

Contact our HS2 Helpdesk team on 08081 434 434

HS2 Update

Aylesbury Area | Autumn 2025

EKFB
Working in
partnership with **HS2**

High Speed Two (HS2) is the new high speed railway for Britain. Should you have any questions or enquiries regarding our works, please contact the Helpdesk details of which can be found in this newsletter. We will be keeping our local website www.hs2inbucksandox.co.uk up to date with information on our works in the local area. You can join our local mailing lists for works updates at www.hs2.org.uk/local-mailing-list

What works are happening in your area?

Our newsletter is an important way to update local communities on the progress of the HS2 project. This newsletter contains details specifically about the works in the Aylesbury construction area.

In this autumn edition, we will review work progress, describe what works are planned over the next few months and show you what local community projects have been delivered:

- Aerial footage showing construction progress
- A4010 Stoke Mandeville Relief Road construction works
- School engagement and social value
- HS2 community and business funds
- Construction progress
- Progress in pictures
- Community projects
- HS2 reset news
- Keeping you informed



Join us at our community events...

Over the year we have run specific community events and drop-in sessions in our Mobile Visitor Centre and local village halls. Our final event of 2025 will be at:

Aylesbury Market Square
Thursday 16 October,
10am-3pm

To find out when your next local events are taking place, please visit the events page on the HS2 website.

www.hs2.org.uk/events

What's happening in your area?

Stoke Mandeville Relief Road and A4010 realignment (Stoke Mandeville) – During the summer, we closed the A4010 Risborough Road to build the connection to the new relief road near Fremantle Court. This autumn we'll close the A4010 again to finish the tie-in and open the new road in which will connect to Buckinghamshire Councils SEALR link road.

Oxford Road Embankment (Stone, Bishopstone and Hartwell) – Throughout the summer the formation of the embankment which will carry HS2 north of the old Oxford Road has taken shape. Work continuing in this area over the coming months include piling for the future noise barrier installation.

A41 Bicester Road (Waddesdon) - We will be installing permanent road signage on the A41 and surrounding area alongside other finishing works throughout the Autumn.



Above – Oxford Road Cutting towards A418 Overbridge



Above – A41 Overbridge at Waddesdon South Cutting

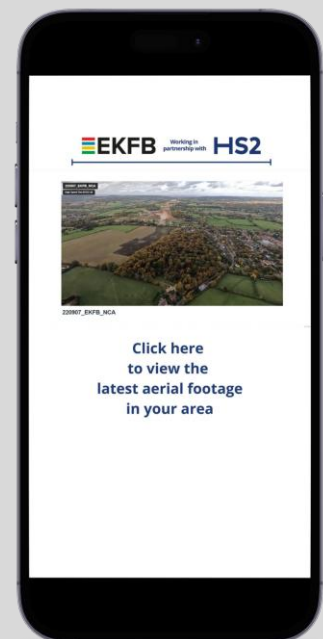
EKFB works progress footage

One of the best ways to see the progress we are making on site is from our aerial footage. If you scan the QR code below, it will allow you to view the latest HS2 works in your area.

The footage gives an annotated overview of where different structures will be on the HS2 route, along with an update of how the landscaping is currently looking.



Scan the QR code to view the footage.



A4010 Stoke Mandeville Relief Road

Stoke Mandeville

Throughout the year, we have been building the new A4010 Stoke Mandeville Relief Road (SMRR) which will realign the existing A4010 around Stoke Mandeville and connect with Buckinghamshire Council's new South East Aylesbury Link Road (SEALR) dual carriage way. The EKFB built section is 2.2km long with a new overbridge to cross the HS2 line and will include a separate paved footpath and cycle lane. The overall length of the new road including the SEALR section is 2.9km.

Over the summer, asphalt has been laid on most of the new road surface, footpath and cycleway. We've also largely completed highway drainage, earthworks on verges and landscaping bunds and installed vehicle restraint barriers and fencing.

In August and September we closed the A4010 Risborough Road to complete the first phase of works at the connection point near Fremantle Court. We will be closing the A4010 again for a shorter duration in late October and early November to complete the connection. From early November 2025, the SMRR and Phase 2 of SEALR will open to the public.



