



# Notice of works Princes Risborough to Aylesbury Line

July 2023 | [www.hs2.org.uk](http://www.hs2.org.uk)

High Speed Two (HS2) is the new high speed railway for Britain. If you have any questions or enquiries about our work, please contact our Helpdesk to find out more. You can sign up for regular updates in your local area at [www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk](http://www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk).

## What are we doing?

Throughout 2023, we have been working to prepare for a period of construction where we have an interface with Network Rail. There is a programme planned for a 10- week closure of the Princes Risborough to Aylesbury line, known as a blockade, while we undertake our works.

During this time, we will be constructing, moving and commissioning the new line. The realignment, which is only around 20m from the original line, is integral to keeping the Network Rail line open as HS2 passes through.

We will also be installing additional noise hoarding either side of the railway line by the Hawkslade Estate. There may be some vegetation clearance required to enable this.

Network Rail will then be conducting some safety upgrades on Marsh Lane crossing to make the crossing compliant post realignment works, which will be in place until Spring 2024.

There will be a closure of the Princes Risborough to Aylesbury Line for 12 weeks, which includes 2 weeks of Network Rail culvert repair works.



## When will these works take place?

- July/August – Noise hoarding installation
- Monday 7 August to Friday 18 August – closure of the Princes Risborough to Aylesbury Line and the Wendover Line for Network Rail works
- Friday 18 August after 8pm Marsh Lane crossing closed for Network Rail works until Spring 2024
- Saturday 19 August and Monday 30 October 2023 – HS2 Blockade works begin.

These dates may change due to conditions outside of our control. Please refer to the HS2 website regularly to check for any changes and updates.

Wherever possible, we will minimise the impact on highway users by coordinating deliveries to avoid peak times.

**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](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)**

## Duration of works

Monday 7 August 2023 to  
Friday 18 August 2023 –  
Network Rail repairs

Saturday 19 August 2023  
to Monday 30 October  
2023 – HS2 blockade

Friday 18 August after 8pm  
to Spring 2024 – Marsh Lane  
crossing closure for  
Network Rail

Our contractors will be  
working 24hrs during the  
blockade.

## What to expect

Some overnight working  
and associated noise during  
our 10 week programme

A closure of the railway for  
12 weeks, which includes 2  
weeks of Network Rail  
works.

## What we will do

Minimise disruption as  
much as possible for the  
community by  
implementing noise  
mitigation.

Provide updates for  
communities and maintain  
regular contact points for  
the duration of the work.

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## Where will the works be taking place?

The map below indicates the main works area during the blockade. We are also working further up the line towards Aylesbury, on the outskirts of the Hawkslade housing estate as we will be removing and re-instating the line.

All bridges and culverts needed for line upgrade have already been completed. We are working carefully in line with Network Rail regulations to construct the new line upgrade around regular passenger and freight services.



## Will there be 24hr working?

It was agreed with Network Rail and Chiltern Railways that the works to connect the new alignment would take place within a 10-week programme to shorten the period of disruption for rail users and residents. During this time there will be periods that we will be working 24hrs a day, subject to consents, to allow the live railway to switch from the existing line onto the new track.

We aim to complete the majority of noisy 24 hour works during the summer holidays as we have taken into consideration Booker Park School which is situated next to the railway line. This specialist SEND school teaches an array of students with varying degrees of sensitivity to noise. Due to this we have agreed to reduce the amount of disruption to pupils by limiting noisy works during their school hours 8:30am to 3:30pm.

## What impacts will it have on residents?

We will be applying for consent from the council which agrees working hours, site noise levels and other measures prior to work starting. As we are planning to work 24hrs a day, there will be some operational noise during the overnight works. Please note, tower lighting will be installed so that works can occur safely during the night shift. We have conducted noise modelling around the planned activities and some properties based on their locations, may be impacted for short periods of time. We will be contacting these residents separately.

For information on ground borne noise and vibration and the defined thresholds please refer to the HS2 Information Paper E23 which outlines the measures that will be put in place to control noise and vibration during the construction of HS2. This can be found on the gov.uk website.

