

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

# HS2 Update

Greatworth to Southam | Summer 2024



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

If you have any questions or enquiries about our work, please contact our Helpdesk to find out more.

You can sign up for regular updates in your local area at [www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk](http://www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk).



## Inside our summer newsletter...

- Our summer construction programme
- Updates on the Edgcote viaduct, Claydon Road and Kinton Road overbridges
- Our green footbridge and route wide green corridor
- Community projects and volunteering



The green tunnels at Greatworth and Chipping Warden are constructed in 2.5m sections each made up of five pre-cast segments which are assembled on site with the help of a crane.

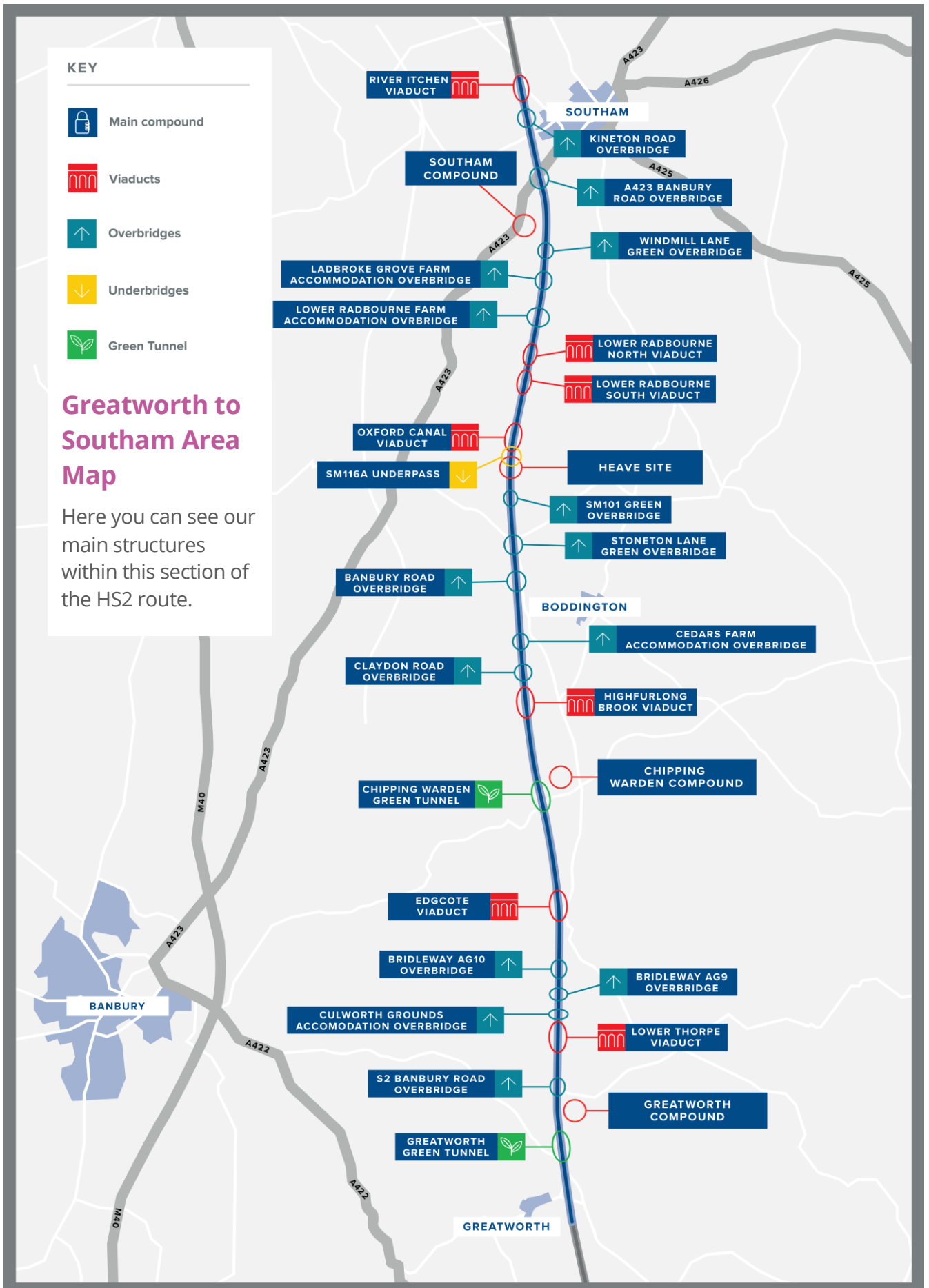
## Visiting communities

We will be visiting local communities over the coming months, including:

- Southam
- Greatworth
- Chipping Warden
- Boddington
- Ladbroke

If you would like us to visit your area, please get in touch via the HS2 helpdesk.

