

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



HS2 update

North Calvert | Winter 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

Our activity in the North Calvert area is well under way. Looking ahead over the next 3 to 6 months, you can expect to see the following works in your local area:

- Construction of the temporary diversion of Gawcott Road is due to commence in early 2023;
- Continued closure of Gawcott Road to demolish the existing bridge in early 2023;
- Delivery of abnormal loads for the Perry Hill Overbridge are planned to take place throughout winter, these deliveries will include steel beams for the bridge deck;
- Ongoing construction for the Perry Hill Overbridge abutments and wing walls;
- Throughout the winter we will be installing a pumping station to support the construction of the Perry Hill realignment works;
- We have installed 50% of the Portway culvert precast segments and plan to complete these works in spring 2023, we will also be completing in-situ elements on our Infrastructure Maintenance Depot (IMD) east and west culverts;
- Excavation and piling works to facilitate the construction of the West Street Overbridge are expected to begin in the new year;
- Localised demolition as part of our early works for the construction of bridges in the area in early 2023;
- Ground investigation, utility trial holes and topographical surveys for works in the area;
- Continued excavation, movement and storage of earthworks;
- Compound progression; and
- Wheel washers have been installed on site to help reduce mud on the local road networks this winter.



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.

www.hs2.org.uk/events

Works update

East-West Rail Bridge update

In early December, HS2 lifted the East-West Rail Bridge into position enabling the rebuilding of a railway line linking Oxford and Cambridge.

The East West Rail line – which was closed in the 1960s – will cross the bridge over HS2's new high speed rail line just north of Aylesbury. Earthworks and bridges on this short section, where the two major infrastructure projects cross, are being built by HS2 in order to reduce the overall amount of disruption to local residents.

Weighing in at over 315 tonnes, the bridge was assembled on site and lifted into position over a two-hour period with a 600-tonne crawler crane.

Made of weathering steel, the 34.920m long bridge is designed to naturally age over time to a dark brown colour to help match the tone of the surrounding countryside.

Throughout 2023, we will be working to complete the outstanding concrete elements such as the bridge deck and wingwalls.

Charndon Lodge Bridge

Throughout the autumn, we have been constructing the reinforced concrete wingwalls of the Charndon Lodge Bridge. The East West Railway line will run east to west over the Charndon Lodge Underpass while the Perry Hill Road realignment runs below.

In early 2023, we plan to install precast box beams and parapets for the Charndon Lodge underpass, the first of their kind to be used in the Calvert area. Once these are installed, we will pour the concrete deck and then backfill behind the concrete abutments.



Figure 3: The image above shows preparations taking place for the concrete element of the composite deck for the East West Rail Overbridge, November 2022.



Figure 3: The image above shows the assembled steel deck in preparation of the superlift, carried out in early December 2022.



Figure 3 : The image above shows the abutments and wing walls for the East West Rail Overbridge.

North Calvert HS2 events

In September 2022, we carried a live webinar and an in-person drop in event, where the community was able to see and hear about our plans for the design and construction of the Sheephouse Wood Bat Protection Structure.

In the new year, we are planning to hold further events regarding our works in the local area. These events will include visits with our Mobile Visitors Centre (MVC), village hall drop-in events as well as a 'You Said, We Did' event which will be a follow up on our events from September for the Sheephouse Wood Bat Protection Structure. We will update local communities once these dates have been confirmed.

Please contact the HS2 Helpdesk or visit hs2.org.uk/events more information on how you can attend our events.

Abnormal loads

While we build the main structures of HS2 such as the Bat Protection Structure and bridges, 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 but may also include items such as steel beams for our bridges.

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

Addison Road update

This autumn, we carried out utility surveys along Addison Road in the form of trial holes. Trial holes allow us to accurately identify the existing utilities that are located under and or along the road.

In December, we will also be carrying out topographical surveys along Addison Road. A topographical survey is an exercise undertaken by land surveyors using highly specialised survey equipment. These surveys provide detailed maps of land, identifying both natural and man-made features within a specified area. These surveys will be carried out under traffic management in the form of a lane closure with two-way traffic lights.

These surveys are necessary as we prepare for the permanent realignment of Addison Road as well as for the Addison Road Overbridge.

This December we began the assembly of the bridge deck. In early 2023, we plan to install the completed deck onto the abutment wall to enable progression of the new road realignment. This bridge will carry traffic over the HS2 railway line and is expected to be completed in 2023.

Careers with HS2

The construction of HS2 will show the world the very best of British skills, innovation and ambition.

