



Construction Update for Chiltern Tunnel North Portal, South Heath, Buckinghamshire

October 2022 | www.hs2.org.uk

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

We are working to stabilise the ground at our North Portal site by constructing a series of barrettes in the ground. This notification is to update you on the progress of these works, which first began in January 2022.

What is the update?

We wrote to you in January explaining that we needed to construct 96 barrettes below ground, to stabilise it, at the North Portal. This site is where the trains will enter and exit the 10-mile-long Chiltern Tunnel between South Heath in Buckinghamshire and West Hyde in Hertfordshire. This work is taking longer than we had initially anticipated and has now been extended,

Why are these works extended?

To support the ground stabilisation essential grouting treatment was carried out. This activity strengthened the ground by injecting a strong grout into the barrettes construction area and allowing it to set before work could begin on the barrette pillars. This has resulted in a longer construction time than was first predicted.

When will this work be completed?

We expect all 96 barrettes and 61 break out plugs will be complete by the end of November 2022. We thank residents for their patience while these works continue and will keep you updated of any changes.

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

Mid-January to the end of November 2022. Working hours are Mondays to Saturdays from 7am to 10pm. We don't expect to work past early afternoon on Saturdays.

What to expect

Site lighting may be visible during working hours. Noise from plant and machinery may be heard. Construction traffic will serve the site during the above hours.

What we will do

- Turn off main lights when not in use
- Do all we can within best practicable means to minimise disruption
- Keep the community updated.

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Notification



What are the site hours?

Site hours remain unchanged and will continue to be:

- 7am – 10pm Monday to Saturday
- We do have consent to work until 10pm on Saturdays but will normally finish by late afternoon in most circumstances
- We do not anticipate working on Sundays, though some repairs and maintenance are permitted and may occasionally be carried out over the weekend

We aim to meet our planned working dates, but these can change due to the impact of the weather, materials supply or other unforeseen circumstances. We will do all we can to keep you updated.

Will there be noise and how will it be managed?

Due to the nature of the works, construction noise can be expected from our activities. To lessen the impact, noise barriers have been erected at strategic locations around the site boundary to reduce the levels of noise leaving the site.

We have noise monitoring equipment at several locations. These monitors provide accurate readings that inform us immediately if the works generate high levels of noise unexpectedly. Should this happen, an investigation will be undertaken by our noise and site teams to see how the works can be further controlled.

Where possible, noisy activities will be scheduled for daylight hours to lessen disturbance, however there are some activities, such as concrete pours, which require extended hours to complete, and cannot be paused once started.

How will we manage site lighting?

Mobile lighting will be used in the works areas. Task and tower lights will be placed in strategic positions, directed away from residents or businesses as much as practically possible. The site will only be lit this way during working hours. Less intrusive security lighting may be visible after these times as the site is staffed 24/7.

What route will construction vehicles use?

The existing internal haul road that is accessed via the A413 / Link Road roundabout is our dedicated route and continues to accommodate all of our construction traffic, including heavy goods vehicles (HGVs).

Staff are encouraged to take public transport where possible and use the Align shuttle buses between local stations and the worksite. Align utilise a car sharing mobile application that assists staff and workers in minimising single occupancy journeys, where safe to do so.

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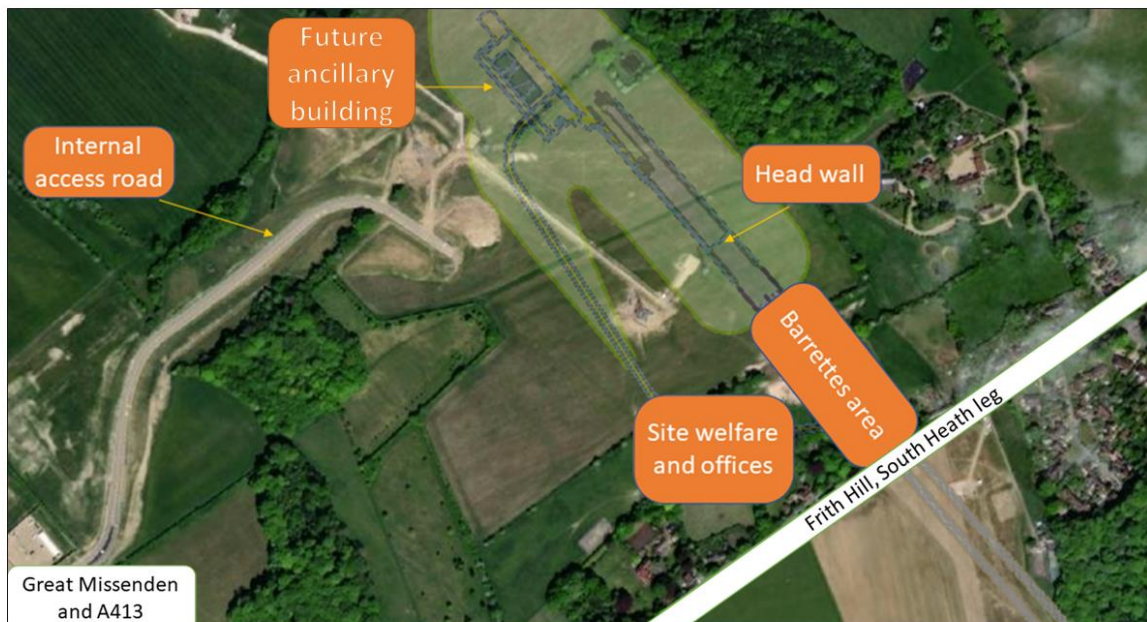


Future ancillary building

Following on from our key design community engagement event in March, we will be holding a further exhibition event for the local community where the updated design plans for the North Portal ancillary building will be displayed. The ancillary building is where the electrical and mechanical equipment for the North Portal's operational function will be housed. We will be in touch in the coming weeks to finalise dates and invitations.

Map of works area

North Portal site below:



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

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 you.

The Residents' Commissioner

The independent Residents' Commissioner oversees and monitors our commitments to you.

The commissioner's reports and our responses can be found at www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-ltd-residents-commissioner

The Residents' Commissioner makes sure we fulfil the commitments in the HS2 Community Engagement Strategy (<https://bit.ly/3oOA25j>).

The Residents' Commissioner can be contacted on: residentscommissioner@hs2.org.uk

Construction Commissioner

The independent Construction Commissioner regularly meets our Chief Executive Officer to raise any concerns or emerging trends across HS2.

The Construction Commissioner's role has been developed to monitor the way we manage and respond to construction complaints.

The commissioner mediates on disputes about construction, involving individuals and organisations, that we can't resolve. The commissioner advises members of the public about how to make a complaint about construction.

The Construction Commissioner can be contacted on: complaints@hs2-cc.org.uk

Property and compensation

You can find out about HS2 and properties along the route by visiting:

www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-property

Find out if you can claim 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 the HS2 Helpdesk. For more details on our complaints process, please visit:

www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/contact-us/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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