

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

# HS2 Update

Calvert | Winter 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](http://www.hs2inbucksandox.co.uk) up to date with information on our works in the local area.



## What's inside this newsletter

Our newsletters are an important way to update local communities on the progress of the HS2 project. This newsletter has been created specifically for the Calvert construction area (CA), located between Twyford and Quainton in Buckinghamshire.

In this edition of our newsletter, we will be looking at the latest information on our works, community projects and events.

Construction update to include;

- How HS2 will take shape
- Perry Hill bridge completion
- Edgcott overbridge and Shipton Lee realignment
- Community news –
  - Steeple Claydon school
  - North Marsden festival
  - Romney Meadows pond
  - Grendon Underwood play area
  - Wooden planter donation
  - Quainton harvest auction

## Brewing community spirit in Calvert

We received surplus tins of coffee from our supply chain partner, CMT, for redistribution to charity and community groups. This thoughtful donation will support local initiatives and bring warmth to those who need it most.



Pictured: Cllr Frank Mahon expressed his thanks from the community.

# From construction to a working railway: how HS2 will take shape

A driving force behind HS2's revised scheduling plan is the completion of an initial section of the HS2 route where high-speed trains will be tested - the **'test area'**

A review as part of the reset has concluded that insufficient time had been allocated to safely complete the railway's multiple testing stages. The test area will now be delivered in phases, allowing testing to start earlier and ensuring the programme remains on schedule.

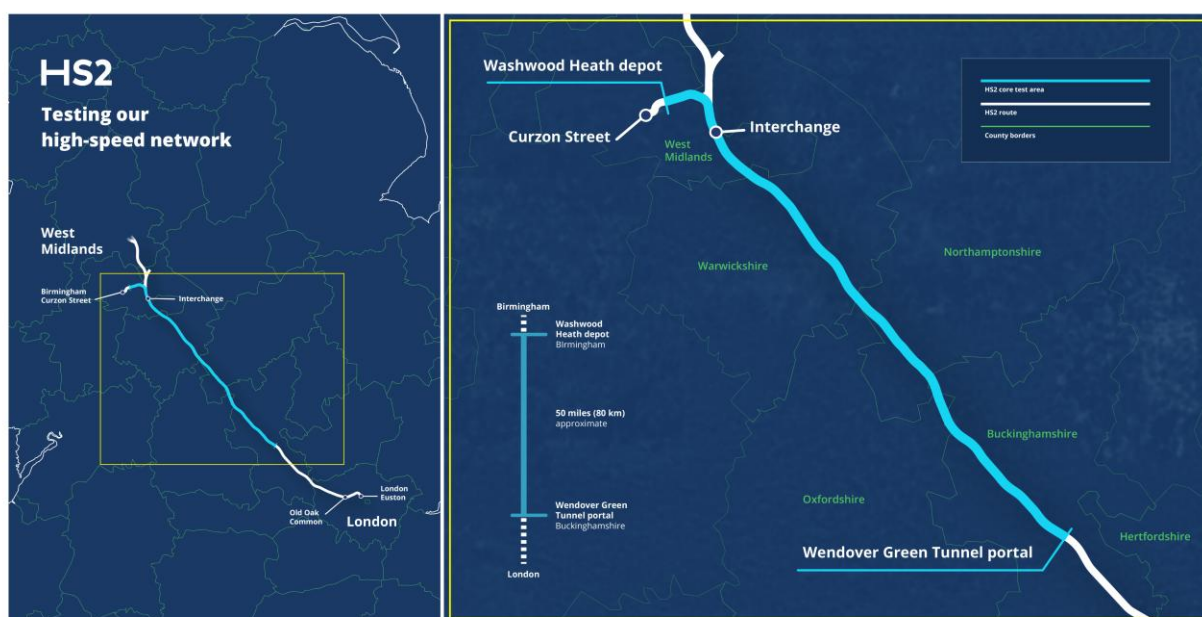
The first section is approximately 50 miles long and runs from Washwood Heath in Birmingham to the north portal of the Wendover green tunnel in Buckinghamshire. This section of the trace will be overlaid with track, power, signalling and communications systems ready for testing to begin.

The completion of civil engineering works on this section of the route is now the overriding priority, ready for Rail Systems. Alongside the need to operate within the annual funding envelope from government, it is why decisions have been made to defer works elsewhere on the route.

