

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

HS2 in Hillingdon

Autumn 2023

Welcome to the newest edition of our Hillingdon community newsletter. Work has progressed well in the area since our last edition in June, with many important stages now complete.

The last expected closure of Harvil Road is planned for January 2024, so the realigned of Harvil Road will open in February 2024. Sushila and Caroline, our two tunnel boring machines (TBMs) launched in autumn 2022, have each tunnelled over a mile. Both Sushila and Caroline

have already reached our South Ruislip Vent Shaft site and will undergo some maintenance before it travels further east towards Greenpark Way. We'd love to hear from you if you have any questions or comments about the project or have some ideas of projects and initiatives we could support either through the HS2 community and business funds, community groups using our visitor information hub, or anything else. Please get in touch using the details in the newsletter.

Visitor Information Hub

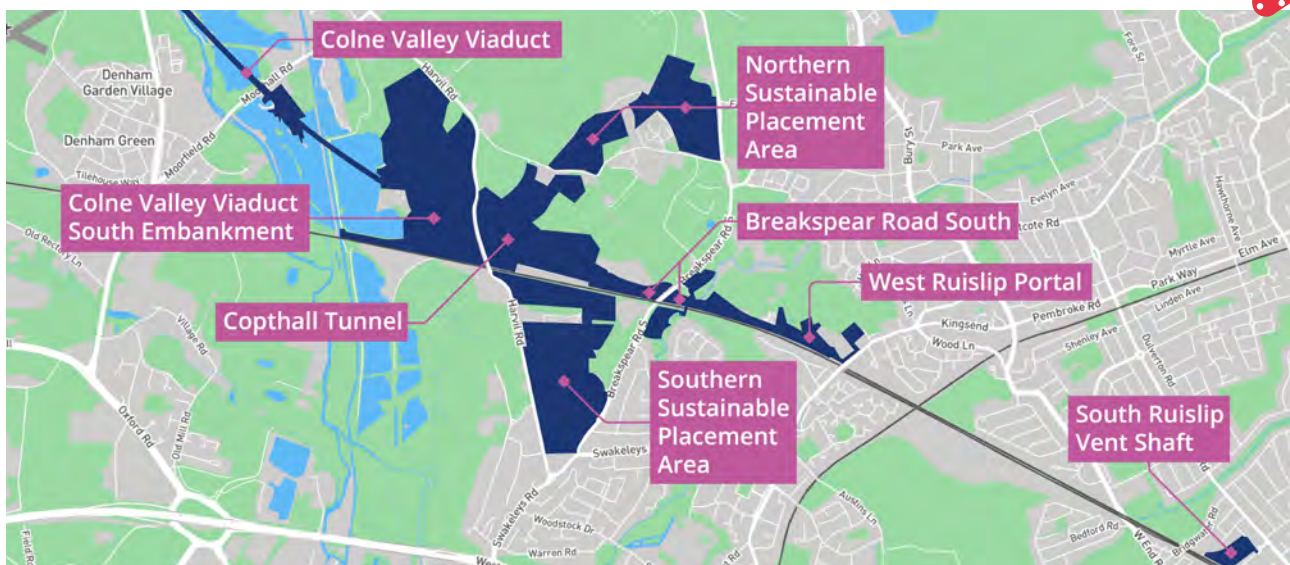
Do you have questions or comments about the project? Drop into our Visitor Information Hub for a chat with our Community Engagement team on Mondays and Wednesdays from 14:00 – 16:00.

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.

SCS Christmas Working hours

22/12/23
02/01/24

Close down during Friday 22 December, skeleton crew through Christmas period, **return to works on Tuesday 2 January.**



HS2 work sites in Hillingdon



Bridges over the River Pinn and Breakspear Road South

In late 2021 and early 2022, we started building the HS2 bridges that will take the railway over Breakspear Road South and the River Pinn respectively and have been making good progress since that time.



Steel fittings on foundations piles

The foundations for both structures consist of bored piles installed into the chalk layer. The piles are then incorporated into reinforced concrete capping beams to form the foundations for each bridge.



Steelworks on bridge structure on Harvil Road

On top of the capping beams we are building reinforced concrete walls to form bridge abutments and wingwalls on each side of the road and river.

In October 2022 concrete beams were transported from the manufacturer in Ireland to Breakspear Road and installed on site to span the abutments of each structure.



Concrete beam moved from Harvil Road to Breakspear Road bridge

Next, we built a reinforced concrete deck on top of the beams during spring 2023, connecting the beams into the rest of the structure. Throughout the summer of 2023 we carried out finishing activities, including removal of temporary works. The bridges will largely remain as they are currently until the embankments are constructed on all sides of the bridges. This will connect the HS2 route from Ickenham High Road where the Tunnels start to the Copthall Tunnel on Harvil Road.



Bridge Structure on Harvil Road



Bridge embankments on Breakspear Road

Northern Sustainable Placement Area



NSPA Mound 1 viewed from NSPA Mound 2

The Northern Sustainable Placement Area (NSPA) is part of HS2's required works package designed to hold tunnelling spoils. It involves the construction of four individual Earth Mounds utilising material arising from the excavation of the Copthall cut and cover tunnel. SCS have transferred the material excavated from the cut and cover tunnel to the NSPA via a bespoke conveyor belt system. The conveyor crosses New Years Green Lane and removes the need for any earthwork lorries to drive along the public highway network, thereby eliminating lorry movements and ensuring that adverse effects on Air Pollution and congestion on the local road network are reduced.

