opportunities this will create for the next generation of skilled workers are enormous," said Kieran Mullan, MP for Crewe and Nantwich.

Paul Howell, MP for Sedgefield, said the "wonderful news" would bring jobs and apprenticeships to his constituency and the wider North East.

Liam Byrne, MP for Birmingham Hodge Hill, said he was "delighted that hundreds of jobs maintaining the new ... trains" will be coming to the new depot at Washwood Heath.



**HS2 trains will be powered by zero carbon energy, offering a cleaner alternative to long-distance car journeys and domestic flights.**





**Up to 820,000m<sup>2</sup> of commercial development around Manchester Piccadilly station will be supported by the delivery of HS2.**



## Benefits of HS2 accelerate North West

Our goal to create more services and seats for rail passengers and better connect major towns and cities in the Midlands and the North West has taken a major step forward.

We deposited in Parliament the hybrid Bill for the Crewe to Manchester route (known as the Phase 2b Western Leg) in January.

The Phase 2b Western Leg will free up capacity on the congested West Coast Main Line as long distance trains are moved on to dedicated HS2 track. This could provide up to three new train services per hour between Manchester Piccadilly and stations south of Manchester via Stockport, but this will

be subject to more detailed timetable planning nearer the time.

HS2 will also improve reliability and cut journey times. Birmingham will be about 40 minutes from Manchester, more than halving the journey time. London will be 1 hour 11 minutes from Manchester, saving 54 minutes. HS2 will also provide critical infrastructure which will enable Northern Powerhouse Rail.

The 52-mile route will create 17,500 jobs during construction with thousands more expected as plans for new stations at Manchester Airport and Manchester Piccadilly take shape.



## Supporting communities

Residents in Stone, Staffordshire will benefit from a new theatre and community space thanks to HS2.

Our Community and Environment Fund awarded £75,000 to The Crown Wharf Theatre, which is close to the Phase 2a route. A local charity applied for the funding to fit out the building, which was built as part of a local redevelopment. Our award will contribute towards the costs of installing a sprung floor, sound and lighting systems and fire protection.

The building will be home to a local theatre group. It will be used to provide educational and training opportunities for local people while a tap house and heritage centre are expected to attract more visitors.

Further information, including how to apply for our community funds is available at [hs2funds.org.uk](https://hs2funds.org.uk)



**Over £11 million has been awarded to 192 projects from the HS2 community and business funds to date.**

A map showing the projects supported by the funds is available at [hs2funds.org.uk/home/projects-funded-by-hs2-funds](https://hs2funds.org.uk/home/projects-funded-by-hs2-funds)





## Euston pioneers clean construction

HS2 is helping to develop a revolutionary new way of building foundations and setting new standards for cutting carbon emissions.

Hollow Impression Precast Energy Reusable piles, known as HIPER piles, combine several innovations. They use 70 per cent less concrete than traditional foundations, they use low carbon, cement-free concrete and they can act as a geothermal energy source, providing hot water and heating for the building above.

Engineering specialist Keltbray, which developed the method, says HIPER piles could cut emissions by 90 per cent. With support from the HS2 innovation fund, they are being trialled in Euston.

HIPER piles are one of many innovations that will help us to achieve the ambitious targets in **HS2's Net Zero Carbon Plan** – and form part of our legacy to the UK construction industry.



**HS2 will cut emissions from the concrete and steel we source by 50% by 2030.**

**HS2 contractors have cut carbon emissions by nearly 25% in construction with a target to achieve 50% savings.**



## Tunnel design to cut carbon emissions

HS2's 'green' tunnels – which help blend the railway into the landscape – use less concrete, significantly cutting carbon emissions. Instead of building in situ, the structures will be built in a factory before being shipped to site. This offsite approach is more efficient, safer and will reduce disruption to communities.

Derbyshire-based Stanton Precast factory has won the contract to build three green tunnels which will be located at Chipping Warden and Greatworth in Northamptonshire and Wendover, Buckinghamshire. As a result, the company will almost double its 180-strong workforce.

Stanton Precast managing director Colin Richardson said: "Having targeted the HS2 project over four years ago as an opportunity to not only grow our business but also provide a legacy for future manufacturing in the East Midlands, this contract delivers on both."

Green tunnels use a 'cut and cover' construction method. Once built, they will be covered with earth and landscaped.