Details of all upcoming events for 2024 will be listed here: [www.hs2.org.uk/events](http://www.hs2.org.uk/events)



## Our summer construction programme

### Green tunnel construction

At the Chipping Warden tunnel, we have been installing a waterproof membrane over the first 1000 tunnel segments of the tunnel structure. Later this year we will be starting to cover the recently waterproofed area with earth, ready to realign the A361 over the tunnel.



Chipping Warden green tunnel's waterproof membrane is being installed.

Building on our experience of installing pre-cast segments at Chipping Warden, good progress is being made at the Greatworth green tunnel. Over the summer we will increase the installation of the tunnel segments at Greatworth, and continue to excavate the cutting for the tunnel, towards Thorpe Mandeville.

At Chipping Warden and Greatworth, our tunnel construction requires extended working hours. Over the coming months some teams will be working from 6am to 10pm and work will be focused within the tunnel excavation area. This has been approved by the local authority.

### Activities near local road networks

We will have traffic management at several locations this summer, including:

- Traffic lights and road closures on Edgcote Road, near Trafford Bridge by Chipping Warden where we are building the Edgcote viaduct.
- Occasional periods of traffic lights and some short road closures on the A361, in preparation for the realignment of the A361 over the tunnel.
- Periods of traffic lights near Southam, on the A423 Banbury Road and at Kineton Road.
- Traffic lights on the A425 Leamington Road, to assist deliveries for the River Itchen viaduct construction.
- Road closures and diversions near the Banbury Road overbridge, Boddington.
- Near Thorpe Mandeville, periods of traffic management and some road closures may be required for the tunnel construction.
- Deliveries of our precast tunnel sections will continue, delivered via Banbury M40, Junction 11 and via the A43 from the Northampton area.



Now open, the Greatworth Tee supports traffic flow as we build the Greatworth green tunnel.



## Construction update

### Claydon Road overbridge, Lower Boddington

The team have completed building the piers and abutments over the winter. Having laid pre-cast concrete beams between the piers, they are now pouring the concrete deck of the new bridge.

Earthworks activities are progressing at Claydon Road, building up the area where the highway will join the new bridge. Following on from the main construction we will start to form the permanent landscaping for the railway.

The Millennium Way footpath will remain open for local walkers, for as long as it is safe to pass through the area. As part of the HS2 design, this footpath will be permanently realigned over the new Claydon Road overbridge.



Working on the bridge deck at Claydon Road

### Edgcote viaduct, Chipping Warden

Set low into the landscape, the 515m-long Edgcote Viaduct will carry the railway across the floodplain of the River Cherwell, south of Chipping Warden.

Over the summer our focus will be on completing the foundation for piers, diverting the river to enable the completion of the substructure, installing the precast concrete piers, and progressing to the main structure of the viaduct.

We will also be making alterations to Wardington Road to ensure the road is level as it passes under the viaduct. This will require a road closure later this year for several months. We are timing our work to ensure that Wardington Road and Culworth Road are not closed at the same time.



Artist impression of the finished Edgcote viaduct

## Kineton Road overbridge, Southam

In the winter of 2023, we successfully installed the beams for the overbridge, and have since started work building the bridge deck. Over the coming months earthworks for the new highway alignment will begin next to the existing carriageway. We will also be relocating utilities, which run under Kineton Road, to their new alignment over the bridge.

As we integrate the new bridge with the existing highways some periods of traffic lights and future road closures will be required.

We will keep in touch with residents, businesses and sport clubs and share further information, once confirmed.

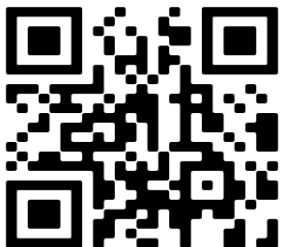


Bridge beams have been installed at Kineton Road

## Take a look at our aerial footage

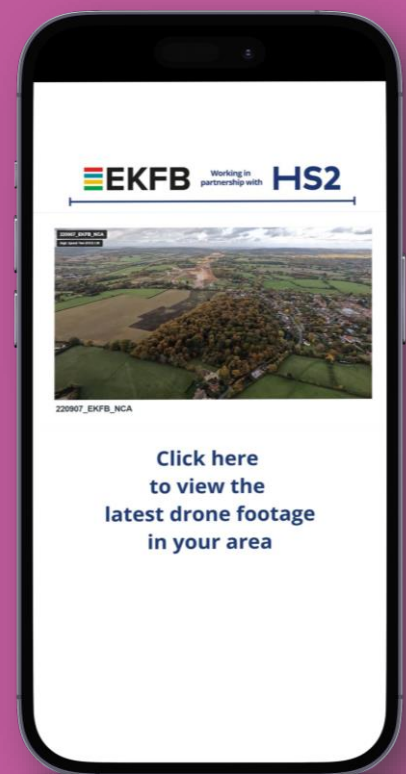
One of the best ways to see the progress we are making on site is from our new drone footage.

The footage gives an annotated overview of where different structures will be found once HS2 is complete along with an update of how the landscaping is currently looking.