Before we started building the mounds, SCS conducted a full archaeological site investigation to confirm there was nothing of importance that could be damaged because of the works. SCS then constructed a basal liner. This basal liner

is an impermeable layer of clay after that protects the underlying ground and forms a suitable foundation for the mass body of the mound. The mass body is typically clay material that is placed and compacted in thin layers to obtain the correct specification and is then built up repeatedly until the design height is reached. The penultimate stage of the works is to reinstate the subsoil and topsoil layers over the mounds so they are suitable for the installation of the soft landscaping. The soft landscaping is due to be carried out in 2024 and early 2025 with the installation of more than 70,000 individual plants, trees, and hibernacula to create a series of diverse wildlife habitats that will transform the mounds improving biodiversity for local flora and fauna. Before leaving the work area, SCS will reinstate all original public bridleways and footpaths, remove temporary boundary fencing and replace it with permanent fencing.

Automatic Number Plate Recognition

Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) is technology that uses optical character recognition on images to read vehicle registration plates, providing vehicle location data. Across the London Borough of Hillingdon's HS2 route there will be ANPR cameras to ensure that site traffic, including HGVs, follows the correct designated approved lorry routes.

With approval from the London Borough of Hillingdon, we have installed 21 cameras across the borough and expect that the ANPR network will operate from December 2023. ANPR will help HS2 identify any site traffic using unauthorised routes. The cameras will be used only for the identification and compliance of HS2 vehicles keeping to designated routes and will not be used to monitor other vehicular traffic or private road users.



Installed cameras on Field End Road, Swakleys Road and Station Approach.

Meet the Team



The SCS consent, planning, and community engagement team cover a large area including the Hillingdon area. We actively work with local stakeholders and community members on issues and concerns relating to HS2 works. You'll find us undertaking various activities in the area including door knocks, hosting pop-up and engagement events, or at the visitor information hub on Mondays and Wednesdays from 2 to 4pm or by appointment outside these times.

Please contact us at: **communities@scsrailways.co.uk**

Community investment

In Your Community

Our community investment plan ensures we create sustainable opportunities for growth for years to come. We work in partnership with local authorities, charities, and religious and voluntary organisations in the communities near the HS2 route. This could be through providing funding or helping them with materials and volunteering. It supports the long-term aspirations of the London Borough of Hillingdon through a broad range of activities and provides grants to communities and local economies through the HS2 CEF and BLEF funding programme.

The London Borough of Hillingdon is a priority area for CEF and BLEF funding in 2024. To date the programme has announced funding for seven projects in Hillingdon with a combined value of around £400,000.

Our next issue will focus on our work in the community. Ahead of that issue, a spotlight on a recent site visit to the West Portal by students from Brunel University.



SCS Railways together with JGL Construction enabled the donation of a potting shed to Sacred Heart Primary School

HS2 in Hillingdon web site

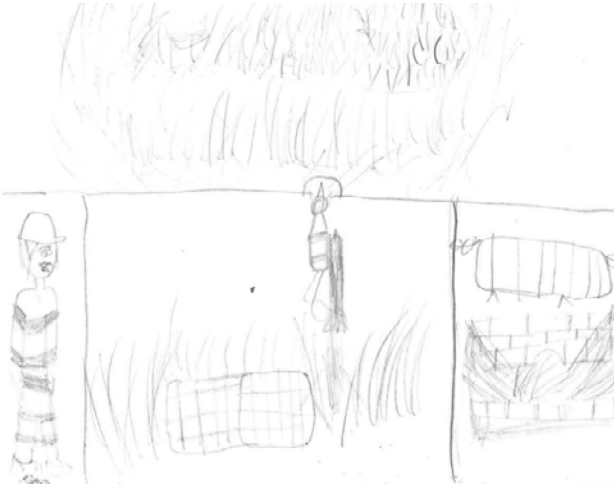
Further information on these awards can be found on our interactive map

<https://hs2funds.org.uk/home/projects-funded-by-hs2-funds/>

If your group would like to apply for funding please get in touch at **communities@scsrailways.co.uk**



Peace and healing garden



A drawing about Cycle Safety Event at Sacred Heart Primary School



A drawing by a student from Sacred Heart Primary School

West Ruislip Portal Site visit

20 civil engineering students and their lecturers from the Brunel University visited the West Ruislip Portal. The tour was facilitated by engineers from West Ruislip portal, Copthall tunnel, and Southern Sustainable Placement area and included stops at two conveyors, the gantry cranes and segment area, the two bridges, the Copthall tunnel, and southern treatment area.

Dr Lee Hosking, Lecturer in Geo-environmental Engineering in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Brunel University attended as a visitor and said: "We hugely appreciate your planning that allowed us to see such a range of site works and hear from the site team at each location. Dr Hosking added "Given the relative isolation these students



faced in the earlier part of their degree programme due to the COVID 19 epidemic, it's not a stretch to say that yesterday lifted their horizons in terms of realising the sort of projects they could work on in their careers"

We at SCS are pleased to provide these invaluable experiences to help develop the next generation of the workforce.

If your school or community group would benefit from a visit, please get in touch with us.

Economic Community Benefits

Workless Job Starts



Skills & Employment

Supported 10 placement students from HRUC (Harrow, Richmond and Uxbridge College) in long-term placements across different disciplines, from January 2023 – July 2023.

Currently supporting 4 T-Level placements from HRUC College from July 2023.

Supported 3 summer interns from July 2023 till September 2023.

Supporting 4 UEL (University of East London) placements from October 2023 – May 2024.

Apprenticeship Starts



Education

Supported 60 YR9 students from Northwood School in a series of five Insight Days from January 2023 – May 2023.

Supported 48 YR12 students from Park Academy in a SCS JV mock interview event in March 2023.

Working with The Skills Hub to identify different pathways into Construction and Engineering.

Supported 45 students in 5-day work experience from June 2023 – July 2023.

Careers Day at Ruislip High School that included building model bridges.

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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