

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

HS2 Update

Aylesbury | Spring 2023

EKFB
Working in
partnership with **HS2**

High Speed Two (HS2) is the new high speed railway for Britain. Should you have any questions or enquiries regarding our works, please contact the Helpdesk details of which can be found in this newsletter. We will be keeping our local website www.hs2inbucksandbox.co.uk up to date with information on our works in the local area.

Inside our spring newsletter...

In this edition of the newsletter, we are looking at what is to come in the next few months:

- Upcoming works in Aylesbury
- Princess Risborough to Aylesbury milestone
- A spotlight on the A41
- Community Events
- Ecology Focus on our mitigation sites
- Progress in pictures
- Map of HS2 in Aylesbury



Come and talk to us...

Our upcoming mobile visitor centre visits will be held on:

- Thursday 11 May – Hawkslade Community Centre
- Tuesday 23 May – Aylesbury Market Square

We will be discussing upcoming works including:

- A418 realignment
- A41 realignment
- Princess Risborough to Aylesbury works
- Utility works
- Traffic management



What's happening in your area?

Over the next few months, you can expect:

- A41 east section tie in autumn 2023
- Continuing utility works across the area
- Bicester Road embankment works
- Temporary bridge installation at Stoke Mandeville on the, A4010
- Princes Risborough to Aylesbury (PRA) overbridge finishing works
- Risborough Road traffic lights for the site access road crossing point
- PRA concrete works, earth works and drainage
- Piling works for the Thame Valley Viaduct
- Trial abnormal loads for the Thame Valley Viaduct
- A418 compound 24/7 traffic lights
- A418 overbridge and re-alignment construction
- Abnormal load deliveries to all sites



Steel frames being constructed ahead of concrete pouring on the PRA works.

Traffic Management in your Area

Utility works, Charlottes Farm

Provisionally 8 May – 26 May
Charlottes Farm, Marsh Lane
Road Closure

Construction of A41 realignment east tie in

A41 and Blackgrove Road
Autumn 2023
Road Closure

Utility works, Blackgrove Road

Ongoing until Summer 2023
Temporary Traffic Lights

Public right of way closures

October 2021 until late 2024
west Aylesbury, southwest Aylesbury
Stoke Mandeville, Fleet Marston
and Waddesdon

These dates may be subject to change due to circumstances outside of our control. All dates are correct at time of print.



Ongoing in 2023

Stoke Mandeville temporary bridge



In summer 2023, we will be creating a temporary bridge which will allow our construction and site

traffic to travel over Risborough Road, helping reduce our impact on the local area while we construct the new relief road.

In June there will be a weekend closure to facilitate a crane delivery and lifting of the beams for the temporary bridge.

Earthworks for the relief road will begin in spring 2023 and will include the creation of embankments, landscape bunds and the movement of material.

Abnormal loads

We will be continuing to receive deliveries of abnormal loads to our sites. The abnormal loads will be delivered, where possible, in the evenings to limit disruption.

Temporary traffic management in the form of a lane closure will be required for the safety of road users and our staff, for these deliveries to provide enough space for the vehicles to safely turn into our construction sites. The traffic management will be removed once the abnormal loads have been delivered.

Princes Risborough to Aylesbury railway update

Throughout spring and summer, the Princes Risborough to Aylesbury (PRA) team will continue works to prepare for a ten week closure known as a blockade.

The blockade is a closure of the existing railway line to allow for major works to be carried out. This is planned to be between Saturday 19 August and Monday 30 October 2023. During this time the line will be closed to enable our construction works to take place. We will be working 24hrs a day during this period to allow the live railway to switch from the existing line onto the new track.

After the blockade there will be some further railway possessions work from Network Rail.

Before this work begins, we will start with the construction of the temporary sheet piling, structure supports and permanent concrete works for the railway underpass, this will continue into June.

We will be installing a pre-cast culvert and concrete headwall which will allow Stoke Brook to be diverted back into the new culvert in late spring/early summer 2023.

A418 traffic management

In the upcoming months we will be introducing 24/7 traffic management to facilitate a right turn out of the A418 Oxford Road compound, to ensure the safety of our team when exiting.

We will be using intelligent lights at the T Junction, also known as adaptive lights, which is where the timing of the lights adapts to the traffic demand. This will be monitored for any continuous improvements.





Princes Risborough to Aylesbury line

A milestone moment

The construction team have completed the deck pour for the Princes Risborough to Aylesbury (PRA) realignment overbridge.

The overbridge is the biggest structure on the PRA realignment. The deck is the top surface of the bridge, which will carry trains between Princes Risborough and Aylesbury over HS2.

The overbridge deck, which is 100m long, sits on a piled foundation, with four large piles forming the piers of the bridge. At 2.4m diameter and 58m deep these piles are the biggest in the main works section of the project.