Road users for North Lee Lane during the Marsh Lane crossing upgrade will have to follow the suggested diversion route. We would suggest allowing for additional journey time during this period. There will also be a replacement rail service for those who use the Princes Risborough to Aylesbury line.

## Construction Programme Summary

Date	Summary
Prior to blockade	
June – July*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Construction of the temporary sheet piling</li><li>Structure supports and permanent concrete works for the railway underpass</li><li>Installing a pre-cast culvert</li><li>Vegetation clearance ahead of noise hoarding installation</li></ul>
7 – 18 Aug*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Network Rail completing Culvert repairs</li><li>Closure of Marsh Lane Crossing after 8pm on 18 August</li></ul>
Blockade	
19 - 26 Aug*	Removal of track (2 days) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Removal of ballast</li><li>Excavation to level for drainage</li><li>Installation of drainage</li><li>Construction of railway base/embankment</li></ul>
26 Aug - 2 Sept*	
2 Sept - 9 Sept*	
9 Sept - 16 Sept*	
16 Sept - 23 Sept*	Rail systems start to install: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Ballast</li><li>Track</li><li>Tamping</li><li>Removal of rail offsite</li></ul>
23 Sept - 30 Sept*	
30 Sept - 7 Oct*	Rail systems: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Install signalling and other equipment</li><li>Removing redundant equipment</li></ul>
7 Oct – 14 Oct*	
14 Oct - 21 Oct*	Remaining earthworks and drainage install in previously inaccessible areas
21 Oct - 29 Oct*	
Post Blockade	
November – Early 2024*	Network Rail to complete safety upgrades to Marsh Lane crossing

\*Dates can be subject to change due to ground conditions and other factors beyond our control.



## How will you minimise disruption?

We will be installing noise hoarding alongside the Princes Risborough to Aylesbury Line at the back of Hawkslade estate. This will help to reduce the operational noise to properties close to the railway line during the works. To conduct these works we may need to complete some de-vegetation to properly install the hoarding.

To the south of the estate, earth bunds are already in use which form a barrier of protection from our site noise. We will also be using acoustic blankets and other equipment measures to mitigate the noise towards the Aylesbury direction.

It was agreed with Network Rail and Chiltern Railways that the works to connect the new alignment would take place within a 10-week programme, to shorten the period of disruption for rail users and residents. Network Rail and Chiltern Railways booked these dates near the end of the summer holiday period to reduce the impact on travellers.

We will be working under full possession of the railway as we want to maximise the working time. By de-commissioning and removing the track it is unable to be reopened until all the work is completed.



The map above shows indicative locations for noise mitigations. Some locations may vary due to ground conditions.

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

## Notification

### What will the noise levels be like?

In preparation to these works and for gaining consent to work outside of our core hours, we have undertaken modelling to gain an understanding of what the predicted noise levels will be like for day and night works.

We have used several receptors or monitoring points located around the PRA line, which cover a wide area of potential disturbance from the Hawkslade Estate to Lower Road, Marsh Lane and Old Risborough Road to name a few.

From these locations we established baseline ambient noise levels that already exist and were able to model it against the expected noise from our works.

From this modelling and our programme, we anticipate the first three weeks of works to cause the most noticeable potential disturbances, but none of which exceed harmful levels of noise.

To put into context, the diagram to the right shows some known levels of noise thresholds from everyday items. We anticipate the noise from our works to range from 30db to 90db.

The noise is modelled on average time working, therefore will not be continuous but there may be peaks of activity which is noticeable.

We have conducted noise modelling around the planned activities and some properties based on their locations, may be impacted for short periods of time. We will be contacting these residents separately.

HS2 recognises that, in some instances, buildings and the people who live in them may not be properly protected by our policies and that we need to consider these 'special cases' individually.















**Please contact us via our helpline**

**08081 434 434 if you think this applies to you or your household.**

### What will the lighting levels be like?

We will have 24/7 working during the blockade and therefore we need appropriate lighting for the safety and welfare of our staff.

