

Adelaide Road site

Frequently Asked Questions

High Speed Two (HS2) is the new high-speed railway for Britain. We have produced this document to answer the most commonly asked questions we have had from members of the community about:

Site location and context

Where is the Adelaide Road site?

Our Adelaide Road site is on the section of Adelaide Road between Chalk Farm Road and Primrose Hill Road. The site is in the Network Rail embankment area next to Adelaide Road, opposite the junction with Eton Road and next to Adelaide Nature Reserve. It does not include the nature reserve.



What are you building at the Adelaide Road site?

We will build a ventilation shaft and headhouse at the Adelaide Road site, which will connect to the HS2 tunnels from Euston to Northolt.

Ventilation shafts and headhouses are an essential part of building a new railway in a tunnel.

What is a ventilation shaft and headhouse?

These are permanent structures which will provide access to the tunnels for maintenance and emergency services, as well as ventilation and electrical power supply.

What works have already taken place at the Adelaide Road site?

Works to set up our Adelaide Road site began in Summer 2020. Since then, the following works have taken place:

- Clearance of vegetation within the site area
- Utility works to divert / protect utility services during construction
- Ground anchors installation
- Piling works to reinforce the ground
- Excavations to reach new site ground level and concrete pours to create the base slab for the future vent shaft and headhouse construction

Works at the Adelaide Road Ventilation Shaft and Headhouse site was brought to a 'safe stop' from 8 May 2024. This was in line with the government announcement in March 2023 on the pause in work building the HS2 station at Euston.

Upcoming works at the Adelaide Road site

What works will be taking place at the Adelaide Road site?

The 'safe stop' at our Adelaide Road Headhouse and Ventilation Shaft site is due to come to an end in **March 2025**. Between **April and August 2025**, staff will be brought back to site as well as equipment and plant to prepare for construction to start.

From **August 2025**, we will resume building the Adelaide Road ventilation shaft and headhouse.

The following Adelaide Road site programme is correct as of February 2025, but will be subject to change throughout the duration of the project:

- **August 2025 - May 2027:** Ventilation shaft construction including installation of precast concrete segments
- **November 2025 to March 2027:** Continuation of ventilation shaft construction and Sprayed Concrete Lining (SCL) works within ventilation shaft
- **October 2026 to March 2028:** Secondary concrete lining works within ventilation shaft
- **March 2027 to October 2029:** Headhouse construction
- **June 2029 – March 2030:** Adelaide Road boundary wall and urban realm construction
- **August 2030:** Adelaide Road site construction complete

What hours will you be working at the Adelaide Road site?

From **April 2025 to November 2025**, we will be working during 'core working hours' which are from **8am to 6pm, Mondays to Fridays**, and **8am to 1pm Saturdays** if needed. We may be on site for an hour before the start and/or end of each shift.

We may need extended working hours for some construction activities. For example, works that need a continuous pour of concrete for several hours, or activities which need to be carried out while trains are not running on the railway tracks next to the site. We will agree these works with the local authority, Camden Council, and coordinate with Network Rail. We

will let residents, and the community know about any changes to our core working hours in advance.

From **November 2025 to March 2027*** some activities on site could take place during a **24/5 shift pattern** (7am Mondays to 1pm Saturdays) during some periods, subject to local authority consent.

**These dates are correct as of the February 2025 programme but are subject to change throughout the duration of the project.*

How will you reduce disruption?

To help reduce disruption, we are:

- using water sprays to minimise dust on-site
- using a wheel washer on the wheels of vehicles to reduce dirt from site being transferred onto local roads before they exit the site
- monitoring noise and dust levels throughout construction and introducing additional mitigations if needed
- monitoring vibration levels at our Adelaide Road site. This is to ensure we keep to agreed levels
- using noise reducing barriers
- turning off on-site lighting outside of our working hours, except for lighting required for security
- keeping residents informed about our works

These mitigations are in place to ensure we align to the HS2 Environmental Minimum Requirements and HS2 Code of Construction Practice, which you can view at [Code of Construction Practice.pdf](#).

