

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

HS2 Update

Northolt Tunnel East | February 2024

High Speed Two (HS2) is the new high speed railway for Britain. It is now well into its main construction stage, including tunnels and ventilation shafts between Euston and Hillingdon, and a new station at Old Oak Common.

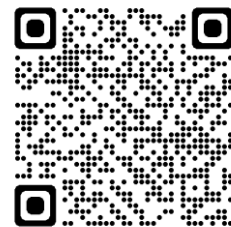
Tunnel Boring Machines Launched

In late February 2024, we will launch the first of two Tunnel Boring Machines (TBMs) to build the twin-bore Northolt Tunnel East between the Victoria Road Crossover Box in Old Oak and Park Royal and the Greenpark Way Vent Shaft, near Greenford station. We expect the TBMs to take about 12 months to reach Greenpark Way. Once complete, the twin-bore tunnel will be around 5.5km (3.4 miles) long and between 12 metres to 40 metres in depth.

You can view the location of all our TBMs by scanning the QR code on the right or visit: <https://www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/>

Tunnelling Milestones

- Early 2024 - TBMs launched
- Mid-2024 – TBMs reach the Westgate Vent Shaft
- Early 2025 – Tunnelling construction complete



Tunnel Boring Machines Blessed

In line with tunnelling tradition, the two Tunnel Boring Machines (TBMs) that will construct the twin-bore Northolt Tunnel East have been blessed by a priest. Father Timothy Gorham blessed the TBMs on 4 December 2023, and the blessing was witnessed by over 100 HS2 and supply chain staff who are involved in building the tunnel.

Along with blessing the TBMs, Father Timothy blessed the two statues of Saint Barbara, the patron saint of tunnelling, which will be placed at the tunnel portal entrance to protect the underground tunnellers as they work. The practice is believed to date back to the earliest mining traditions.

The 4 December was especially poignant as it was also Saint Barbara's saint day.

More information and pictures of the blessing can be found on the HS2 News page: <https://mediacentre.hs2.org.uk/news>



Fr. Timothy Gorham blessing statues of St Barbara

Atlas Road Logistic Tunnel Breakthrough

As the tunnelling of the Northolt Tunnel East begins, the tunnelling of the Atlas Road Logistic Tunnel (ARLT) comes to an end. On 23 January 2024, the TBM constructing the ARLT broke through at the Old Oak Common Station site.

The ARLT is 853m long and will be used to deliver materials and remove spoil for the construction of the Euston Tunnel. When the ARLT is in full use, it will help reduce the number of HS2 vehicles on local roads.



Following a longstanding tradition of naming TBMs after women, members of the local community selected the name 'Lydia' for the TBM on 11 April 2023. Lydia Gandaa is a former teacher at nearby Old Oak Common Primary School and a founding member of the Bubble & Squeak social enterprise in the area.

To find out more about the ARLT please visit: [Atlas Road Logistics Tunnel Information Page](#)

Conveyors are moving

The Northolt Tunnel East will have two conveyors, one for each TBM, which will remove spoil from the construction of the tunnels. These conveyors will serve the Victoria Road Crossover box site, and the Atlas Road site. The approximate location of the conveyors can be seen on the map on the left. Ahead of the launch of the first TBM, the first conveyor began moving material in early January. The second conveyor will begin moving material before the launch of the second TBM. These conveyors will run 24/7.



Approximate Conveyor Location

The spoil will be taken to the Willesden Euroterminal Logistics hub where it will be moved by rail to three destinations across the UK – Barrington in Cambridgeshire, Cliffe in Kent, and Rugby in Warwickshire – where it will be used in other projects.

Engage with HS2

Where can you speak with us

Our local engagement team hold events throughout the year for you to gain more information and ask any questions you have about the tunnels.

Event	Date
Virtual Tunnelling Drop In	Every third Tuesday of the month (excluding December)
Canterbury Road Vent Shaft Site Visit	12 February 2024
Northolt Tunnel East Virtual Update	6 March 2024
Adelaide Road Vent Shaft Site Visit	11 March 2024
Victoria Road Crossover Box Community Visit	8 April 2024
Old Oak Common In-Person Update	18 April 2024

More information on these events, including how to register, can be found at www.hs2.org.uk/events.

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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