We will be using tower lights and keeping them targeted on the works were practicable. However, we ensure all lighting is correctly positioned and monitored in line with HS2's Code of Construction Practice.

Fireworks		140 db
Jet engine		130 db
Police siren		120 db
Music concert		110 db
Helicopter		100 db
Hair dryer		90 db
Truck		80 db
Car / City traffic		70 db
Conversation		60 db
Rainfall		50 db
Refridgerator		40 db
Whisper		30 db
Rustling leaves		20 db
Breathing		10 db
		0 db

## Will there be vibration?

There will be vibration associated with these works. We have undertaken modelling to gain an understanding of what the predicted vibration levels will be like for day and night works.

From this modelling and our programme, we anticipate the first three weeks of works to cause the most noticeable potential disturbances, but none of which exceed harmful levels of vibration. Please note: We will be contacting residents separately based on their property locations, who may be impacted for short periods of time.

For information on ground borne noise and vibration and the defined thresholds please refer to the HS2 Information Paper E23 which outlines the measures that will be put in place to control noise and vibration during the construction of HS2. This can be found on the gov.uk website.

## Community drop-in schedule

If you would like to find out more information about how these works may affect you, we have several events in the area and online over the coming months.

There will be members of the EKFB construction and engagement team on hand at the EKFB events to answer any questions you may have.

Date	Time	Location	Event Type
13 July	3:30 – 6pm	Aylesbury railway station Station Way West, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, HP20 1RU	Network Rail Event
18 July 2023	10am - 3pm	Stone Recreation Ground, Bishopstone Rd, Stone, Aylesbury HP17 8RE	EKFB Mobile Visitor Centre (MVC)
26 July	2pm – 6pm	Booker Park School, Stoke Leys Cl, Kynaston Ave, Aylesbury HP21 9ET	EKFB Meet the Team
15 Aug 2023	10am - 3pm	Hawkslade Community Centre Orwell Drive Aylesbury HP21 9YL	EKFB Mobile Visitor Centre (MVC)
22 Aug 2023	2pm – 7pm	Hawkslade Community Centre Orwell Drive Aylesbury HP21 9YL	EKFB Meet the Team
14 Sept 2023	2pm – 6pm	Hawkslade Community Centre Orwell Drive Aylesbury HP21 9YL	EKFB Mobile Visitor Centre (MVC)
10 Oct 2023	2pm- 6pm	Eskdale Community Centre, Eskdale Rd, Stoke Mandeville, Aylesbury HP22 5UJ	EKFB Mobile Visitor Centre (MVC)
July - October	3pm – 7pm	Bi-weekly 20-minute appointments available with our engagement team – Book your slot on the <b>HS2 Events page</b> .	Online bookings only

