

Old Oak Common Lane Rail Bridges

Frequently Asked Questions

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

We have produced this document to answer the questions we have had from members of the community about the rail bridges at the Old Oak Common Lane Rail Bridges Community Event on Tuesday 17 January 2023.

The boards presented at the meeting can be viewed here: <https://assets.hs2.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/8410-HS2-Community-Event-Boards-Rev5.pdf>

Why are you building new bridges?

As part of the works for the new HS2 Old Oak Common Station, we are re-routing the tracks used by the Great Western Railway and Elizabeth Line, to come into the 8 above ground platforms that are being built. To accommodate the new railway tracks, the bridges have been redesigned and will be built over the next few years.

What planning approvals need to be in place?

The local planning authority is the Old Oak Park Royal Corporation (OPDC) and any designs that need planning approval get presented to the OPDC via a Schedule 17 submission.

The submission goes through the planning process, with local communities and stakeholders able to comment on the information.

What will the new bridges look like?

The future Old Oak Common Lane rail bridge indicative computer generated images (CGIs) of the future designs can be viewed here: <https://assets.hs2.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/8410-HS2-Community-Event-Boards-Rev5.pdf>

What is the total length of the bridges over Old Oak Common Lane?

The length of the bridges will be 102 metres, which includes the existing Intercity Express Programme bridge and the proposed Great Western Mainline and Chiltern Line bridges. Please note, this includes the gaps between the bridges.

How long will it take to walk through the bridges underpass?

We expect that it will take approximately 1.5 minutes to walk through the bridges underpass.

Are there any air quality issues for people walking/cycling through the bridges underpass?

No, there are not expected to be any air quality issues. The anticipated duration for people walking/cycling through the bridge underpass is under 15 minutes, which is below the threshold for assessment*.

*Air Quality is assessed for situations where a person would spend 15 minutes or more on a regular basis. Local Air Quality Management Technical Guidance advises that air quality only needs to be assessed where members of the public are "regularly present" for more than 15 minutes.

Why do the Chiltern Line Bridges provide 3 tracks and not just 1 track?

The bridges have been designed to space proof for the potential future provision of 2 tracks for a Chiltern Line extension (upline and downline) and an additional track that is a Network Rail requirement as a passive provision for reconnection of the Wycombe Single Line.

Who will maintain the tracks once the works have been completed?

The tracks will primarily be managed by Network Rail.

Who will maintain the shrubs/public realm?

Any landscaping proposed as part of design development either side of the bridges would be maintained by either the London Borough of Ealing or the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, subject to agreement.

What are the security/safety measures being put in for pedestrians walking through the tunnel? For example, will there be CCTV, what type of lighting will be in place, will there be speed monitoring?

The lighting levels under the bridge have been designed to ensure pedestrian, cyclist and vehicle safety in all locations within the underpass at all times, in accordance with relevant standards/requirements.

For functional lighting, two wall-mounted architectural lighting booms will run along the length of the underpass, to provide adequate lighting for vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians. This will be supported by lower level linear lighting recessed into the handrails alongside the footway and cycleway.

CCTV monitoring cameras are not currently proposed. However, the local planning authority or local highway authority could decide to impose this requirement on any Schedule 17 planning approval or Schedule 4 highway approval, respectively.

There is no requirement to provide any speed monitoring cameras.

Pedestrians are elevated from the carriageway and protected via secure balustrades.
Therefore, there is minimal risk to pedestrians regarding the speed of vehicles on the road.

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: <http://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-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

Reference number: HS2-MW-BBVS-Ph1-OOC-St-S4-CR-91-30/11/2022

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**

Please contact us if you'd like a free copy of this document in large print, Braille, audio or easy read. 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>