The first phase of the project will employ construction workers, specialist engineers, architects, designers and project managers drawn from across the UK and beyond, using cutting-edge technology and world-leading construction techniques.

For further information about careers with HS2 please visit our website, www.hs2.org.uk.



Footbridges

In July 2022, HS2 revealed the first images of the bridges that will carry rural footpaths and bridleways across the

new high-speed railway as it passes through Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and West Northamptonshire.

In the Calvert area, construction on the footbridge known as SCL8 is expected to begin in December 2022. This bridge will allow the public to travel over the East-West Rail line.

Piling works are expected to begin in December. These will be the first continuous flight auger (CFA) piles to be constructed in the Calvert Area. CFA piles are drilled and concreted in one continuous operation and are considered more efficient than rotary piling methods. Once the 42 piles are completed, we will cap the piles in early 2023 and 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.

Made of weathering steel – which ages naturally to a russet brown colour – the sides of the lightweight bridges will lean outwards to maximise views of the sky and improve the experience of people crossing the railway.

To emphasise the sense of lightness, each span will be slightly higher in the middle so that they appear to leap over the railway. Most of the bridges will consist of just one 42m span, with extra spans added where necessary to create bridges of up to 102m long.

In order to improve efficiency of manufacturing and assembly, all the bridges will have the same basic form, with the approach paths built into the earthworks on either side of the bridge. This also means that all the footbridges will effectively be step-free.

Designed with guidance from the British Horse Society, the bridges which carry bridleways will follow the same basic pattern, with a recycled, non-slip rubber deck and the structure will help mitigate any noise to stop horses being distracted by passing trains.

Footbridges will be 2.5m wide, while bridleways will be 3.5m wide to allow two horses to pass comfortably and safely.

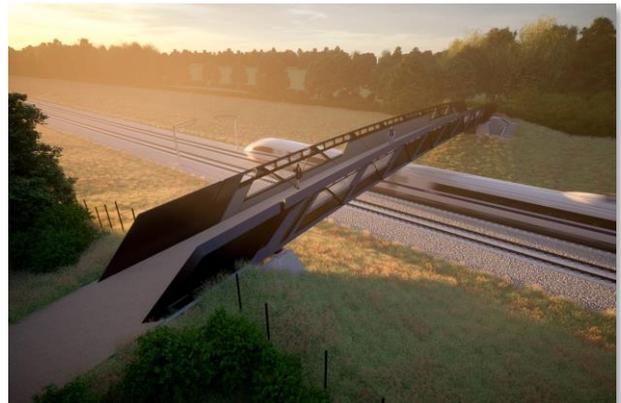


Figure 5: Over the summer, HS2 revealed CGI's of rural footbridge design.

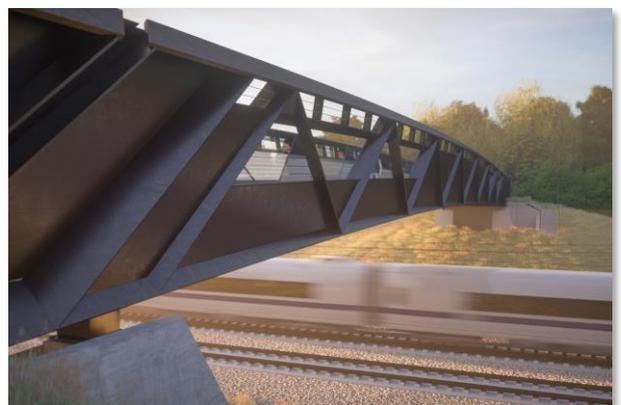


Figure 6: The CGI above shows, the HS2 rural footbridge design from the side with passing train below.



British Black Bee Conservation Project

HS2 has partnered with the Great British Bee Project (GBBP) to protect and expand populations of the endangered British Black Bee - Britain's only native bee species.

The project selects suitable sites across the UK, where hives are installed, maintained and monitored through a national network of beekeepers. Data is recorded on an App which is then shared with Defra for analysis.

The 're-introduction' of this threatened species on a project the scale of HS2 has never been done before, providing a real opportunity to enable the expansion of this threatened species across the UK.

We are excited to announce that the first 2 of 14 beehives have been installed on a wildlife site created by HS2 this autumn.



Figure 6: The image above shows school children attending the installation of the first beehives on the HS2 project.



Click on, or scan this QR code by opening the camera app of your smart phone and pointing your phone at the QR code to watch a video celebrating the first beehives installed on an HS2 site.

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 work sites 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.

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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