

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

HS2 Update

Curdworth to Middleton construction update | September 2023

High Speed Two (HS2) is the new high speed railway for Britain. Balfour Beatty VINCI (BBV) is working in partnership with HS2 Ltd to build the new high-speed railway in your area.

HS2 Phase One update

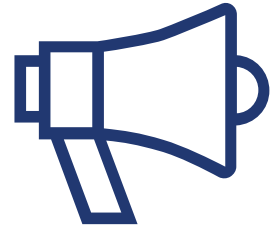
In March 2023, the Government updated Parliament on their transport capital investment programme. The Transport Secretary's statement included an update on the HS2 project, recognising significant inflationary pressures across the economy. The Government has reaffirmed its commitment to delivering HS2 from London Euston to Manchester, including the completion of construction works on Phase One, north of Birmingham. We have been working closely with the Government and our supply chain on the details of any changes to the HS2 Phase One route.

The construction programme for 2023/24 on the 30km section of the Phase One route between Curdworth in North Warwickshire and Handsacre in Staffordshire has been reviewed by HS2 and BBV. This newsletter provides you with an update on the rephasing of Phase One. It includes information explaining which key construction work will continue. We will also provide you with an update on our works, engagement and some of the community projects that we are supporting.

HS2 Phase 2b East update

HS2 will continue working on commitments made in the Integrated Rail Plan to develop HS2 East. The Government's Integrated Rail Plan (IRP) published in November 2021, set out the proposals for the future of HS2 Phase 2B, alongside other major rail projects in the North and Midlands. In respect of HS2 Phase 2b Eastern leg the IRP outlined that a stretch of new high-speed line will be built from the connection with HS2 Phase One at Kingsbury to the East Midlands, based largely on the previously safeguarded route, connecting to the existing railway line near East Midlands Parkway station.

Under the direction of the Department for Transport (DfT), HS2 Ltd is currently working to refine the design of the proposed high-speed line, looking at opportunities for cost and carbon savings, whilst building in lessons learnt from previous HS2 Phases. We are also working closely with Network Rail to develop options that enable HS2 trains to reach Nottingham and Sheffield via Derby and Chesterfield on the Midland Main Line.



Upcoming events

Come and talk to us about the rephasing of HS2, at a local drop-in event.

Find out more

[here](#) or scan the QR code.



Keep up to date with our employment

opportunities [here](#)

or scan the QR code.



Read about our upcoming works [here](#) or scan the QR code.