Click the link below or scan the QR code:

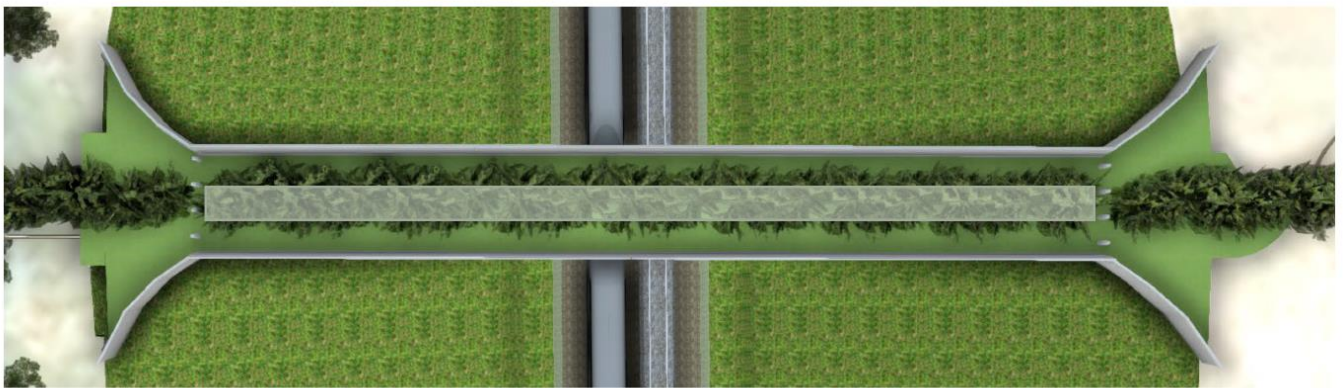
HS2 - Greatworth to Southam construction progress overview, February 2024 on Vimeo



## Green footbridge

Near Wormleighton, we are building a footbridge to retain the existing footpath between Priors Hardwick and Wormleighton. This bridge will be one of the 13 green bridges across the HS2 railway line. The footbridge will have a section of native hedgerow and meadow grassland, up to 5.5 meters wide.

The hedgerow on the bridge will grow up to 4.5 meters high and forms part of a new green landscape around the railway. Planting plans include hedgerow and woodland species and rich grassland. This will blend in with the existing trees and hedgerows of the wider landscape. The wide, green section of the footbridge will support connectivity and habitats for bats and other wildlife in the area.



This view of the design shows the wide the central hedgerow running over the footbridge, with grass either side. Under the bridge the railway line travels north to south and is surrounded by new planting.

## Green corridor

HS2 will create environmental habitats and green spaces as part of the railway design.

This includes the green corridor, which will run alongside the railway, creating a network of large, well connected, climate resilient habitats and new green spaces for people to enjoy.

Along the route, HS2 will be planting new woodlands and creating new ponds, grasslands and meadows, allowing wildlife to flourish.

This will create more than 33 square kilometres of new habitats along the HS2 route – the equivalent of 23 new Hyde Parks lining the spine of the country.

Our ecology experts and landscape designers are working to ensure a healthy population of UK fauna and flora is planted in keeping with the local environments. They are developing long term care and maintenance programmes with the aim of creating healthy and sustainable habitats.

You can learn more about the HS2 green corridor by watching this short video:



Scan the QR code or click this link to see the video: <https://youtu.be/p4teDx9pVdw>



## Community news

### Funding for Northants Food Larder



The Northants Food Larder brings affordable food to rural areas across Northamptonshire.

Earlier this year EKFB stepped in to support the food larder when essential food deliveries were at risk. Staff from our Brackley office collected food supplies for the local larder shops for several weeks.

We are now providing transport funding to support the charity for the next two years. This will help to ensure that the existing larders, as well as new locations, are stocked with affordable food and supplies.

### Supporting primary schools



We are working with local schools to improve children's outdoor learning experiences.

Following tree pruning and garden clearance last summer, we continue to work with Greatworth Primary School, as they develop an outdoor classroom and expand learning opportunities.

EKFB's donation of materials to The Grange School in Banbury will support their outdoor play project. We look forward to continuing working with the school in the coming year.

### Planting in the community

This year we have donated over 8000 plants to local communities, including schools, parish councils and charities.

The plants, which are mainly native hedgerow species will be planted by community volunteers. Parks and village centers, as well as school grounds will benefit from the donations, helping to thicken current hedges or create new areas of planting.

### Sporting sponsorships

Some of our funding supports local sports teams and organisations in the Greatworth to Southam area.

We are proud to sponsor:

Warwickshire County Schools Football Association

Byfield Tigers Football Club

Daventry Rugby Club

Angus Irvin Playing Fields Fund

# 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](http://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](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-ltd-residents-commissioner)

You can contact the Commissioner at:  
[residentscommissioner@hs2.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-property)

Find out if you're eligible for 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 our HS2 Helpdesk team. For more details on our complaints process, please visit our website:

[www.hs2.org.uk/how-to-complain](http://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](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)**

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

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