Above – Stoke Mandeville Overbridge

Below left & right – Stoke Mandeville Relief Road



In the community

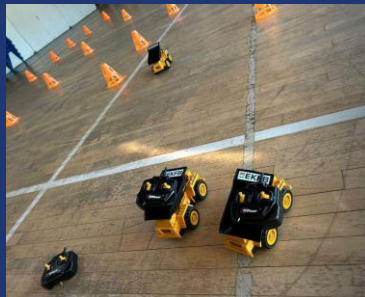
Weston Turville School Sensory Garden – a team of volunteers from EKFB and supply chain partner Reliable Contractors created an archway, benches, an outdoor xylophone, bird and bug houses and even added a disco ball!

Pebble Brook School Constructability Day – staff from EKFB and supply chain partner Blackwells, supported the SEND Constructability Day. Volunteers ran STEM activity stations for students, including remote control dump trucks, VR digger, PPE dress up and various building activities.

Planter boxes for Waddesdon – EKFB donated have donated re-purposed wooden boxes to Waddesdon Hall and Parish Council. They make excellent planters to enhance outdoor spaces.



Weston Turville Juniors
School sensory garden

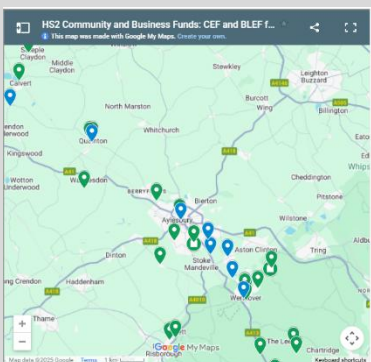


Pebble Brook School



Planter boxes

Community and business funds



Weston Turville village hall has been awarded £32,633 through the Community and Environment Fund to provide an improved sound system in the hall along with new recreational and sports facilities to expand the range of activities on offer. This will enhance the overall experience of residents and visitors using the space.

Since 2018, 14 projects including schools, sports clubs, youth groups and community organisations have been awarded funding in the Aylesbury area alone, through both CEF and BLEF funds.

Are you a local community group or business that's looking for support from HS2? The Community and Environment (CEF) and the Business and Local Economy Fund (BLEF) schemes will provide up to £40m of funding throughout the construction of HS2, supporting community-led projects.

You can find more information about eligibility and how to apply on the HS2 website.

www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/community-funding/



Construction progress

Thame Valley viaduct

Progress at the 880m long Thame Valley viaduct, which will carry HS2 across the River Thame floodplain, continued at pace over the summer. We began installing the first pre-cast concrete parapet sections this year which will form the barriers on either side of the viaduct. We have now successfully installed 140 parapets out of a total 716 to be fitted.

The deck of the viaduct is made up of concrete beams spanning 70 piers. Strengthening steel bars are fitted to reinforce the deck followed by poured concrete. Having started from the northern end of the viaduct, we now have 65% of the deck steel installed and 44% of the deck concrete poured. These activities will continue through this year and into 2026.



Above – Parapet section being lifted into place at the Thame Valley Viaduct

Prince Risborough to Aylesbury line culvert

Following the realignment of the Princes Risborough to Aylesbury Line (PRA) in 2023, work in this area has involved building the drainage and water course diversions in this busy area, with the PRA line, HS2 line and Stoke Mandeville Relief Road all within close proximity.

During August, our team reached an important milestone of diverting Stoke Brook through the new PRA culvert. The formation of this feature is now complete, topsoiling and seeding the banks will follow later this year.



Above – Stoke Brook running through the new PRA culvert

Construction progress continued

Waddesdon earthworks

We are progressing with the permanent landscaping earth bunds at Bicester road embankment and Waddesdon embankment. These bunds are built reusing material excavated from the Calvert area of the project.

At the Waddesdon south cutting, where extensive tree planting has already taken place earlier this year, we are continuing to topsoil other areas around the cutting.



Above – topsoiling at Waddesdon South Cutting

Culverts in Aylesbury

Between Stoke Mandeville and Quainton, the HS2 line crosses several watercourses. In many cases, these watercourses are being diverted to pass underneath the railway culverts.