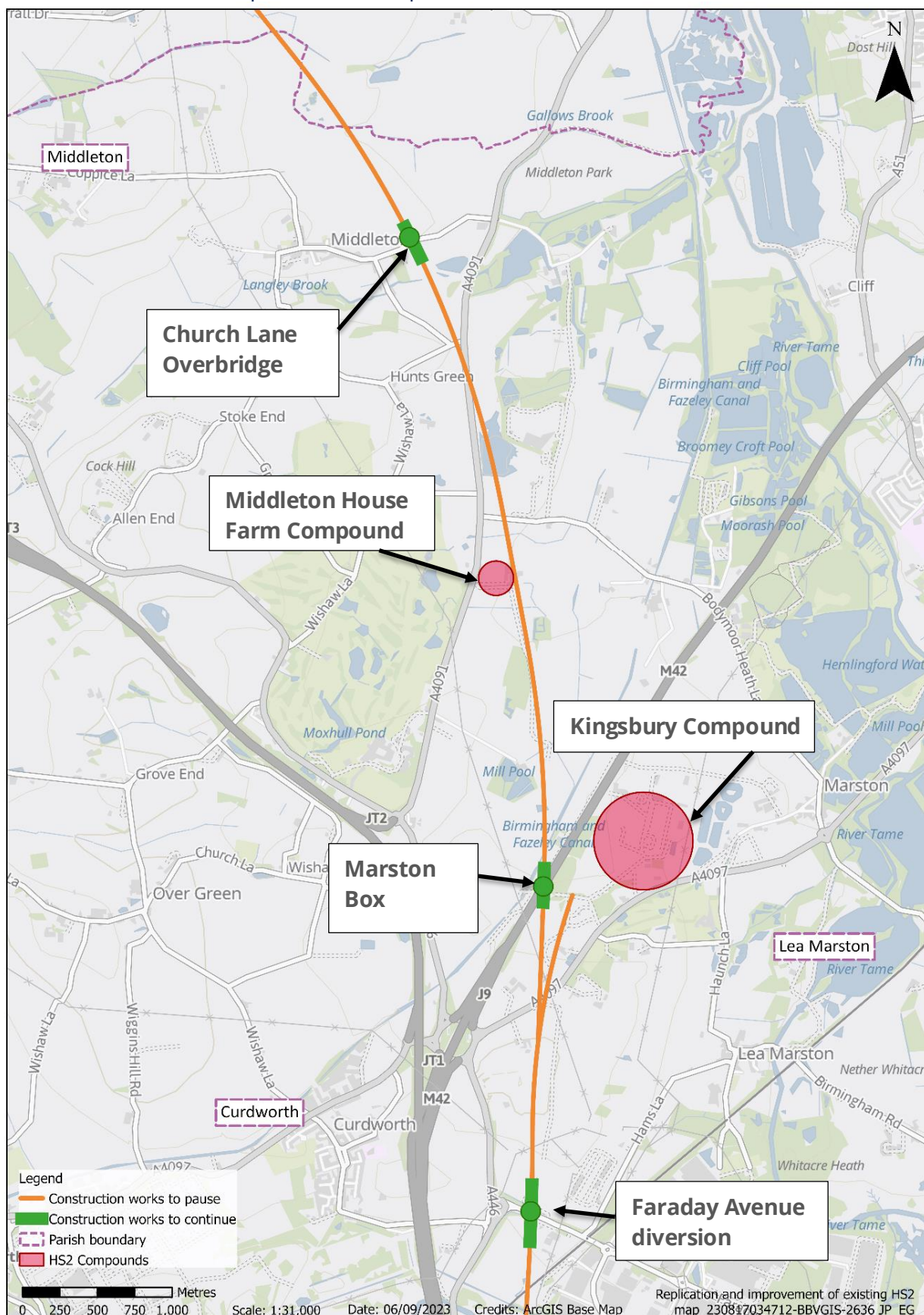


Area: Curdworth to Middleton

The **green** line on the map below illustrates the construction works that will continue.

The **orange** line on the map shows the construction works that will be paused.

The **red** circles on the map show the compounds in the area.



Utility diversions

It is important that, before any major construction begins, we locate, protect or divert existing utility supplies in the area. We will deliver programme of utilities that will include utility surveys which we will use to check for any below-ground wiring or pipes and to locate water, power, fibre optics, drainage, sewage, gas and telecommunications. Once we have located the utilities, we will protect these or introduce diversions to enable construction in each area.



Utilities diversion are a key part of the construction process.

Compounds

We will continue to use Kingsbury Main Compound and Middleton House Farm as a base for our teams. We will assess and utilise satellite compounds located near to the construction works that will continue. All the other compounds in the local area will either be temporarily closed and secured or relocated.



We will continue using Kingsbury compound as a base for our teams.

Security

All of our sites, that will be temporarily closed, will be secured and monitored for the safety of the public and to prevent any illegal trespass activity.

Barriers to entry and security fencing will be installed at each site. Clear signage will communicate that the sites are not publicly accessible. You will also continue to see our mobile security teams monitoring sites in the local area.



We will ensure our sites are secured and well maintained.

Grounds Maintenance

We will deliver regular grounds maintenance requirements in North Warwickshire in-line with seasonal cycles. Special consideration will be given to aspects that affect safety and security, such as the condition around paved areas and paths, trees and fences.

