

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

HS2 Update

Aylesbury Area | Spring 2026



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's inside this newsletter

In this spring edition, we reflect on a collaborative community effort to restore a local landmark and take a look at what innovative practices are used on the project. Also, a review of the construction progress on key structures taking shape in 2026. We'll then take a look at some community investment and social value projects that we've delivered locally. You'll also find:

- Spotlight on the Greenway bridge deck and the launch video
- Up to date aerial footage showing construction progress along the HS2 trace in Buckinghamshire
- The local area map
- Information on how to contact us and stay informed



Drop-in event

We run community events and drop-in sessions in our Mobile Visitor Centre, local village halls and community hubs. Please come and visit us:

Date: **Tuesday 7 April**

Time: **1-4pm**

Place: **Stone Recreation Ground, Bishopstone Road, Stone, HP17 8RE**

Full details of upcoming events are listed here:

<https://www.hs2.org.uk/events/>

Left: The Waddesdon south cutting following grass and tree planting

In the spotlight – Greenway bridge deck lift

The 40-metre-long steel bridge deck for the permanent FMA/1 Greenway crossing was successfully lifted onto its abutments in December, an important milestone to reach before the end of 2025. The bridge deck is a trussed design made from weathering steel which darkens in colour over time to blend into the rural landscape. The 5-metre-wide bridge will carry a footpath, cycleway and bridleway when the Greenway is permanently diverted.

Work continues on the approach abutments and land drainage ahead of the opening later this year. Scan the QR code or follow the URL link below to watch the deck being lifted into position.

<https://vimeo.com/1159316784/6191d3bfbf?share=copy&fl=sv&fe=ci>



Right: The Waddesdon Greenway bridge deck lift in December 2025



Innovation at the Thame Valley viaduct

Our construction teams are always looking for ways to improve upon techniques. At the Thame Valley viaduct, a new method is being employed to lift each of the 8-tonne concrete parapet sections that will make up the barriers of the structure. Previously, cables attached to anchor points on the parapets themselves have been used to lift these large components into place.



An innovative method using a suction frame has been developed which has greatly improved this process. This enables faster and more efficient lifting and negates the need to remove and refinish the lifting points after each installation, which saves even more time.

Left: pre-cast parapet sections being lifted into place using the suction frame

Construction progress

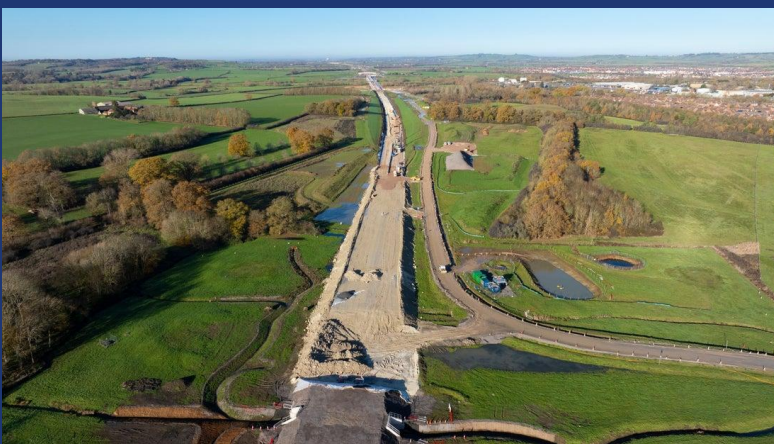


WAD/4 overbridge (Waddesdon)

To the north of Waddesdon, where the WAD/4 footpath crosses the HS2 trace, a permanent overbridge will carry pedestrians and accommodate landowner access across the railway. This structure is well underway with its concrete abutments, supporting piers and concrete beams installed. This overbridge will open to the public in late 2027.

Thame Valley viaduct (Aylesbury)

With progress on the structure accelerating, installation of all 716 precast parapet sections and completion of the concrete deck is expected by early summer 2026. Removal of surcharge material at the abutments and waterproofing works is currently underway. At 880 metres long, the viaduct will be the longest HS2 structure in the Aylesbury area.



Oxford Road Embankment and Whaddon Hill cutting (Aylesbury)

Work throughout this spring and summer will see the completion of the remaining sections of embankment. The excavation work at the site of the SBH/2 and SBH/32 footbridges has also commenced at the Whaddon Hill cutting and Oxford Road embankment. The landscaping bunds and land drainage will also be taking shape this year.

Construction progress continued



SMA/9 overbridge (Stoke Mandeville)

December saw the successful installation of the beams that will support the SMA/9 overbridge deck, south of Stoke Mandeville. Work continues on formwork for concrete pours for the deck and wingwalls at either abutment, expected to be completed this spring. The bridge will open from late 2027.

Risborough Road underpass

The underpass started taking shape over winter. Foundation piles have been installed, with steel reinforcement in preparation for formwork and the concrete for the walls of the structure. The underpass will carry pedestrian and cycle traffic under the railway embankment when it opens to the public in 2027.



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 or follow the URL link below to view the footage.

<https://vimeo.com/747833945/f6ba1ecfe3?fl=pl&fe=sh>



Schools engagement and social value

Historic Bicester Road milestone, Waddesdon

In January, we successfully reinstated a heritage milestone marker back into the local community on our A41 road realignment works near Waddesdon.

