

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



HS2 Update

Southam Area | Autumn 2022

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. The health and safety of our workforce and the communities we work within is our priority. You can sign up for regular updates in your local area at www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk.

Update on our continuing works

We are making good progress in the area from Wormleighton to Southam. Throughout autumn and into winter, you can expect to see the following works in the local area:

- Preparatory works, including piling, for the Banbury Road Overbridge;
- Preparatory works for the Kineton Road Overbridge;
- Ground Investigation (GI), topography and survey works on the Kineton Road and the A423;
- Utility diversion works in conjunction with utility companies such as Severn Trent Water, BT, British Gas and Western Power;
- Completion of internal site access and haul roads to move people, material and earthworks along the line of the railway and reduce the use of local roads;
- Increases in the excavation, movement and storage of earthworks as we enter our main construction phase for the Southam Cutting and Ladbroke Cutting;
- Preservation of topsoil in earth bunds near the edge of our construction areas, stored safely for re-use;
- Periods of traffic management on the A423 to prepare the highway for the Banbury Road Overbridge, as well as soft verge maintenance;
- Localised changes to Public Rights of Way;
- Watercourse diversion works in multiple locations to commence in late 2022;
- Localised vegetation and site clearance which may require traffic management; and
- Abnormal load deliveries, which may require some traffic management depending on the size and weight of the delivery vehicles.

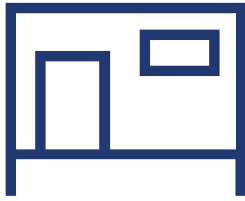


Join us ...

You can expect to see our mobile visitor centre visiting a town near you! This specialised vehicle enables 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.

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

Update on works



Southam Compound

Our compound facilities can now accommodate our increased workforce

with parking for 150 vehicles, office, welfare and storage areas. We have wheel wash and jet wash areas to minimise any mud entering the highway. Compound lighting has also been installed, set on lower height posts to reduce glare.

We have built a dedicated exit junction for traffic entering the A423 Southam Road. This will improve traffic flows and provide additional safety for highway users and our staff.

For the safety of residents and to secure our work areas, we have also installed green security fencing in the area between the A423 Banbury Road and Kineton Road.

Site access road construction

We are constructing internal access roads to allow our construction traffic to move up and down the HS2 route. These roads will significantly reduce the amount of construction traffic using the local roads and will minimise the amount of construction traffic entering Southam.

We have constructed highway crossing areas on Kineton Road and the A423 Banbury Road, which involved reinforcing the road to protect utilities underneath from the weight and movement of our construction vehicles. These crossings have manually operated traffic lights installed. When activating the lights, our staff will monitor the highway traffic flows to reduce any inconvenience to drivers.

As we enter the period of peak earthmoving activity, it is expected that these crossings will be in constant use and so some short delays may be experienced.



Figure 1: Heavy duty vehicles such as the articulated dump truck pictured above, will cross local roads at designated crossing points.



Figure 2: In the image above, you can see the progress of our internal road network in Southam, August 2022.

Earthworks

Throughout 2022 we have been constructing our site access road between Ladbroke and Southam. This internal road became operational in September 2022.

We have now started our main earthworks for the Ladbroke Cutting, reusing much of the earth for embankments and landscaping along the route.

The Ladbroke cutting, located near Windmill Hill to the east of Ladbroke, will be one of the deepest cuttings along the HS2 route. Due to weather conditions, you will notice a reduction in our earthworks activities throughout the winter.

In early 2023, there will also be earthworks activities taking place for the Southam Cutting located southwest of the Southam Industrial Estate.

Banbury Road, A423 Overbridge and Kinton Road Overbridge

We will soon begin the piling work to build the foundations of the Banbury Road Overbridge, as well as the Kinton Road Overbridge. These bridges, both located just south of Southam, will carry traffic over the HS2 railway line and are expected to be operational in 2025.

The bridges will be constructed in stages. First, we will carry out piling to create the underground foundations of the bridges. This work will take approximately 10 weeks to complete. The geological conditions allow us to use a process called bored piling, where deep holes are drilled into the ground and filled with reinforced concrete. This is much quieter than another commonly known process called driven piling, which require the piles to be hammered into the ground.

Once the piling works are complete, the piles will be capped. This is where a reinforced concrete slab is constructed on top of the piles to evenly spread the load they are to carry. Our teams will then begin constructing the concrete piers. These large concrete columns will support the bridges and will be approximately 7 metres tall. We plan to begin work on the piers for both bridges in late 2022.

The main construction works for the Kinton Road Overbridge will be complete in Autumn 2023 and for the A423 in the middle of 2024.

In addition to these main structures, we will be constructing two smaller permanent bridges for local farm access, Ladbroke Grove Farm Overbridge and Lower Radbourne Farm Overbridge. Piling for these bridges will begin this Autumn 2022 with construction expected to be complete in late 2023.

Piling works for the Oxford Canal temporary bridge for our internal site access road are also now complete and we will be installing the bridge deck in mid-November 2022.



Figure 3: When we begin piling for the Banbury Road and Kinton Road Overbridges, you may see large piling rigs such as the one pictured above.

