

# Update on Northolt Tunnel construction

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

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

## Northolt Tunnel update

Our four Tunnel Boring Machines (TBMs) have completed their tunnelling journeys at Green Park Way vent shaft in Greenford. Three out of the four TBMs have been lifted out of the shaft, and the fourth, TBM Anne, will be removed end of August 2025.

We're also building cross passages (CP), which are short tunnels connecting the two running tunnels to provide a safe evacuation of trains in an emergency. The final cross passage will be completed by the end of September 2025.

Works will also continue in Old Oak Common to build the sprayed concrete lining tunnels between Victoria Road Crossover Box and Old Oak Common Station. These works will continue to September 2025, there will then be a pause until summer 2026.



**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 February 2026

24 hours, 7 days a week

### What to expect

Some residents living near the tunnel route may hear some ground borne noise 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)**

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

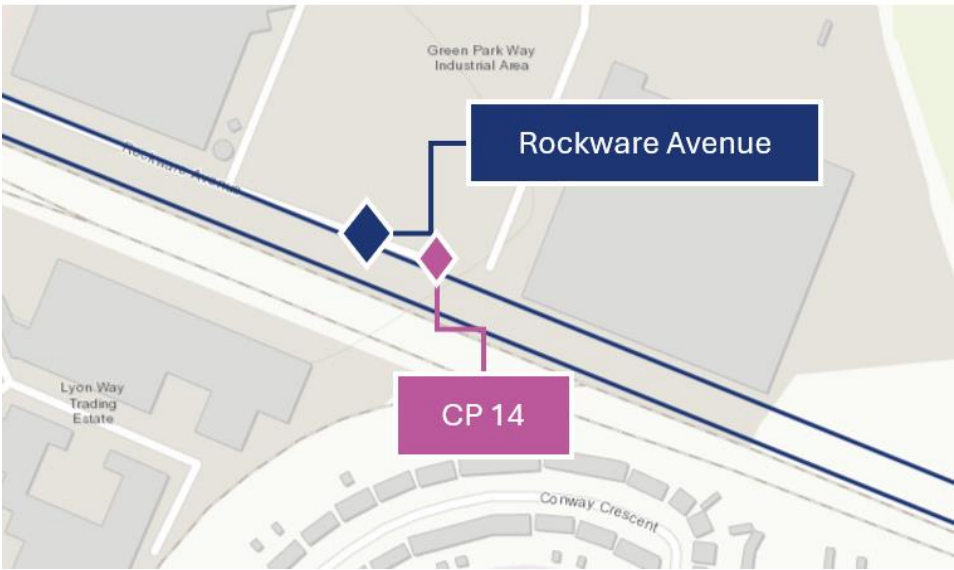
## Cross Passages

We're building cross passages between the tunnels to allow HS2 passengers to get to a place of safety in an emergency. They are about every 500 metres on the tunnels route.

To build the cross passage, we will break into the side of the completed tunnel. This might cause some noise and vibration, which may be heard or felt as ground borne noise in nearby buildings. We'll work 24 hours, seven days a week. Add line about limiting noisy works.

We're building the final cross passage in September 2025. The approximate location is shown below. We will write to you if you'll be impacted by our cross passage works.

Cross Passage Location	Date*
NTE CP 14 Rockware Avenue	1 to 22 September 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 and monitoring along the tunnelling route

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 daily.

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.

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## Walkway construction

We are now building the walkways inside the twin-bore tunnel. To build the walkways, concrete will be placed in a temporary bridge structure that shapes and supports the concrete until it hardens, to construct emergency and maintenance walkways. These walkways will allow passengers to safely evacuate a train and walk to the nearest cross passage and rescue train should there be an emergency. The narrower walkway built on the other side will be for maintenance access in the tunnel.

At the West Ruislip Portal, ready-mixed concrete is delivered by lorries to electric pumps at the tunnel entrance. Concrete is then pumped through a pipe into the concrete mixer truck and taken into the tunnels. These works will be ongoing until February 2026.

At our Flat Iron site in North Acton, we are using the on-site concrete batching plant. The concrete will be pumped down into the Victoria Road Crossover Box and delivered into the tunnel using concrete remixers. These works will be ongoing until February 2026.

## Useful Information

You can find more information about the Northolt Tunnel and HS2 on the [HS2 website](http://www.hs2.org.uk). Specific links which may be of interest to you can be found below:

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)

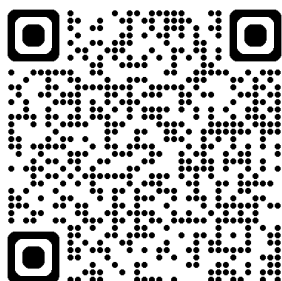
HS2 Guide to ground settlement:

[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/)

## Upcoming Events

We hold tunnelling information events, drop-ins and site events.

To view all our upcoming events, visit [www.hs2.org.uk/events/](http://www.hs2.org.uk/events/) or scan the QR code below.



# 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/)

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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

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

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

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