

# Update on Northolt Tunnel construction

May 2025 | [www.hs2.org.uk](http://www.hs2.org.uk)

High Speed Two (HS2) is the new high speed railway for Britain.

## Northolt Tunnel Overview

The Northolt Tunnel is 8.4 miles (13.5km) long between Old Oak Common and West Ruislip, where the HS2 route surfaces. The tunnel is being built in two phases, known as Northolt Tunnel West (NTW) and Northolt Tunnel East (NTE). These are being built by four Tunnel Boring Machines (TBMs).

Our NTW TBMs have completed their journeys. TBM Sushila, reached Green Park Way Vent Shaft in December 2024 and TBM Caroline arrived in April 2025. With the NTW tunnelling now completed, works have begun to remove the structures and equipment needed to support tunnel construction at the West Ruislip Portal in Hillingdon.

Our NTE TBMs, Emily and Anne, are expected to finish their journey at Green Park Way Vent Shaft by the end of June. Works will continue in Old Oak Common to build the sprayed concrete lining tunnels between Victoria Road Crossover Box and Old Oak Common Station.



If you have a question about HS2 or our works, please contact our HS2 Helpdesk team on 08081 434 434 or email [hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)

## Notification



### Duration of works

Ongoing until summer 2025

24 hours, 7 days a week

### What to expect

Some residents living near the tunnel route may hear some ground borne noise as the TBMs pass, or when we are building cross passages between the tunnels

You may see operatives along the line of route taking readings from monitoring equipment

### What we will do

Monitor ground movement, noise and vibration levels at all times

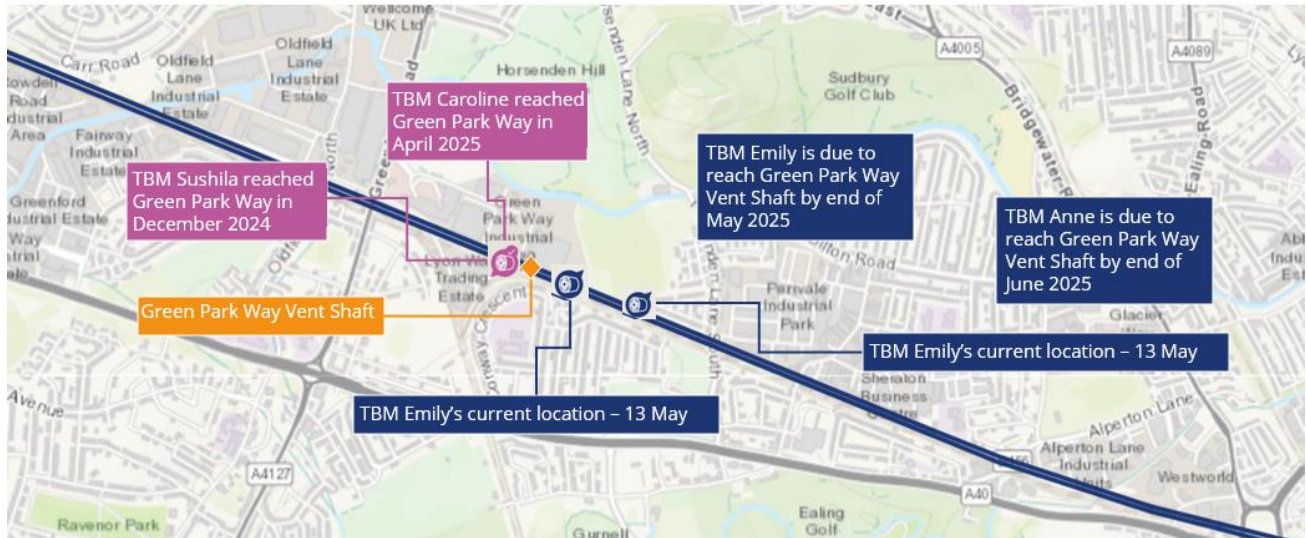
Keep you updated on progress and advise when to expect tunnelling in your area

Updates can be found [HS2inBrent&Ealing.org.uk](http://HS2inBrent&Ealing.org.uk)

# Update on Northolt Tunnel construction

[www.hs2.org.uk](http://www.hs2.org.uk)

## Northolt Tunnel progress map



Once each TBM finishes its journey, we will begin to remove the conveyor and structures supporting tunnelling operations so that works can begin to install the new HS2 railways in the tunnels.