This means that we will continue to keep building and progressing with the programme to ensure that we are able to fully deliver the critical pathway for the HS2 test area.

For more information on the transition to Rail Systems click [here](#), or visit:

<https://mediacentre.hs2.org.uk/blogs/from-civils-to-systems>



## Perry Hill bridge completion – Gawcott Road opening

We are delighted to showcase the completed Perry Hill overbridge. This is a key structure for connecting local villages Gawcott, Edgcott and Grendon Underwood over the HS2 mainlines and additional Network Rail lines.

The two-span bridge will allow for local traffic to pass over with the addition of grass verges either side. The verges were included within the design as an additional way to enhance biodiversity and ecology within the area. The bridge is 99-metres long and up to 16 metres wide, contains multiple utilities and links into 1.5km of the newly realigned Gawcott Road.

Delivering a bridge of this scale was a monumental achievement for the team, made possible by overcoming multiple challenges and working in partnership with Buckinghamshire Council and SGN.



The image above shows the new Gawcott Road realigned over the completed Perry Hill bridge.



## Edgcott bridge and Shipton Lee realignment

The Shipton Lee road re-alignment works continue to the existing road. The new Edgcott Road bridge is required to take the re-aligned Shipton Lee road, over the HS2 mainline.

The demolition works and both east and west tie-ins on the existing bridge have been completed. The works on the western and eastern embankments are underway.

This sequence of demolition and tie-in's ensures that resident access has been maintained during this phase of the work.

The bridge deck construction continues with the parapets due to be installed in March 2026. The road is then expected to be open to the public shortly afterwards. We will keep you updated with progress as we head into 2026.



Edgcott Road bridge in construction.

# Community news

## Steeple Claydon School - hall and outside area

A team of eight EKFB volunteers spent time over a week during the school holiday to repaint the school hall, a huge room with walls 5 metres high.

This now looks clean and bright with a fresh coat of white paint.

In addition, together with our supply chain partners, H W Martin, EKFB were able to completely transform the outside area for the preschool children.

This involved removing the old wooden seating from the amphitheatre area, filling this in by transferring earth from the adjacent mound and levelling the whole area.

Finally, some smart new fencing was erected around an enlarged area that makes it safe for the younger children to play and explore.

Do you have a community project for 2026 that needs some support?

Get in touch with the EKFB Community Engagement team on **[hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)** and let's talk about how we can help.



The images above show the before and after photos for the work done inside and outside at Steeple Claydon School.



## Community spirit at North Marston festival

EKFB, alongside supply chain partners H W Martin and Speedy Hire, proudly supported the recent dog show and music festival in North Marston. Demonstrating our commitment to community investment, we supplied 100 traffic cones to manage crowd control, 160 metres of pedestrian barriers to guide visitors safely from the carpark to the event field, and 6 tower lights to light the area once the sun went down.

The day brought together families, dog enthusiasts and music lovers for a memorable celebration in the heart of the village. See our EKFB banner, taking pride of place right in front of the stage – a symbol of our ongoing support for communities and events.



“The equipment was greatly appreciated and essential to the event’s success. For a first-time festival, the turnout was impressive. Huge thanks to EKFB for their generous support”

- Trevor Lane (Co -Chair North Marston & Granborough Community Sports Field)

## Community News

### Romney Meadows pond

Residents of Romney Meadows in Quainton were scratching their heads about the community pond which sits within the new housing development.

Our EKFB ecology expert spent an hour on site and offered his advice on pruning, planting and habitat creation which was much appreciated.



### Wooden planters

We were happy to distribute a number of wooden crates for repurposing into garden planters. Calvert Green community centre have brightened up their outdoor area by transforming several of these with some colourful plants.



### Grendon Underwood play area

During the installation of new play equipment, EKFB were able to support with Heras fencing to secure the area and ensure the safety of the local children during installation. It was opened early October 2025.



### Quainton harvest auction

EKFB were delighted to be able to donate a joint National Trust membership to Quainton Harvest Auction. This is a tradition which started in the late 60's to support many of our local village clubs, organisations and charities. The auction raised a fantastic £4000.



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

The commissioner can be contacted on:  
[hs2commissioner@dft.gov.uk](mailto: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](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/contact-us/how-to-complain](http://www.hs2.org.uk/contact-us/how-to-complain)

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High Speed Two (HS2) Limited, registered in England and Wales.  
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## 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](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 area, visit:

[www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk](http://www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk)

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