What will I be able to see on your site?

You will be able to see our site office and welfare facilities from Adelaide Road, these are inside the hoardings and are about six metres high. Residents on King Henry's Road will also see our site.

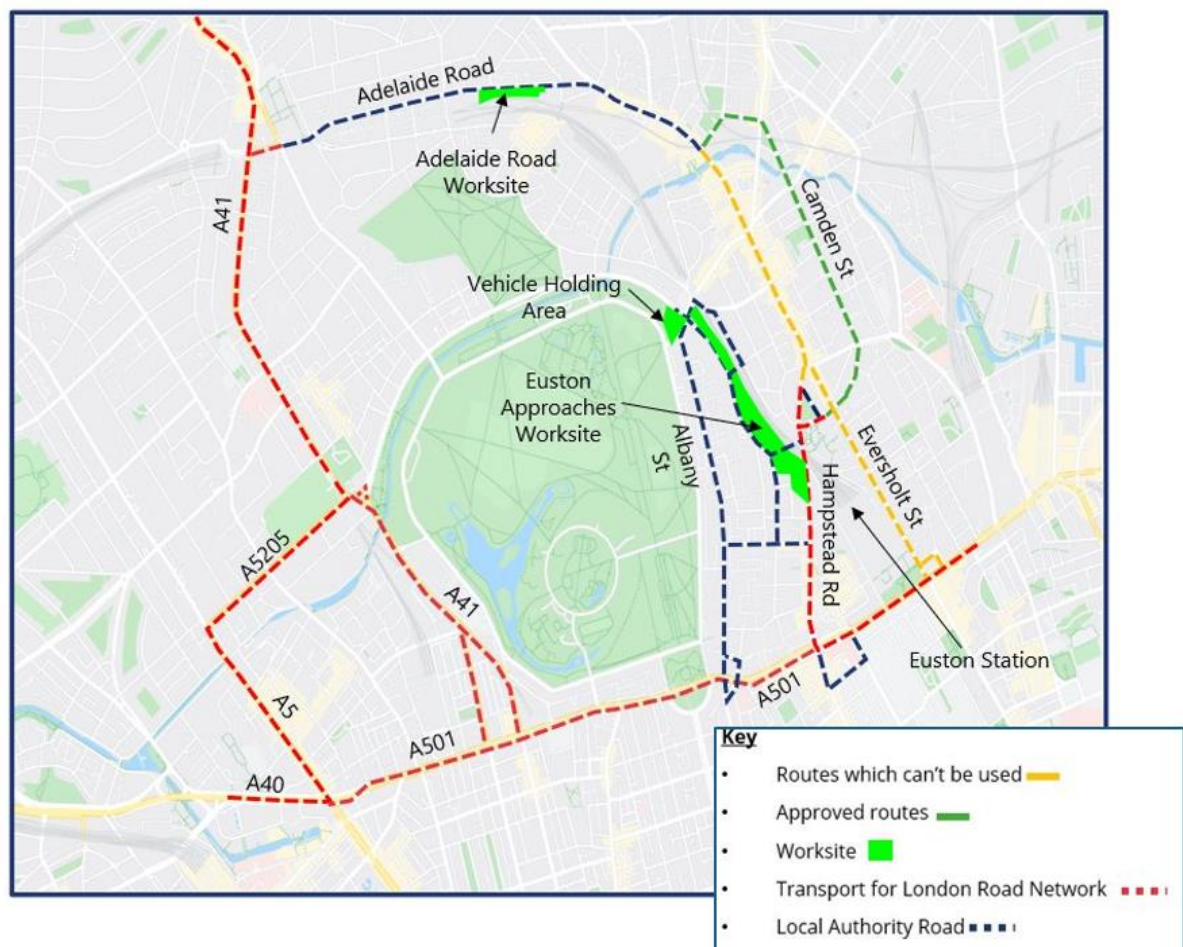
During our works, you may notice large construction equipment and machinery in our site including:

- Heavy goods vehicles
- Piling and excavating machinery
- Cranes
- Lighting towers
- Concreting equipment

What are the planned lorry routes?