## View the current location of our TBMs

You can view the current location of our TBMs and the route they are taking at:

<https://www.hs2.org.uk/building-hs2/tunnels/tunnel-drives/northolt-tunnel/> or by scanning the QR code below with your smart phone.



## Information about your property

If you would like specific information for your property, please contact the Helpdesk on 08081 434 434 or email [hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)

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

# Update on Northolt Tunnel construction

[www.hs2.org.uk](http://www.hs2.org.uk)

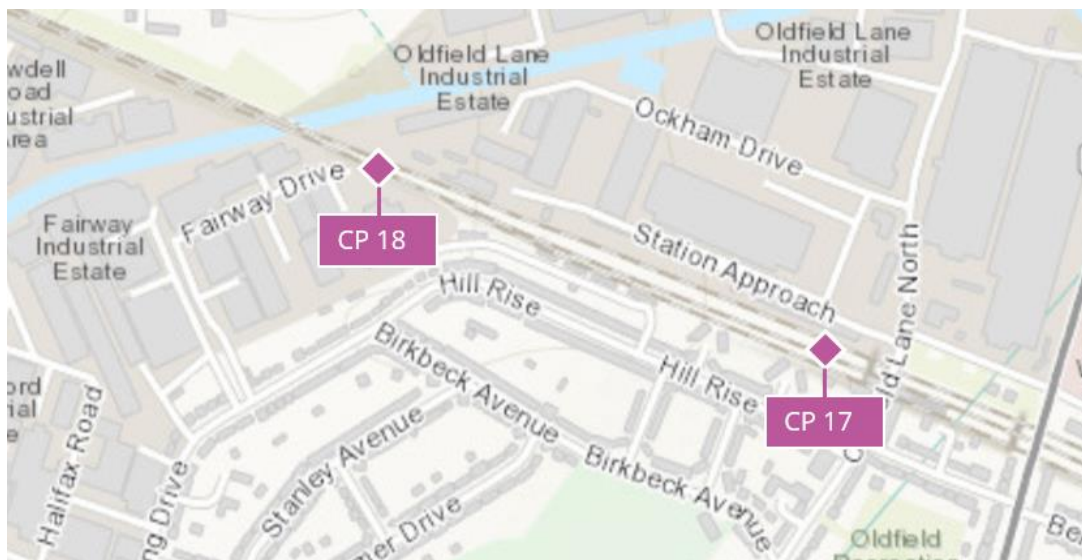
## Cross Passages

Cross passages (CP) are short tunnels connecting the two running tunnels to provide a safe evacuation of trains in an emergency. These will be built approximately 500 metres apart along the tunnel route and will be between 12 to 40 metres below ground.

Cross passage construction involves breaking into the side of the completed tunnel. This might generate some noise and vibration which may be heard or felt as ground borne noise in nearby buildings when transmitted through the ground to the surface.

We have eight cross passages remaining to build across both tunnel phases. The approximate locations of the next five are shown below. We will write to you if you'll be impacted by our cross passage works.

### Northolt Tunnel West



### Northolt Tunnel East



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

# Update on Northolt Tunnel construction

Cross Passage Location	Date*
NTW CP 17 Station Approach	9 May 2025
NTW CP 18 Fairway Drive	22 May 2025
NTE CP 11 Bideford Avenue	14 May 2025
NTE CP 12 Selborne Gardens	30 May 2025
NTE CP 13 Woodhouse Avenue	11 June 2025
*All dates are subject to change. Updates can be found on <a href="http://www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area">www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area</a> closer to the time of construction	

## Boreholes

We are routinely checking boreholes along the tunnel route. Some of the boreholes are located in open spaces and you may see our operatives carrying out checks on a daily basis.