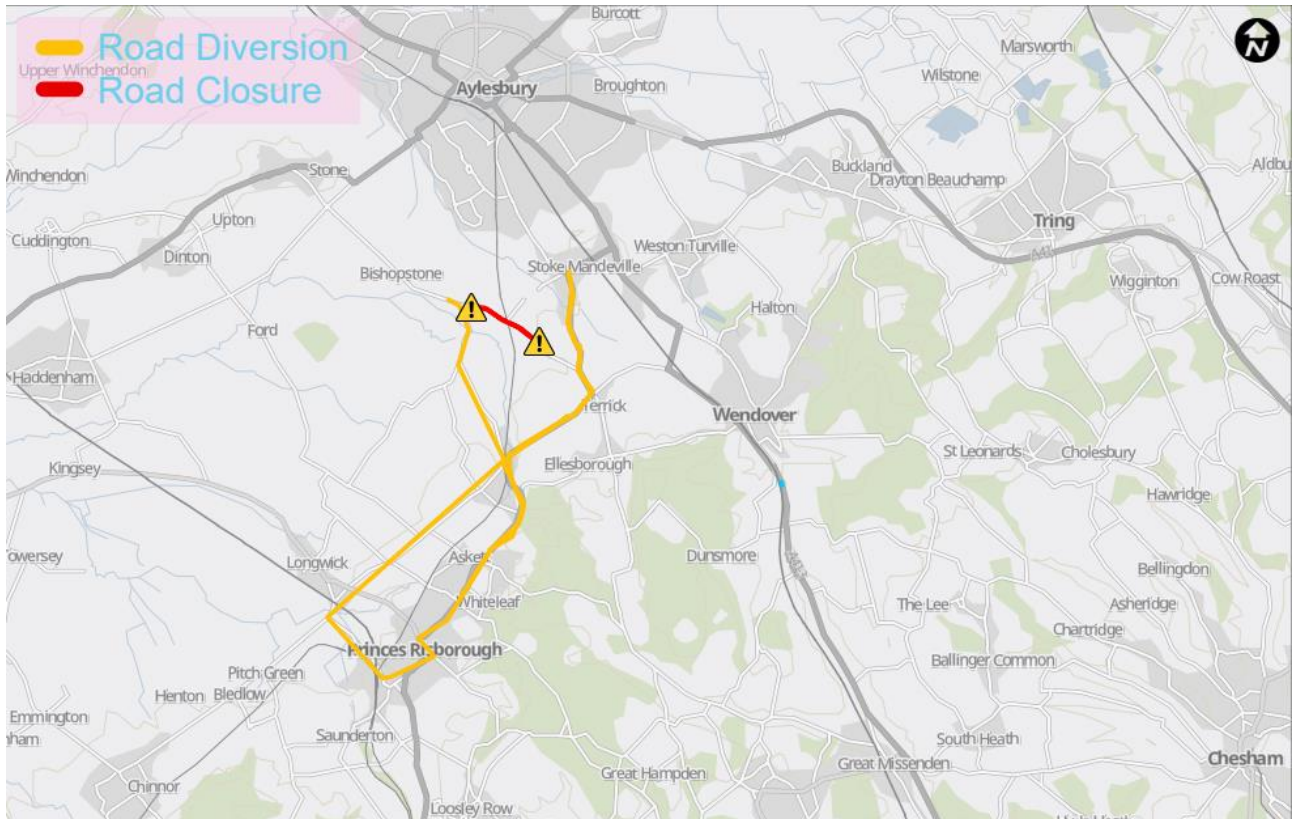
For more information on HS2 events please contact the HS2 Helpdesk or visit [www.hs2.org.uk/events](http://www.hs2.org.uk/events).

For more information about Network Rail events please visit: [www.chilternrailways.co.uk](http://www.chilternrailways.co.uk) and [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk) or for updates.



## What is the diversion for the Marsh Lane crossing?

Whilst the PRA line is closed, Network Rail are taking the opportunity to upgrade the crossing points. During this closure of the crossing, there will be a diversion of North Lee Lane which will travel from Marsh to Little Kimble, then to Princes Risborough and past Terrick and back onto to A4010 Risborough Road.



## How do I check for rail replacement services?

Passengers are advised to check before they travel at [www.chilternrailways.co.uk](http://www.chilternrailways.co.uk) and [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk) or for updates and details of alternative travel arrangements during the extended closure.

For more information, please visit Network Rail's dedicated website: [www.networkrail.co.uk/prs](http://www.networkrail.co.uk/prs)

## What will Network Rail be doing in this area?

Prior to the blockade Network Rail engineers will make repairs to a Victorian drainage culvert that passes underneath the railway in Aylesbury.

Faults were found in the structure earlier this year and have since led to repeated short-notice closures of the line causing disruption for passengers. For more information please visit Network Rail's dedicated website: [www.networkrail.co.uk/prs](http://www.networkrail.co.uk/prs)

Post-blockade, Network Rail will be conducting safety upgrades to Marsh Lane Crossing until Spring 2024.

# 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](http://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](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-ltd-residents-commissioner)

You can contact the Commissioner at:  
[residentscommissioner@hs2.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)**

Write to:

**FREEPOST**

**HS2 Community Engagement**

Website: [www.hs2.org.uk](http://www.hs2.org.uk)

To keep up to date with what is happening in your local area, visit:  
**[www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk](http://www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk)**

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<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/high-speed-two-ltd-privacy-notice-notice>

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