

24/7 Freephone Community Helpline **08081 434 434**

HS2 in Hillingdon

June 2023

Welcome to the first edition of the HS2 in Hillingdon Newsletter. HS2 is Britain's new high speed rail line being built from London to the North-West of England.

This newsletter provides updates on tunnelling, works at West Ruislip Portal, lorry routes, sustainable placement areas and funding opportunities in your area.

SCS Railways are building 26.8km of tunnels in London from Euston to West Ruislip.

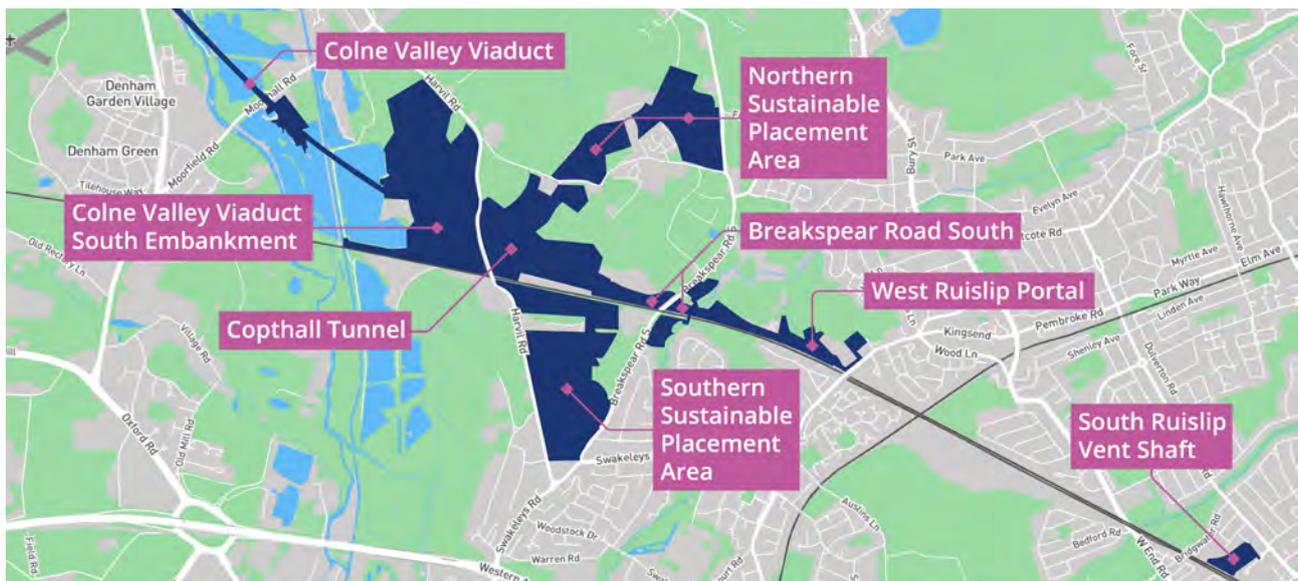
In Hillingdon, the HS2 route will surface from new tunnels connecting Old Oak Common to West Ruislip.

The route will pass under Harvil Road and cross a new bridge over the Cophall Tunnel, close to the existing Chiltern railway line bridge, towards the Colne Valley Viaduct.

Visitor Information Hub

Do you have questions or comments about the project? Drop into our Visitor Information Hub for a chat with our Community Engagement team on Mondays and Wednesdays from 14:00 – 16:00.

You can find us to the right of the entrance to the West Ruislip Portal HS2 site. From the West Ruislip tube station entrance/exit, cross the road and turn right until you reach the 'West Portal' sign.



HS2 work sites in Hillingdon



Tunnelling in Hillingdon

In autumn 2022 we launched two tunnel boring machines (TBMs) from the West Ruislip Portal.

TBMs are giant machines used to build tunnels. To find out more about them, please use the QR codes on this page.

The first TBM, Sushila, was launched in September 2022 to construct the tunnel for trains travelling from London to the West Midlands, known as the Birmingham Tunnel (or 'downline'). The second TBM, Caroline, was launched in October 2022 to construct the tunnel for trains travelling from the West Midlands to London, known as the London Tunnel (or 'upline').

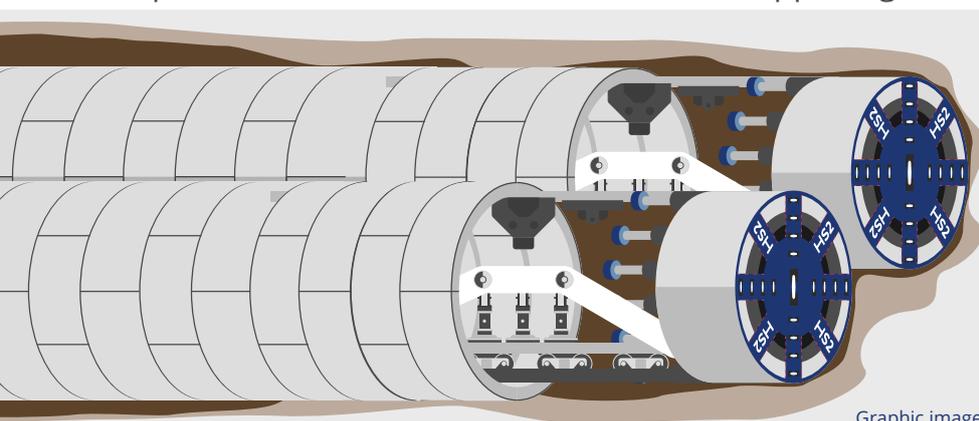
TBMs are the best method for safely excavating tunnels that run through a variety of soil and rock in built up areas. Each machine operates as a self-contained underground factory, which, as well as digging the tunnel, will also line it with concrete wall segments and grout them into place as it moves forward at speeds of up to 15m a day.