Two concrete pumps delivered 270 cubic metres of concrete to fill the steel deck within nine hours. The completion was a significant moment, as the construction team only had one opportunity to get it right.

"A pour where 'right first time' is even more important than ever, as anything that went wrong would be incredibly difficult to rectify. The team worked well together to ensure this significant concrete pour went to plan, and we are really pleased to have such a key part of the project complete." – **Gemma Teale, Agent for the PRA works**

Further concrete and finishing works will be ongoing through spring and into June.



The PRA site team standing on the concrete deck of the PRA Overbridge

A41 re-alignment

In the coming months, we will be progressing with the new road re-alignment of the A41 around Blackgrove Road.

The works will be done in two phases.

Phase one - The realignment of the A41 east section which will be completed in the autumn of 2023.

Works will involve a closure of Blackgrove Road in October 2023 to facilitate utility diversions and connecting the new section to the existing road.

The diversions are to ensure that the current utilities are not impacted by the construction of the new A41 and the railway line.

Phase two will be the realignment of the A41 west section, near Fleet Marston which is due to completed in summer 2024.

Back in autumn 2021, we introduced our temporary roundabout onto the A41 by our site entrance.

Once the re-alignment of the A41 is complete, the temporary roundabout will be removed. The re-alignment will see two new permanent roundabouts created, one on the A41 towards Waddesdon and the other connecting the A41 to Blackgrove Road.

The new section for the road will be fully constructed before the existing A41 is diverted onto it to minimise impact and disruption.



A41 Overbridge (top) and new road progress

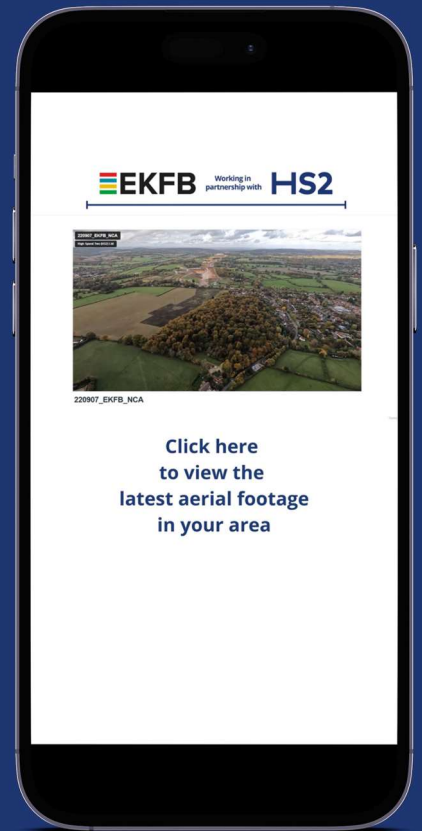
Take a look at our aerial footage...

One of the best ways to see the progress we are making on site is from our new aerial footage. If you scan the QR code on your phone below, it will allow you to view our latest drone footage of HS2 works in your area.

The footage gives an annotated overview of where different structures will be found once HS2 is complete along with an update of how the landscaping is currently looking.



Click here, scan me or follow the link!
www.bit.ly/Aylesburyfootage



Community events

Meet the team

We will be hosting several drop-in events throughout Aylesbury this year. These sessions are an opportunity for you to find out more about the project and what it means for your area.

Our next session will be at:

Waddesdon Community Centre

Thursday 8 June 2023 - 2pm – 6pm

1 Frederick St, Waddesdon, Aylesbury HP18 0LX

We'll have members of our team on hand to provide works updates, talk through questions you may have about the works in your area and even discuss local volunteer programmes and community funding available through HS2.

Meet the team



Drop in session





Mitigation sites

Since 2018, HS2 contractors have been creating environmental mitigation sites across the HS2 trace with four located within the Aylesbury area.

A mitigation site is an area of land outside of the main works that has been designated for landscaping that focuses on ecology.

Mitigation involves creating new habitats for wildlife to populate, enhancing existing ones and introducing a wide variety of improvements.

The sites include various features for wildlife including tree and grassland planting, permanent wildlife ponds, bat boxes and features for herptiles including basking banks, hibernacula (areas suitable for animals to hibernate or brumate), and egg-laying heaps.

Each area has an ecology site management plan. As part of following this plan, at this time of year we will be conducting hedgerow pruning, tree and hedgerow planting and ongoing ecology monitoring within the mitigation sites.

The area is approximately 16.3 hectares, which is equivalent to over 20 football fields!

There will be further mitigation sites created within the Aylesbury area over the next few years.

As the project progresses, we will also start to complete the landscape planting along the HS2 route.

The planting will eventually combine to form the 'Green Corridor' along the HS2 route.



Scan or click on the QR code to visit the HS2 website for more information about the Green Corridor.

Did you know...

Herptiles is a scientific word for reptiles or amphibians.

Also, reptiles don't hibernate, they enter a state of inactivity called brumation.