## Monitoring and surveys along the tunnelling route

We are also carrying out ground and building monitoring and visual surveys along the tunnelling route. You may notice our surveying team in your local area for short periods. We will let you know if any of our monitoring and visual surveys will impact you directly.

## Upcoming Events

Engagement	Date*
Virtual Future Tunnelling Drop In	Every third Tuesday of the month except December
Northolt Tunnels in person information event	9 June 4:30pm – 7pm
*All dates are subject to change and will be confirmed closer to the time	

If you wish to sign up for any of these events, please visit [www.hs2.org.uk/events](http://www.hs2.org.uk/events)

## Useful Information

You can find more information about the Northolt Tunnel and HS2 on the HS2 website. Specific links which may be of interest to you can be found below:

Find out about our tunnel boring machines:

[www.hs2.org.uk/building-hs2/tunnels/meet-our-giant-tunnel-boring-machines/](http://www.hs2.org.uk/building-hs2/tunnels/meet-our-giant-tunnel-boring-machines/)

Information about how we minimise ground borne noise and vibration

HS2 Phase One information papers: Control of ground-borne noise and vibration from the operation of temporary and permanent railways (E21)

HS2 Guide to ground settlement:

[www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/managing-impacts-of-construction/ground-settlement/](http://www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/managing-impacts-of-construction/ground-settlement/)

[www.hs2.org.uk](http://www.hs2.org.uk)



# What else is happening in your area?

## Contact our HS2 Helpdesk team

Our team is here to listen and respond to your enquiry, complaint or feedback to help us be a good neighbour.

You can contact our Helpdesk team all day, every day of the year on:

Freephone: **08081 434 434**

Minicom: **08081 456 472**

Email: [hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)

## Keep up-to-date with your local community website

To find out more about what's happening in your area and receive regular email updates, you can sign up to our local community websites at: [www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk](http://www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk).

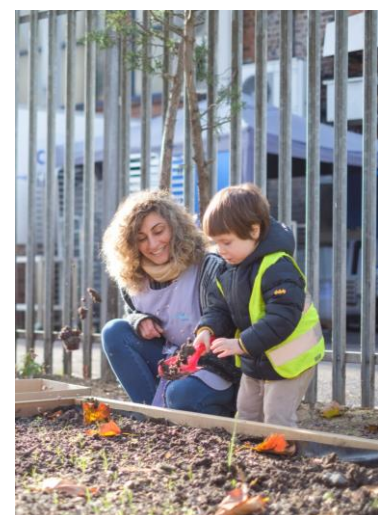
## About our Community and Business Funds

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 an allocated fund that communities are able to 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 maintain business activity in local communities.

For more information about each of these funds, including how to apply, please visit: [www.groundwork.org.uk/hs2funds](http://www.groundwork.org.uk/hs2funds)



# 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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-property)

Find out if you can claim compensation at:

[www.gov.uk/claim-compensation-if-affected-by-hs2](http://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/](http://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](mailto:HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)**

Write to:

**FREEPOST**

**HS2 Community Engagement**

Website **[www.hs2.org.uk](http://www.hs2.org.uk)**

To keep up to date with what is happening in your local area, visit: **[www.HS2inyourarea.co.uk](http://www.HS2inyourarea.co.uk)**

**Please contact us if you'd like a free copy of this document in large print, Braille, audio or 'easy read' format. You can also contact us for help and information in a different language.**

HS2 Ltd is committed to protecting personal information. If you wish to know more about how we use your personal information please see our Privacy Notice:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/high-speed-two-ltd-privacy-notice>

**Reference number: HS2-EW-SCS-Ph1-Ar-So-S1 -Tun-1-08/05/25**

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

Registered office: Two Snowhill, Snow Hill Queensway, Birmingham B4 6GA.

Company registration number: 06791686. VAT registration number: 888 8512 56