The TBMs need to be fed a constant supply of pre-cast concrete segments to build the tunnel. Seven concrete segments comprise a tunnel ring.

Tunnelling at Ruislip Rugby Club

You may be aware of some recent tunnelling incidents, where some foam and air escaped through the ground, at the Ruislip Rugby Club ground.

We have taken steps to address these, including some refinements to our tunnelling technique and installing additional monitoring equipment. We are regularly engaging with residents in the area to update and provide information on what has been happening.



Graphic image of TBMs

Did you know?

TBM Sushila was named after local schoolteacher Sushila Hirani, Head of Department and Lead for STEM at Greenford High School, due to her inspiring work and passion for getting more women and young people from BAME backgrounds into Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematical subjects.

The second TBM has been named Caroline after the German-born British astronomer Caroline Herschel. Considered the first professional female astronomer, Herschel went on to be first woman to ever discover a comet in 1786.

West Ruislip video



qrco.de/bdv6NI

To find out more about TBMs visit:



tinyurl.com/meetourtbms

Works at the West Ruislip Portal

Rail siding

To reduce the number of lorries delivering tunnel segments by road to West Ruislip, we have built a rail siding to enable deliveries by rail.

Each train using the siding delivers 20 rings, each comprising seven segments - a total of 140 segments - to the site. Delivering the segments by rail avoids the need for about 46 lorries per delivery.

Conveyor

This is an elevated belt system that sits on, and is pulled along by, rollers. It will transport excavated earth to the treatment area.

The conveyor will significantly reduce the number of vehicles needed on local

roads. It will become operational in June 2023. The conveyor will be covered to reduce the noise as it will work 24/7, together with the TBMs.

New staff car park at West Ruislip

We have recently built a new staff car park at the West Ruislip Portal to help staff avoid parking on local roads. The car park - with space for 120 vehicles - became operational in March this year. We have staggered our working shift times to help avoid long queues into the car park which could impact on local traffic.

Both the car park and the golf course will be incorporated into the new landscaped golf course that will be handed back to the London Borough of Hillingdon once work is complete.



The partially constructed conveyor at the West Ruislip Portal

Sustainable Placement Areas

The earth that the TBMs excavate will be used to create sustainable placement areas.

Sustainable placement means using excavated material on the West Ruislip site. This avoids the environmental effects of moving material off-site, such as the use of HGVs to transport it elsewhere.

There are two sustainable placement areas in Hillingdon. The northern area is north of Newyears Green Lane, west of Breakspear Road South and south of Bayhurst Woods.

The southern area is south of the Chiltern railway line, in the land between Harvil Road and Breakspear Road South. The topsoil has been stripped, and excavated material will replace it before landscaping. We will complete construction in stages starting on the south of the site and moving steadily north.

The material is moved by a conveyor system to a treatment area close to Harvil Road where it is dried and treated for use in the sustainable placement areas.