Please note that grounds maintenance involves the use of hand tools and machinery which require good health and safety practice. We will ensure the safety of the public around areas where grass cutting machines, strimmer's and chippers are being used. For safety reasons, we may at times need to undertake tree felling or branch removal works using signs, barriers or traffic management.



Environment

In North Warwickshire, we will be undertaking non-intrusive environmental surveys where we observe, measure and take notes and photographs of the local environment and ecology in woodlands, waterways, buildings, agricultural land and archaeological or heritage sites. We will assess and monitor water levels in our balancing ponds and may occasionally use pumps to manage seasonal increases. We will additionally be hydroseeding areas of our sites where we have paused earthworks to control soil erosion. Hydroseeding is a planting process that uses a combination of seed and mulch. It is an alternative to traditional methods like sowing dry seeds.



Undertaking non-intrusive environmental surveys

Traffic management

We will require traffic management relating to the programme of works that will continue. This will range from temporary traffic lights, lane closures and closures to safely complete our works. We will communicate any traffic management in advance of works commencing.



Completing works safely with traffic management

Demolitions

Our demolition works are progressing and we have safely dismantled most buildings within the HS2 land boundary.

Public Rights of Way (PRoWs)

We will be continuing our Public Rights of Way temporary closures to ensure the safety of both our team and the public. We will also continue to comply with any undertakings and assurances until the PRoWs can be reopened.

Successfully installing Marston Box bridge over the M42

Marston Box bridge was the UK's first 'box-slide' bridge over a motorway and will carry the HS2 line across the M42 motorway near junction 9, north of Lea Marston and Curdworth in Warwickshire. We used innovative technology to dramatically reduce traffic disruption to build the 12,000-tonne bridge 'box' structure on land next to the motorway and then slide it 165m into position across the motorway, using a 'box jacking' technique. Click [here](#) or scan the QR code below to read more.

As we work to complete this structure, we recently closed the M42 motorway for a weekend in early July to attach the safety barriers. Further works required to complete this structure include attaching the abutments at either end.



Marston Box Bridge 'box-slide'.

Hosting over 20 events as part of Build UK's 'Open Doors 2023'

HS2 partnered with Build UK, the leading representative organisation for the UK construction industry, to support 'Open Doors 2023'. Open Doors takes young people, and those looking for a change of career, behind the site hoardings to experience construction.

We were delighted to welcome 36 students from Kingsbury School and Walsall College to our Kingsbury Compound where we shared an overview of the HS2 project and specifically what BBV does at the compound. The students were taken hazard spotting and shown the pre-cast concrete yard and concrete batching plant and explained how they are used. The students enjoyed this experience and we will continue to host more events to showcase construction as a career pathway.



Community Environment Fund

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).

For more information about each of these funds, including how to apply, please click [here](#) or scan the QR code.



Community investment

BBV's Community Investment programme enables us to support those communities most impacted by our works. BBV and our supply chain partners can give back by volunteering our time, providing resources, and sharing our knowledge and skills. Please contact us at **communityinvestment@balfourbeattyvinci.com** to request support.

Refurbishing Lea Marston football pitch

We engaged with Lea Marston Parish Council to consider how to refurbish under-utilised land that was previously designated for recreational activities. The Parish Council asked us to remove the old playground equipment and landscape the area to prepare for a new football pitch. The new football pitch will be a fantastic facility for young people who currently need to travel outside the village to play football. It may additionally attract others who are not playing football outside the school environment.

We visited the site to find out how they could also support the project. One of BBV's subcontractors, L. Lynch Plant Hire, additionally offered to help. The team met with Councillor David Reilly, HS2 Lead at North Warwickshire Borough Council, to agree on next steps and then delivered the landscaping work in March 2023. The Parish Council are now reviewing a potential bid to the HS2 funds for this project.



BBV and subcontractor, L. Lynch Plant Hire, completed landscaping work to prepare for the new football pitch.

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/

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High Speed Two (HS2) Limited, registered in England and Wales.

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Contact us

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 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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