Lorries travelling to and from the Adelaide Road site will use routes which have been agreed with Camden Council. Please see below table and map detailing these routes.

Road Name	Start Point (Junction with)	End Point (Junction with)	Authority
Adelaide Road B509 (eastbound)	A41 Transport for London Road Network (TLRN)	Worksite	Camden
Adelaide Road B509 (eastbound)	Worksite	A502 Haverstock Hill	Camden
Haverstock Hill A502 (eastbound)	B509 Adelaide Road	A502 Chalk Farm Road	Camden
Chalk Farm Road A502 (eastbound)	A502 Haverstock Hill	A502 Castlehaven Road	Camden
Castlehaven Road A502 (northbound)	A502 Chalk Farm Road	A502 Hawley Road	Camden
Hawley Road A502 (eastbound)	A502 Castlehaven Road	A400 Camden Street	Camden
Camden Street A400 (southbound)	A502 Hawley Road	A400 TLRN	Camden
Transport for London Road Network (TLRN)	Entire Length		Transport for London



How many vehicles will travel to your site every day?

The number of vehicles travelling to and from the Adelaide Road site will vary depending on our construction programme. During peak periods, we anticipate 60 to 80 combined two-way movements. This means there will be up to 30 to 40 vehicles entering and leaving our site per day. At other times, there will be fewer vehicle movements.

What vegetation have you removed and how will you protect wildlife?

We have previously removed vegetation and trees within our site boundary in the Network Rail embankment area. All necessary ecological and arboricultural surveys and inspections have been completed.

We have not identified any protected species such as bats, crested newts, or badgers at the Adelaide Road site during the ecology surveys. We know that birds may nest in this area. While site clearance works are taking place, we will have an ecologist on site. In the event of an active nest being found within an area requiring clearance, the nest will not be disturbed until the nesting has finished.

Please note we will be carrying out vegetation trimming within a section of the Adelaide Nature Reserve during some periods. No trees will be removed, only low-level vegetation.

For more information, please visit: [Vegetation trimming within the Adelaide Nature Reserve - HS2](#).

Other questions

When and how often will Adelaide Road have lane closures?

To carry out future works, we may need to install temporary lane closures on Adelaide Road for short periods of time.

We will write to residents in advance of any temporary changes to traffic management on Adelaide Road.

How is air quality being monitored?

Dust monitors are in place to monitor dust levels during construction. The results of all the air quality monitoring we undertake is published on a monthly basis on the UK Government website at [Monitoring the environmental effects of HS2 - GOV.UK](#).

You can view results of the monitoring at Adelaide Road in the Camden report at [Air quality - Camden Council](#).

Can you reduce the brightness of the lighting in your site?

Lighting is required for the security team to safely carry out their tasks (including security patrols) overnight. The flood lights have been lowered and are down-facing to reduce the level of brightness coming from our site. We have also reduced the number of lighting towers being used overnight. We understand the local community's concerns about lighting and are continuously reviewing the lighting within our site overnight to minimise disruption.

Why are hoarding lights required?

The lighting on the Adelaide Road site hoardings is required to ensure the hoarding is clearly visible to road users for their safety and to make sure we have a safe construction site. The hoarding lighting must follow regulations in accordance with British Standards and other legal health and safety requirements related to site management. This has been agreed with Camden Council.

I would like to sell my property, what support do you offer?

HS2 have a 'need to sell scheme' available to residents who need to sell their property but cannot because of HS2. Further information about scheme is available at [Need to Sell - HS2](#) or by contacting the HS2 Helpdesk on 08081 434 434 or email HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk

Will affected residents be eligible for noise insulation in their properties?

We do not anticipate our works to trigger any of the noise levels defined within the [E23: Control of Construction Noise and Vibration paper](#).

