

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

HS2 Update

Birmingham | Winter 2026

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

This update will provide key information and news on HS2 works in Birmingham.

Saltley Viaduct upgrade set to become a major milestone for HS2 in Birmingham

HS2 is preparing for a major redevelopment of Saltley Viaduct in Birmingham, that will strengthen the city's transport network and enable high-speed rail to connect seamlessly into the region.

Plans are underway for the existing structure to be replaced with a new, resilient viaduct designed to meet advanced engineering standards, improving durability and capacity while ensuring the HS2 line can pass beneath. To complete these works, the viaduct will need to close for approximately 18 months.

Diversion routes have been carefully planned to keep traffic moving, and clear signage will be in place throughout the closure period.

Ahead of construction, essential preparation is taking place to relocate a critical high voltage cable currently positioned beneath the footprint of the new bridge, ensuring power supplies to homes and businesses remain protected.

To enable these works, traffic management measures will be implemented on the A47 Heartlands Parkway between the Aston Church Road roundabout and the Saltley Viaduct roundabout.

We will continue to keep road users, communities and businesses updated as the work progresses and key dates are confirmed.



Saltley Viaduct



Saltley Viaduct construction works



HS2 Reset

We're making sure HS2 provides the best value for Britain. Our CEO, Mark Wild, is leading a full review to reset HS2's cost and schedule and put the project back on track.

This reset is about giving the Government and taxpayers a clear picture of what the project will cost and when it will be finished.

The Government has backed the reset of HS2, providing multi-year funding that gives the stability and time needed to carry out a comprehensive review.



HS2 CEO, Mark Wild

Next steps

Given the scale and complexity of HS2, the reset has a series of stages and will be completed by 2026. During the reset, we will continue to build the railway, focusing our construction efforts on priority areas across Birmingham.

This will help speed up construction, cut costs and improve productivity. It will create a solid foundation for delivering the programme in the future and ensure we realise HS2's huge benefits and opportunities.

Work at Curzon Street station

We're completing the detailed design for the station, including other transport connections like the tram, before construction of the station building starts.

Our contractor, Mace Dragados Joint Venture is making good progress and has installed over 2000 piles underground, which will support the foundations for the new station.

Curzon Street will be one of the most sustainable stations in the world – we're already fitting rainwater tanks to recycle water for the station.

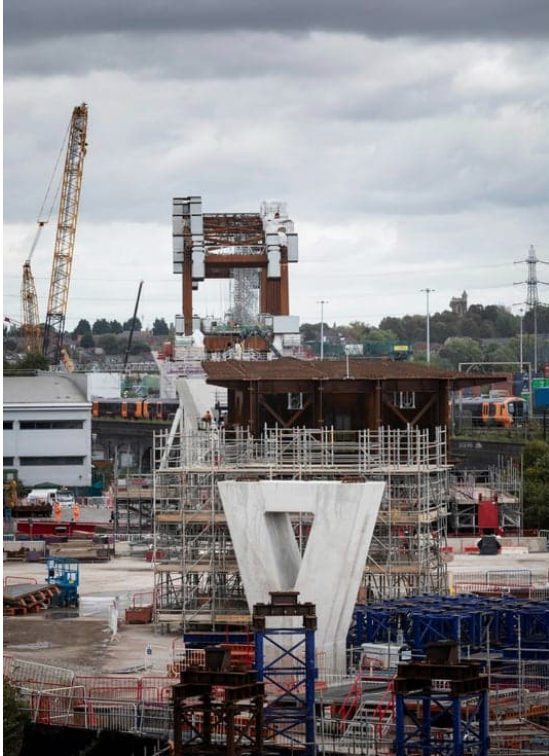


Artist impression of the new HS2 train station at Curzon Street

Upcoming Works

We will continue to keep the community informed with further updates, as Curzon No.2 Viaduct and Duddeston Viaduct move into their upcoming phases of work.

Curzon No.2 Viaduct



Construction progress of Curzon No. 2 Viaduct

Significant progress has been made on Curzon 2, one of the major structures supporting HS2's arrival into Birmingham.

The assembly phase of the structure is now complete, and work will progress to the construction of the main bridge structure.

Welding is scheduled to finish in the first quarter of 2026, ensuring the structure is ready for the next phase of work in April. This includes installing the support components needed to guide and stabilise the bridge as it is moved into position.

The launch of Curzon 2 is planned for the end of May 2026. During this operation, the bridge section will be moved several metres across the rail line into its final position, creating greater distance between the structure and nearby residential properties.

Duddeston Viaduct

Construction at Duddeston is moving ahead as HS2 prepares for the next major phase of building the new viaduct in Birmingham.

The first launch, during which the large section will be moved into its final position, is planned for May 2026.

Steel elements have already been delivered to site, and assembly and fitting of these components is now underway.



Duddeston Viaduct

Commissioner visits HS2 works at Curzon Street in Birmingham

HS2's Residents' and Construction Commissioner, Robert Herga, visited Birmingham to see progress on the landmark Curzon Street Station and meet the communities along the HS2 route in Birmingham.

On Wednesday 22 October, Robert Herga spent time at several major construction sites across Birmingham as part of his new role as HS2's Residents' and Construction Commissioner. The visit gave him a clearer understanding of the railway's progress and how it may impact on local communities.

The visit included a detailed tour of the Curzon Street, where Robert Herga saw first-hand how this major structure will connect the HS2 line to the new Curzon Street Station.

Curzon Street will be Birmingham's first new intercity station in over a century and is set to become one of the UK's most sustainable transport hubs.

It will serve as a key destination and thriving departure point at the heart of Britain's new high-speed rail network.

During the visit, discussions focused on how the project will deliver improved connectivity, economic growth, and opportunities for local communities, while maintaining strong engagement with residents throughout construction.