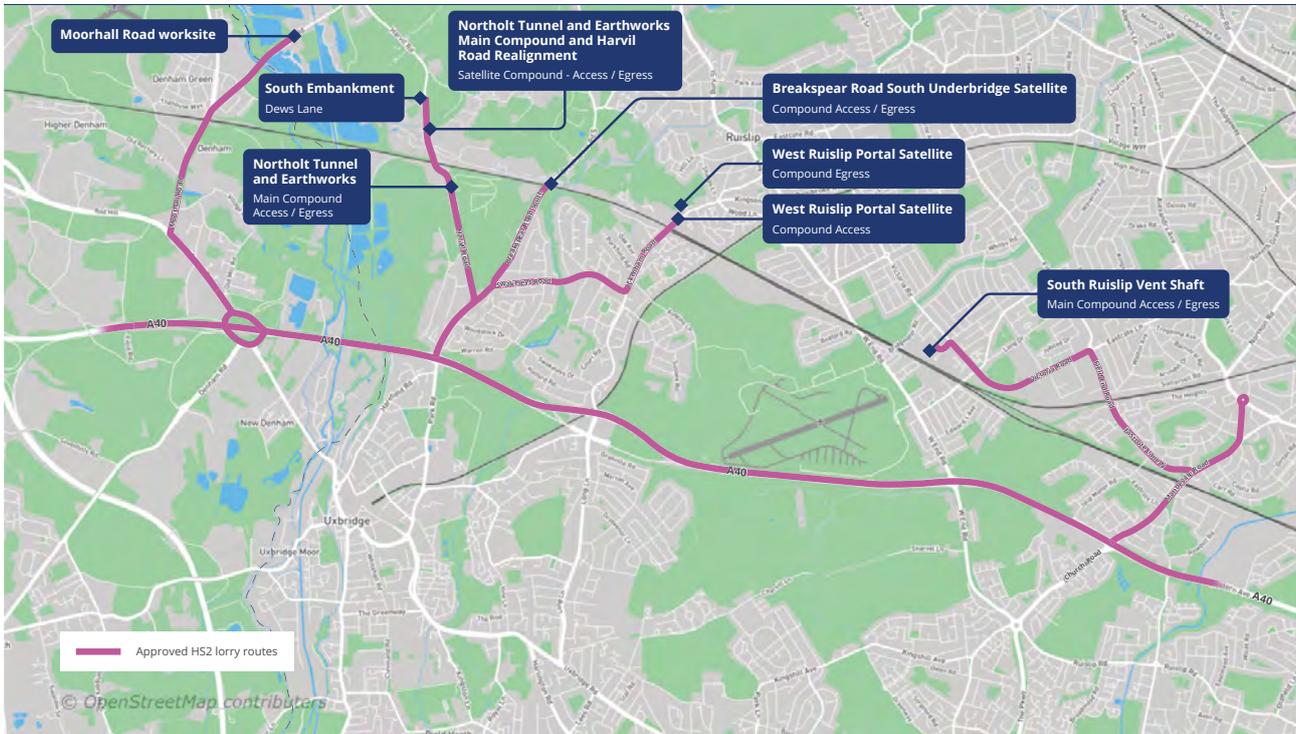


Southern Sustainable Placement Area Surface water mitigation

We have put in place measures to help reduce flood risk at the Southern Sustainable Placement Area. These include a fully designed surface water drainage system and an attenuation pond that controls the amount of excess water entering the drainage system to prevent it from becoming overwhelmed.

HS2 lorry routes

HS2 lorries must follow an agreed route when accessing or leaving HS2 sites. A map of these routes in Hillingdon is shown below:



Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR)

ANPR is technology that uses optical character recognition on images to read vehicle registration plates. Across the HS2 route there will be ANPR cameras placed to ensure site traffic, including HGVs, follows the correct designated routes approved for them by the London Borough of Hillingdon.

We are installing 28 highways cameras in Hillingdon and expect the ANPR network to operate from August 2023. The cameras will be used to identify only HS2 vehicles and ensure they are keeping to designated routes. They will not be used to monitor other vehicles.

Harvil Road closure

Harvil Road will be closed from 12 June to 9 July 2023 while we carry out utility and construction works to build the northern section of the Harvil Road realignment. Harvil Road will be fully closed 24 hours a day for the duration of these works.

Community investment

Community & Environmental Fund and Business & Local Economy 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).

The CEF is designed to give communities the opportunity to share in the benefits of HS2. It is a distributed fund that communities can apply for, to help to support local projects that aim to improve their local area.

The BLEF is designed to support local economies that may be disrupted by the construction of HS2. BLEF grants are for local business support organisations and local authorities to help support business activity in local communities.

To find out more use the QR code on this page.

Ickenham Village Hall upgrade

Ickenham Village Hall has recently been awarded HS2 CEF funding of £75,000 to build a new front extension to the village hall which will provide new disabled, male and female toilet facilities at the front of the building. The extension will also provide facilities for baby changing and a quiet room for feeding mothers.

Other local projects we have supported include Royal Brompton & Harefield NHS Foundation Trust Healing and Peace Gardens, Harefield Cricket Club and Ruislip Old Folks Association.

HS2 in Hillingdon web site

For further information on HS2 works in your area please visit our website and subscribe for updates using the QR code on this page.

For more information about each of these funds, including how to apply, please visit:



www.groundwork.org.uk/hs2funds

For further information Please visit the HS2 in Hillingdon web site:



qrco.de/bdvMOo

Community Event – Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

SCS Railways and Metropolitan Police Cycle Safety ran an Exchanging Places Cycle Safety Event on 9 March 2023 for 90 of the school's Year 5 students.

The event provided an opportunity to sit in the driver's seat of a large tipper truck to get a better understanding of what a lorry driver can and can't see and where vehicle blind spots can exist. Lynch Haulage provided the tipper for the event.

If you are interested in hosting an event at a local school or event, please get in touch communities@scsrailways.co.uk



Exchanging Places Cycle Safety Event



Public Information Event

Community engagement

We undertake regular engagement with the community. This includes sending notifications ahead of work happening, and meeting regularly with the council and community representatives. Our Visitor Information Hub is open twice a week (see front page for details) and there is a 24/7 HS2 Helpdesk phone number. We hold Public Information Events when there are key topics to update residents on and pop-up events in local areas. We deliver a school's programme, offer apprenticeships and have created a range of sustainable skills and employment opportunities.

Our next Public Information Event is on **13 July 2023, 4 to 7pm at the Ickenham United Reformed Church, Swakeleys Road, Ickenham, UB10 8BE.**

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-iffected-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.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/local-community-webpages/hs2-in-hillingdon

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