We recognise that there may be circumstances in which residents are more sensitive to construction noise or their properties may not qualify for noise insulation. In such circumstances specific noise trigger levels and/or alternative noise control measures will be considered on a case-by-case basis to protect residents. You can view more information at [Noise insulation scheme booklet CS1008a.pdf](#) or by contacting the HS2 Helpdesk on 08081 434 434 or email HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk

What noise will I hear once the headhouse is built?

The Adelaide Road headhouse and vent shaft – in common with all our permanent structures – has been designed so that the noise from it at the closest residential property is at least five decibels lower than the existing background noise. That does not necessarily mean that noise from the headhouse won't be heard, but the level during normal operations won't exceed the background noise levels which existed in the area before construction works began.

Adelaide Road headhouse and compound design

What will the Adelaide Road headhouse look like?

The materials proposed in our design for the Adelaide Road headhouse are timber, metal, concrete and brickwork. We are also planning to install a green roof.

We are planning to use similar materials at all headhouses between Euston and West Ruislip. The materials palette has been chosen according to the environment, moving from brick, through metal and towards wood as we move between urban and rural locations.

We choose materials to help integrate the building into this location.

For further information on the design and to view the visualisations of the headhouse, please see the [Adelaide Road Headhouse and Ventilation Shaft information boards](#).

What will the Adelaide Road boundary wall look like?

The permanent compound wall will be red brick. Railings are included in the design to increase visibility of the trees that will be planted within the compound.

The height of the wall will vary due to the gradient of the road, like the original wall did, but it will be no less than 2.8 metres high at any point due to security requirements.

The columns of the wall will be between 3.2 and 3.3 metres high. They will be spaced 3.8 metres apart with the brick and railings sections in between.

Between the columns, the brick face will be a minimum of 1.4 metres up to 2.6 metres in height. The railings, on top of the brick face, will be a maximum of 1.4 metres in height but less than this in some places. Overall, the combined brick face and railings sections will be a minimum of 2.8 metres in height.

For further information on the design and to view the visualisations of the boundary wall, please see the [Adelaide Road headhouse and boundary wall design factsheet](#).

What will the future lighting plans be like?

We will be illuminating various zones throughout the site with a mixture of lighting fixtures. When the site is unoccupied, a dimming factor will be applied to all lights to minimise lighting pollution. However, the lighting levels will increase in the following scenarios:

- emergencies, when switched on locally/remotely
- when vehicles are manoeuvring
- upon gate opening
- when intrusion is detected by the CCTV security system

For further information on the future lighting plans, please see the [Adelaide Road Headhouse and Ventilation Shaft information boards](#).

What are the future landscape plans?

Our future landscape plan for the Adelaide Road site considers local ecological and vegetation requirements for next to a live railway. Our current future landscape design includes block / slab paving and trees and scrub habitat planting. We're also planning to install a green roof on the headhouse buildings.

Our key landscape priorities are to:

- embed the building into the landscape,
- provide visual screening and improve biodiversity of the site,
- integrate the entrance by Adelaide Road with local context and heritage

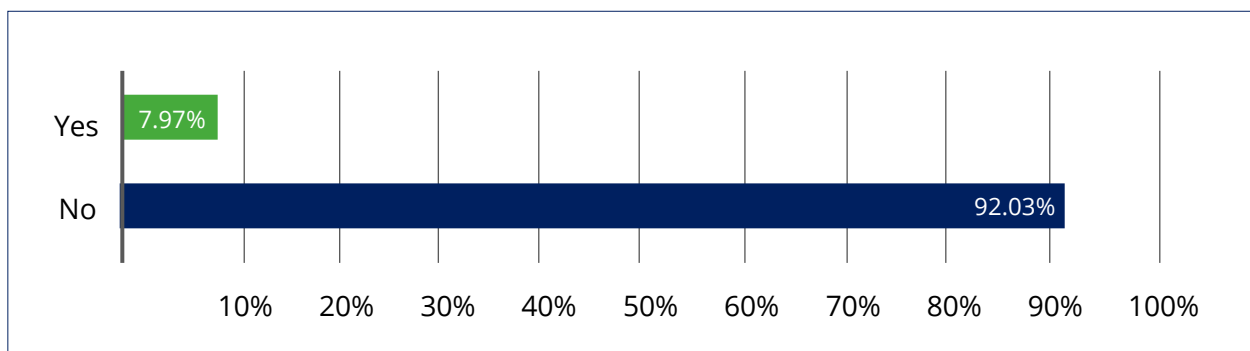
For further information on the future landscape plans, please see the [Adelaide Road Headhouse and Ventilation Shaft information boards](#).