Reptiles take refuge in hibernacula, which are purpose-built spaces to provide shelter from predators and harsh winter conditions.



Wildlife pond at the A41 mitigation site



Progress in pictures

Thames Water sleeve installation



At our Risborough Road site, utilities works have commenced which include a 'sleeve' which diverts the existing Thames Water utilities into a new position to allow for passage of the HS2 line. The team began sleeve installation in March and will complete the 202m installation by summer.



Pipe placing for the Thames Water sleeve at Risborough Road

Precast beam deliveries



In January the first precast beams of our 80km route (C23) were delivered to our A41 site for the overbridge.

The beams were successfully installed at the A41 in February, and we expect to be receiving further beams as we progress construction.



A41 overbridge beams

Auger bore shaft

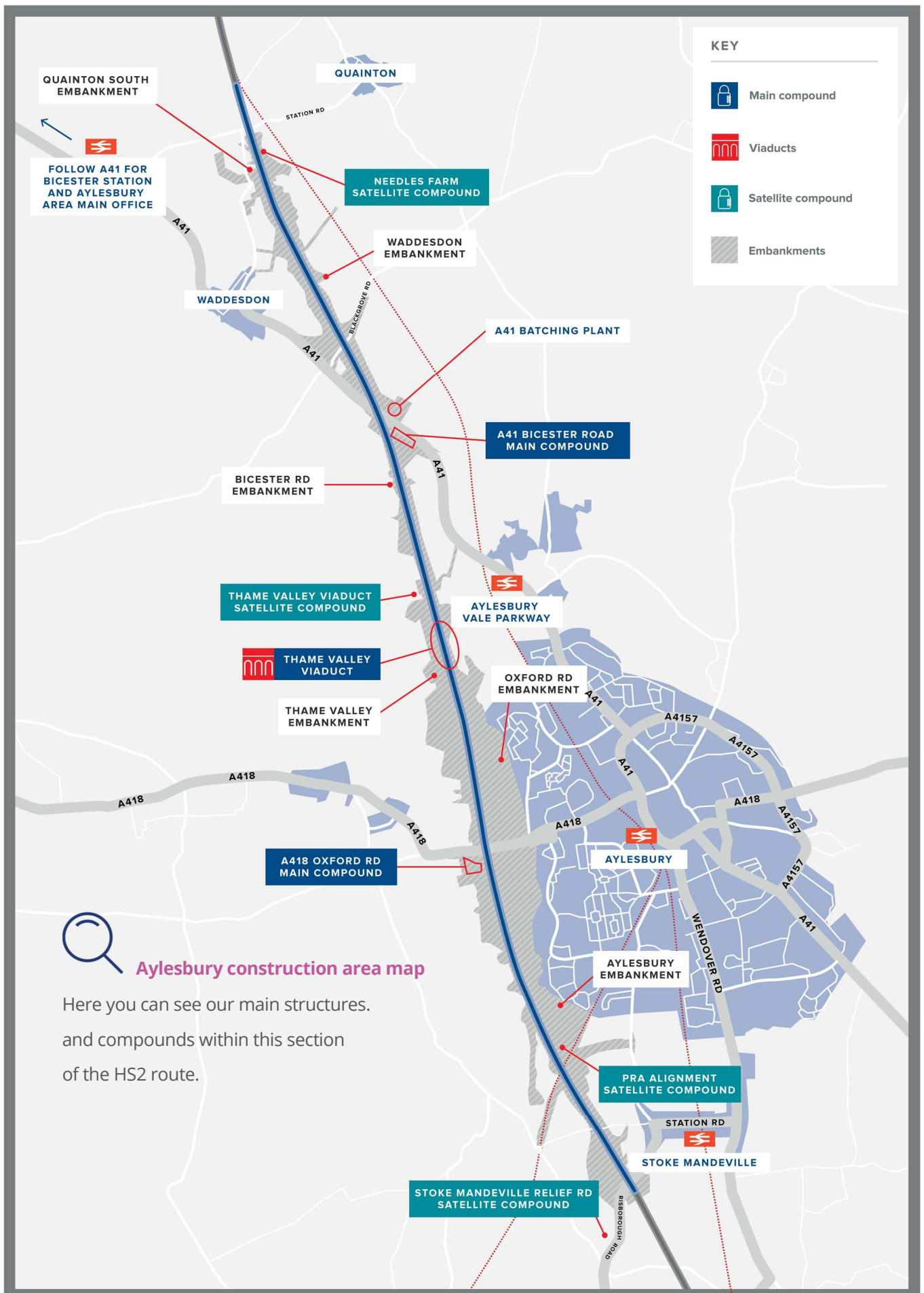


We will be using an auger bore to push the utilities under the existing PRA line, which is a 'protective sleeve' that encloses the utilities to protect them from further works.

The installation of the first boring shaft to the east of the PRA has been completed and the team have begun works on the second shaft.



Auger bore shaft at the PRA



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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