Off site, pre-cast concrete culvert segments are made, which are delivered and assembled on site. They include a built in 'mammal ledge' – a shelf inside the culvert which allows wildlife to safely pass underneath the railway.



Above – waterproofing before backfilling, Fleet Marston Culvert

Noise barrier west Aylesbury

We are installing foundation piles for the sections on the railway that will feature a noise barrier, a concrete wall which will attenuate the noise from the railway when in operation.

The noise barrier along the west of Aylesbury will be placed next to the tracks, mainly inside cuttings or behind landscaping bunds.

Piles have been installed along the Aylesbury south cutting, Aylesbury Embankment and Oxford Road Cutting (between Stoke Mandeville and Hartwell). This work will continue in this area into 2026.



Above – Noise barrier piling rigs in use, Oxford Road Cutting



Progress in pictures



Top left and centre -
parapet installation
at Putlowes
overbridge (Fleet
Marston)



Middle left – chalk
material
replacement at
Aylesbury south
cutting with SMA/9
footbridge crossing
in background
(Stoke Mandeville)



Below –
earthworks at
Waddesdon
embankment and
north cutting

Community projects

Waddesdon Hall relations blooming

We have been busy supporting our neighbours at Waddesdon Hall to help tidy and maintain their outdoor space for their visitors. The hall has become a much-loved asset to the community, providing a space for celebrations, fitness classes, conferences and events for local residents.

In July, the team rolled up their sleeves and got to work on general maintenance of the garden including cutting back the overgrowth, tidying up the footpath, and removing left over earth which gave way to an additional car parking space for the hall.



Broughton Junior School running track

Broughton Junior School asked if we could help them expand their existing outdoor facilities by building a running track for the students to enjoy during play times. The design of the running track was developed to include mounds and tunnels, aiming to support the student's physical wellbeing, whilst enhancing their outdoor experience. This was delivered by EKFB and our contractor Clancy Group who levelled the area and imported over 200 tonnes of clay fill material and 60 tonnes of topsoil to complete the project.



Running track during construction



Running track 3 weeks after completion

HS2 reset news

Mark Wild was appointed as CEO of HS2 in December 2024. Mark is a rail infrastructure expert, who was brought in to put Crossrail on a successful path to opening in 2022.

He is now reviewing HS2's costs and schedule as part of a 12-month reset of the programme. He carried out a similar process as chief executive of Crossrail, helping to put the project back on track and deliver a successful opening of the Elizabeth line in 2022.

Reset timings

The reset is comprised of a series of stages and will be completed in 2026.

HS2 Ltd is not standing still during the reset. This year, we are implementing a rigorous plan to focus on driving productivity and efficiency.

The Spending Review

The multi-year financial settlement as set out in the Government's Spending Review - announced in June, provides greater certainty to the delivery of HS2 and lays the foundations for the reset.

The Spending Review document confirms HS2 Ltd's settlement as £25.3bn to progress the delivery of HS2 from Birmingham Curzon Street to London Euston. This multi-year financial settlement gives greater certainty to the delivery of HS2 and provides the foundations for the comprehensive reset of the project.

Future updates

We shall continue to provide you with updates on the reset and what this means in terms of our plans in this area.



HS2 CEO; Sir Mark Wild OBE

Keeping you informed

We are committed to keeping you informed about work on HS2. This includes making sure you know what to expect and when to expect it, as well as how we can help.

Residents' and Construction Commissioner

The independent Residents' and Construction Commissioner oversees and monitors our **community engagement strategy**, making sure we fulfil our commitments to you.

The commissioner monitors the way we manage and respond to complaints about construction and advises members of the public how to make complaints.

The commissioner helps settle disputes involving individuals and organisations that we can't resolve.

You can find the commissioner's report and our responses at:

www.gov.uk/government/collections/independent-hs2-commissioner

The commissioner can be contacted on: hs2commissioner@dft.gov.uk

Property and compensation

You can find out all about HS2 and properties along the 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/contact-us/how-to-complain

Contact us

Our HS2 Helpdesk team are available all day, every day. You can contact them by:



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 area, visit:

www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk

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Reference number: HS2-EKFB-25-1276

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