What engagement has taken place on the design of the Adelaide Road headhouse and compound?

In September 2021, we showed you our scheme design for the Adelaide Road headhouse and compound. Residents and the community were encouraged to provide further feedback on the appearance and landscape of the headhouse and compound before we submitted our final design to Camden Council.

During the engagement period in September, you gave us feedback on the following questions about our future design of the Adelaide Road headhouse and compound. These questions and the summary of this feedback is outlined below:

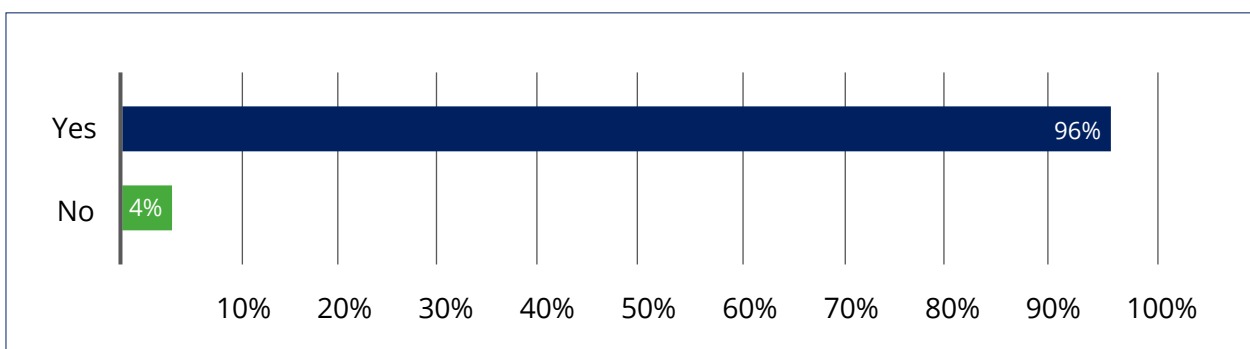
Do you think the materials used for the future headhouse will help integrate the building with the local context?



You said: “The materials should be hidden behind a green wall and do not keep in line with the local area”

We did: We have considered incorporating green walling to maximise natural screening as far as practicable. Green walling is incorporated into brick walling found on the southern elevation where it would not conflict with CCTV and lighting requirements.

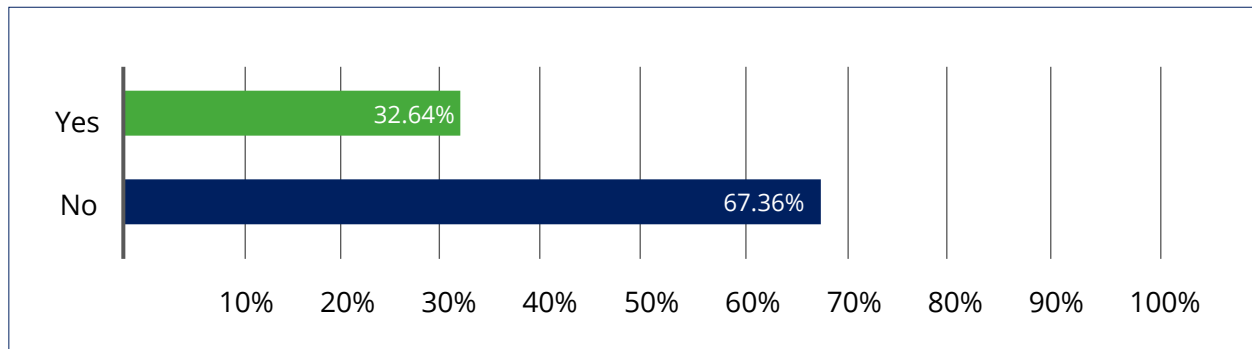
Do you think tree and shrub planting to partially screen the headhouse building from Adelaide Road is a good idea?