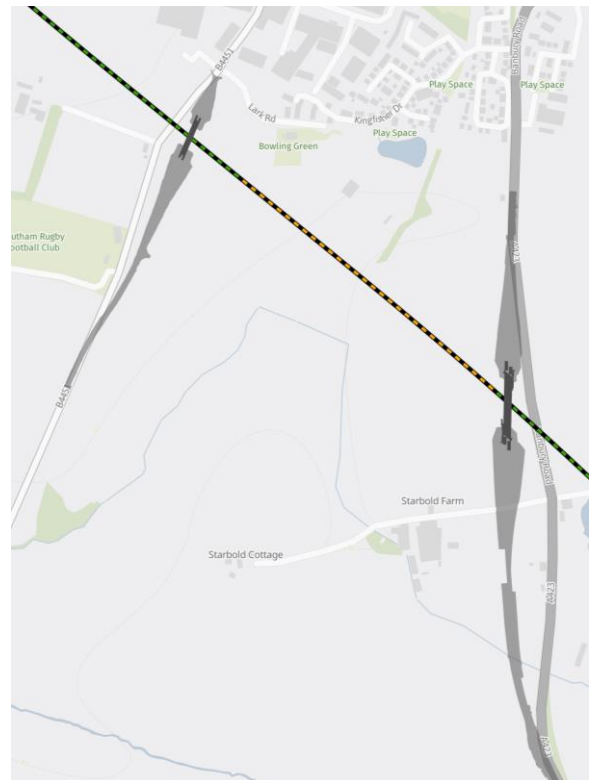


Figure 4: The location of the Banbury Road and Kinton Road Overbridges, which are due to be operational by 2024. The bridge designs include pavements for pedestrian use.



Highway construction

In 2024, when the structures are nearing completion, there will

be a tie-in period, whereby the existing highway will be connected to the new bridges.

Some traffic management, including temporary road layouts and short-term road closures, may be required. We will continue to work closely with the local authority to minimise these impacts wherever possible.

Both the Banbury Road and Kineton Road overbridges are being constructed on land next to the existing highways. This means that for the majority of the construction period, road traffic will be unaffected.

Utility surveys and diversions

A key part of the HS2 construction process involves identifying utilities that cross the HS2 route and relocating these with as little impact to users as possible. We work closely with utility providers, such as Severn Trent Water, BT, British Gas and Western Power to divert these services.

We are currently diverting a sewer main with Severn Trent Water and will also soon be diverting an electrical cable with National Grid near the River Itching, to the southwest of the A425 Leamington Road.

As our construction progresses, we will require further detailed inspection of local utilities, the installation of equipment, as well as ongoing utility maintenance. Short periods of traffic management on local highways in the form of lane closures with two-traffic lights may be required while these works take place.

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.



Public Rights of Way closures and diversions

We have closed a section of the Wills Pastures Byway for approximately two years while we continue our earthworks in the area and carry out preparatory works for the Lower Radbourne South Viaduct.

Over the two-year closure, this section of road will be redesigned into a bridleway and once reopened, will provide connectivity to the Public Rights of Way known as SM95 and SM116.

The new Wills Pastures bridleway will pass under the HS2 railway line at the Lower Radbourne South Viaduct.

Where footpaths and bridleways meet our construction areas, we signpost a diversion route via other nearby footpaths where possible. If there are no alternative paths, we look to create a crossing area for users to safely cross our construction area or in some locations build a diversion path within our construction area.

The safety of path users is paramount and so there are occasions where we need to shut sections of public Rights of Way (PRoW) where a safe crossing areas or diversion paths is not possible.



Abnormal loads

While we build the main structures of HS2 such as the A423 Overbridge and Oxford Canal Viaduct, we may periodically receive deliveries of abnormal loads to our sites.

An abnormal load is a load which, due to its weight or dimensions, cannot be carried on a conventional goods vehicle and requires a special vehicle and arrangements for its transport. These deliveries often include very large construction machinery such as cranes and piling rigs.

For the safety of road users and our staff, these abnormal loads may require temporary traffic management in the form of a lane closure to provide enough space for the vehicles to safely turn into our construction sites.

In November 2022, there will be some abnormal loads accessing our sites from the A423 delivering components for our temporary bridge over the Oxford Canal.



Figure 4: The image above is an example of an abnormal load being delivered to an HS2 site in 2021. You can expect to see similar deliveries to our sites near Southam taking place over the coming months.

Our Mobile Visitor Centre



Coming to your area soon...

To find out our upcoming locations, please visit our dedicated events page:

hs2.org.uk/events/mobile-information-centre-dates-and-venues/

Or scan me!



In March 2022 we launched our Mobile Visitor Centre, allowing us to bring engagement to your area.

We will visit your local area every few months to enable you to drop-in and ask questions or find out more about the project. We will have a range of experts on hand, from engagement managers to engineers.



Apprenticeships with HS2

Over the summer, we spent time at Southam College for their employability week. Over four days, we delivered talks on apprenticeships and conducted mock interviews with Year 10 students.

During the lifecycle of the project, HS2 and its supply chain will create at least 2,000 apprenticeship opportunities across a wide range of disciplines and specialisms.

Apprenticeship roles, provide individuals with the opportunity to learn from the very best in the industry, whilst gaining hands on experience and working towards recognised qualifications.

For further information about the HS2 Apprentice programme please visit, www.hs2.org.uk.

“As an apprentice I was given the freedom to explore different functional areas, even having the opportunity to deliver a project to the HS2 CEO and Executive Leadership Team”

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

Keep up-to-date with your local community website

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-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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Registered office: Two Snowhill, Snow Hill Queensway, Birmingham B4 6GA.

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