

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

HS2 Update

Birmingham | Spring 2025

High Speed Two (HS2) is the new high speed railway for Britain. This update will provide you with key information and news on HS2 works in Birmingham.

Curzon Street Station Approach Viaducts

The 'Curzon Street Station Approach' refers to the section of the railway between Duddeston Junction Viaduct and Curzon Street Station.

The series of five connected viaducts are:

- Duddeston Mill Viaduct
- Curzon Street No.1 Viaduct
- Curzon Street No.2 Viaduct
- Lawley Middleway Viaduct
- Curzon Street No.3

Curzon Street No.2 Viaduct will carry HS2 over the existing Cross-City railway and will cross the railway above the Grade II listed Lawley Street Viaduct.

This viaduct will be located east of Birmingham City Centre, south of the Duddeston area of Birmingham and north of the Bordesley area of Birmingham. It will be approximately 600 meters east of the new Curzon Street Station.



An architect's impression image of the Curzon No.2 Viaduct



Update on Aston Church Road

The new temporary footpath along Aston Church Road is now open. The newly constructed overbridge will stay in place and Aston Church Road will be realigned to follow the new overbridge. This will allow access for pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles.

Currently, Aston Church Road is still closed to vehicles whilst we divert utilities and construct the new road layout. Aston Church Road is scheduled to re-open late 2025.



For more information about the Aston Church Road Overbridge, please [click here](#) or scan the QR code.



You can also read more about the Aston Church Road closure and diversion routes by [clicking here](#) or by scanning the QR code to the left.

Traffic management

To enable us to complete works on our bridge structures, we will need to implement some traffic management including road closures. Please see the below update on upcoming traffic management.

For more information about our upcoming works in Birmingham you can view our Birmingham Construction Look-Ahead by visiting: bit.ly/4bCyjGY or by scanning the QR code.



	Dates	Traffic management	Description of works
Aston Church Road	Ongoing until December 2025	Full road closure. Footway will be open to pedestrians	Diverting a series of utilities along Aston Church Road which will also tie into the new deck
Lawley Middleway	April 2025	Night -time closure with diversions in place	Construction of tripods and push new deck across Lawley Middleway this summer

Please note, all dates and activities in the table are subject to change and consents.

Tunnel Boring Machine breakthrough expected late spring

The Bromford Tunnel is a 3.5-mile twin-bore tunnel connecting Water Orton to Washwood Heath. The two Tunnel Boring Machines (TBM's) being used to excavate the tunnel are Mary Ann (digging the first bore) while TBM Elizabeth, is currently advancing through the second bore.

Both TBM's are progressing around 15meters per day with Mary Ann currently located near Bromford Central (near The Fort shopping centre). Mary Ann has completed 5,113 meters and is 88% of the way through her journey to the West Portal at Washwood Heath.

Elizabeth is currently located in Castle Vale, has completed 3,111metees, and is 54% of the way through her journey to the West Portal at Washwood Heath. The first bore is due to break through this spring.



TBM Mary Ann at Bromford East Portal

Washwood Heath contracts award

Contracts have now been awarded to the teams that will deliver the high-speed rail project's state-of-the-art track, signalling, communications, and other systems. The award of contracts marks the start of a new stage for the project.

A vast network of optical fibre cabling will form the railway's central nervous system – providing signalling and communications for staff and passengers.

Construction stats



Future work will include the design and installation of:

280 miles of track between
London and the West Midlands

New high-speed trains capable reaching
speeds of up to **225 mph**

1,200 miles of fibre optic cabling



Artist impression of the new high-speed train

Skills, Education & Employment

February saw the return of National Apprenticeship week – and our annual intake of 40 new apprentices to help support Britain's high-speed railway.

Adil Ali who is 19 and from Birmingham, is currently undergoing training as a project management apprentice with HS2 Ltd. The construction industry has been a career aspiration for Adil from a very young age.



Local apprentice; Adil Ali from Birmingham

"I was drawn to HS2 due to its transformative vision to revolutionise rail infrastructure in the UK. The sheer scale of the project, its focus on innovation and its commitment to delivering long-term economic and social benefits resonated strongly with my desire to be part of something impactful.

I saw the apprenticeship as a unique chance to gain hands-on experience in project management while contributing to a historic project that will shape the future of the UK's transport network."

Adil Ali - Apprentice

For a full list of available roles, please visit: hs2.org.uk/jobs-and-skills

Washwood Heath recruitment hub

The Washwood Heath recruitment hub has been created by HS2 and The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), is dedicated to creating employment opportunities by helping thousands of unemployed people start careers. A series of pop-ups around the city are also planned this year. To find out more, please visit hs2.org.uk/careers

Date	Event	Event type
27 March 2025	Buildforce Day at Balfour Beatty Vinci Skills Academy	Skills & Employment
15 April 2025	Step into Spring Jobs Fair at Restart Birmingham	Skills & Employment
28 April 2025	Ladder Birmingham 'Have a Go' Event at Millennium Point	Careers & Education
7 May 2025	Careers Fair at Yardley School	Careers & Education

For more information on the events listed below, please contact:

see.team@balfourbeattyvinci.com

Community Investment

HS2's Community Investment programme enables us to support those communities most impacted by our works. We have recently supported Heart of Birmingham Vocational College.

Supporting Heart of Birmingham Vocational College outdoor area



We have recently completed restoration of the pond and garden area at Heart of Birmingham Vocational College (HBVC). The garden is used during breaktimes by students with additional needs and was previously looking tired and in need of refreshing. The pond in the centre of the outdoor space also needed some additional attention.

Members of BBV's Ecology team attended the college and cleared overgrown vegetation, repainted bird houses and installed new hedgehog homes. BBV's contractor Sixsense also donated plants and garden accessories. An additional visit will be made this spring to add some wildflowers near the pond to attract more wildlife.



The newly paved outdoor space



The newly maintained pond at the back of the garden



HS2 and BBV colleagues with HBVC's Head of Community and Inclusion

Engaging with local communities

We know that planning and building the railway disrupts the lives of local people. We will always try to do the right thing and reduce disruption as much as we can.

Our specialists work across each section of the route and will keep you informed. They will also respond to any question you may have.

Drop-in sessions are held regularly and provide important updates on the project. We encourage attendees to share feedback so we can understand the views of our communities.

We work closely with community groups and local authorities to find ways to mitigate any potential disruption caused by the construction of HS2.

Our teams also support community and school projects to benefit the areas where we work. These include giving back to communities by volunteering, fundraising, or providing materials, labour or investment. Our helpdesk is open 24/7 – ring us on 08081 434 434 if you would like to discuss an idea with our team.



Keep up to date on HS2 activity in your area

To receive notifications of our upcoming activity, sign up for email notifications:

www.hs2.org.uk/local-mailing-list

To view more detail on what work is happening near you, visit our interactive map:

www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/map

Find out what engagement events are coming up in your area at:

www.hs2.org.uk/events

Stay informed about the delivery of HS2

We are committed to keeping you informed about the planning and delivery of HS2.

Complete the form below to join our mailing list and receive emails about the aspects of the project that you are most interested in.

If you would also like to receive information about current or planned HS2 construction works in our area, please complete our **[local mailing list form](#)** or you scan the QR code.



Follow us on social channels



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

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

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

Property and compensation

You can find out about HS2 and properties along the route by visiting:

www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-property

Find out if you can claim 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 the HS2 Helpdesk. For more details on our complaints process, please visit: 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**

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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