You said: “We would like screening on all sides and replanting of the trees and vegetation which have been removed”.

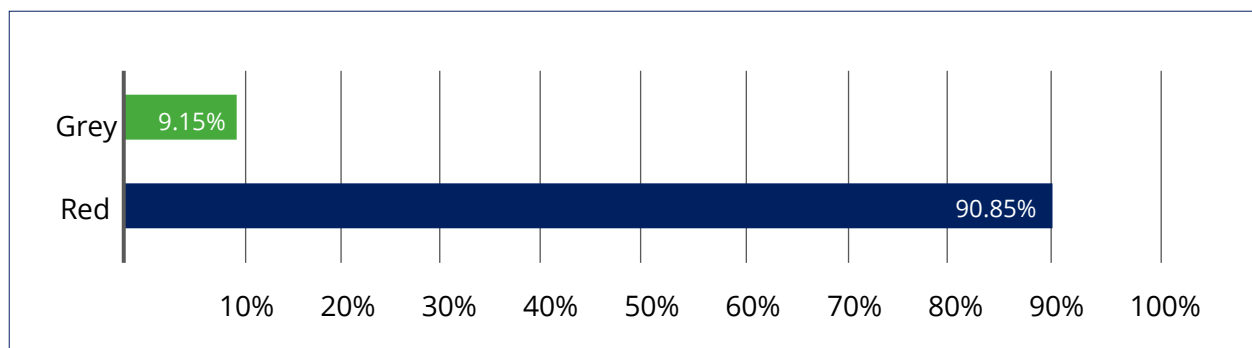
We did: Tree and shrub planting has been developed further to enhance screening of the headhouse building from Adelaide Road. This includes the use of new planting species to create more natural looking screening. We plan to enhance the amount of green walling and natural screening as far as practicable. Our current design shows a green wall on the south elevation, to reduce impact on CCTV and lighting coverage of the compound.

The proposal is to incorporate railings into the boundary wall to increase visibility of the greenery behind. Do you agree with this approach?



We appreciate the community views about the appearance of the brick wall. Inclusion of railings will help to expose more of the green planting/screening and soften the visual impact along Adelaide Road.

We are proposing a red or grey brick wall. Which colour of brick do you think is most appropriate for the boundary wall?



You said: “Rebuild the brick wall to its original colour and reuse the bricks from the previous Victorian wall”.

We did: Feedback from the community and London Borough of Camden has been clear in stating a preference for red brick. We have listened to this feedback and the design has been modified accordingly to include for a red brick wall along the Adelaide Road frontage.

Planned engagement activity in 2025

Notifications about works in your area

As part of our commitment to keeping you informed, we will continue to send notifications about our works in your area throughout 2025. You can find our latest updates at [In your area map - High Speed 2 \(hs2.org.uk\)](https://hs2.org.uk).

Join our mailing list

Please sign up to our mailing list and receive regular updates about our works and the wider HS2 project following the link to [HS2 Email Form](#)

Monthly virtual drop-ins

You can book a 20-minute slot between 4pm to 6pm to speak with the community engagement team from HS2 and SCSJV on the third Wednesday of every month.

To register your attendance for one of our virtual drop-ins, please visit [HS2.org.uk/events](https://hs2.org.uk/events).

Regular community drop-in sessions

We hold regular community drop-in session to keep residents and the local community up to date about our works at Adelaide Road. You can sign up to receive alerts for these events at [HS2.org.uk](https://hs2.org.uk).

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

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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