The tour provided an opportunity to discuss how the project interfaces with local people and places, ensuring that community considerations remain central as construction advances.



HS2 Commissioner, Robert Herga, visiting HS2 works



HS2 Commissioner, Robert Herga with members of HS2 & BBV Engagement Teams

Skills, employment and education

We are committed to ensuring local communities have priority access to jobs and training opportunities.

Our Recruit Local First strategy aims to empower the communities we serve. This approach guarantees that employment opportunities within our business are initially extended to local unemployed jobseekers, offering skills and development opportunities to those who struggle to secure sustainable and meaningful employment. Training courses are available for candidates who meet the eligibility criteria and are in receipt of state benefits.



Two easy steps to register your interest in our current opportunities

- 1 Scan the QR code or use the link below:
<https://forms.office.com/e/pk4aWbEeCH>
- 2 and send us your CV:
see.team@balfourbeattyvinci.com



Case Study: Miqdam Guezzou, Consents Admin (Paid Placement)

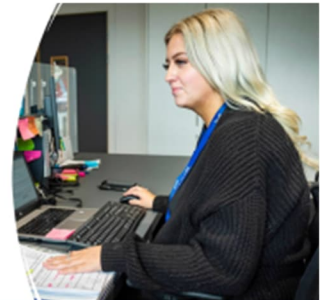
Miqdam graduated from De Montfort University with a degree in Pharmaceutical Science. He struggled to find a job and spent the next two years either unemployed or working as a security guard and in warehouses. He lost count of how many jobs he applied for and became demoralised by the process – “It felt like a lot longer than two years.”

This changed in March 2025 when he attended a jobs fair at Aston Villa Football Club in Birmingham and spoke to the BBV SEE (Skills, Employment and Education) Team about paid placement opportunities.

The previous two years had been demoralising for Miqdam and, due to the high number of jobs he had applied for, he had low expectations that the conversation would lead to anything meaningful.

However, he was astonished and grateful to be offered a paid placement opportunity in the Consents Team.

Could your team benefit from an additional admin resource?
If yes, we can help!



We provide access to:



- Work-ready candidates from our **SEE talent pool**



- Funding for **6 months at no cost to your flight plan**



- A **fully-managed process** with regular contact and support



Skills development and confidence building for those with barriers to employment

Balfour Beatty VINCI  Working in partnership with **HS2**

If you are looking for work, please get in touch to register your interest and send your CV to: **see.team@balfourbeattyvinci.com**

Community Investment

HS2's Community Investment programme enables us to support those communities most impacted by our works.

BBV helps renew Washwood Heath Academy's outdoor space

The quad at Washwood Heath Academy had become worn and uneven, making it less practical for everyday use. Students often relied on the space to spend time during breaks, but over time, the layout and ageing surfaces caused it to feel cramped and unwelcoming. As a result, it was no longer meeting the school's needs.



BBV volunteers at Washwood Heath Academy

Our BBV team spent two weeks transforming the quad into a more functional, accessible and welcoming environment. We improved the layout, refreshed tired areas, and created a more open and practical space. The work made the quad feel noticeably brighter, safer and far more user-friendly for students and staff.

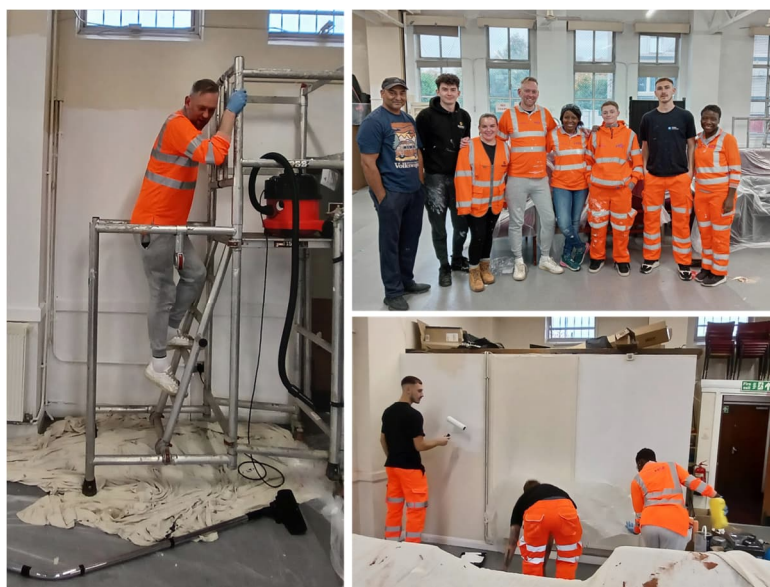
The project reflects our commitment to working collaboratively with local schools and adapting our work to meet the needs of the communities we support.

Brightening up Ward End Wellbeing Centre

The main hall at Ward End Wellbeing Centre was given a fresh new look through the efforts of BBV volunteers and partners.

Teams from BBV, Sunbelt, and Reliable Contractors rolled up their sleeves at Ward End Wellbeing Centre to refurbish and brighten the space for community use.

Sunbelt provided the access platform that enabled work on the high ceilings, while paint supplies were generously donated by EH Smith and Selkent. Through this collaborative support, the hall was transformed in just one day.



BBV volunteers at Ward End Well-being Centre

BBV aims to create lasting benefits for the community and uphold our commitment to social value.

Engaging with local communities in Birmingham

At BBV, we believe building infrastructure goes hand-in-hand with building stronger 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 – call 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

Follow us on social channels



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

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High Speed Two (HS2) Limited, registered in England and Wales.
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Company registration number: 06791686. VAT registration number: 888 8512 56

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

To keep up to date with what is happening in your area, visit:

www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk

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