Originally removed from the verge of the old road to allow us to complete our A41 realignment works, the milestone was temporarily passed into the safe hands of 'I'd Like to Borrow' - a tool and equipment loan and repair scheme ran by volunteers operating out of the Buckinghamshire Railway Centre.

Thanks to the volunteers' time and efforts, the milestone was delicately restored before being reinstated during overnight road closures, returning a much-loved piece of local history to its natural environment.

Right: The milestone with EKFB staff, Buckinghamshire Council, Waddesdon Parish Council, The Milestone Society and local volunteers.



The Bucks Skills Show



EKFB supported by volunteers from our supply chain were proud to be part of The Bucks Skills Show 2026. Drawing more than 6,000 attendees across March 4th & 5th, including 500 SEND students, teachers from 47 schools, parents and adult career seekers. Educational outreach is a key part of the legacy of our project, inspiring young people to reach their full potential.

Left: EKFB won an award for most interactive stand which included a Davinci bridge, coding train and information on careers in construction & engineering

Waddesdon village spring litter pick

We have proudly supported the Great British Spring Clean campaign. Working jointly with the Waddesdon Parish Council, volunteers from EKFB completed a litter pick in the local area. The team paid a particular focus to the layby and around School Lane.

In total 7 bags of rubbish, weighing an average of 3kg each were collected.

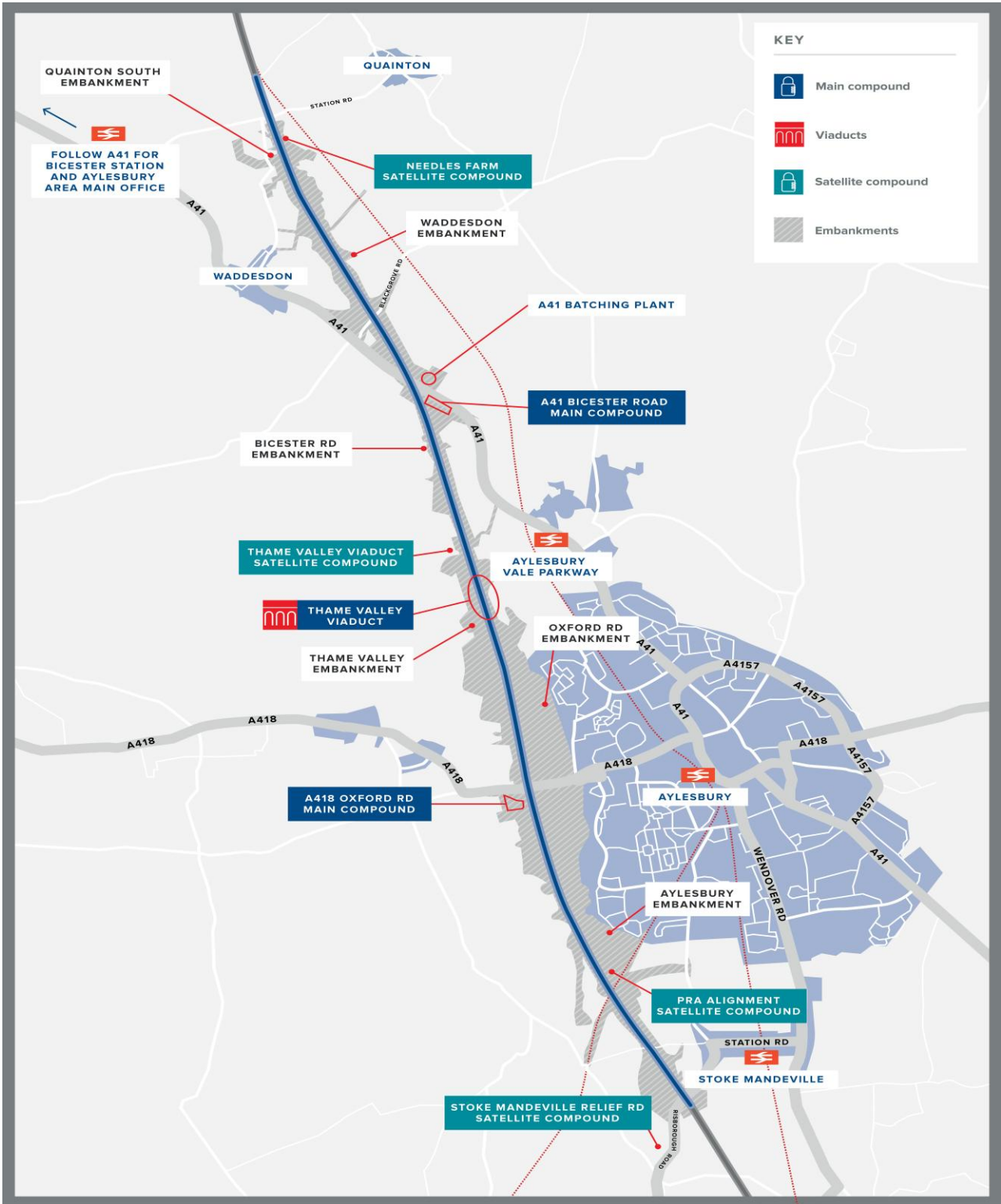
Right: EKFB staff after a spring litter pick in Waddesdon.



Area map

Quanton to Stoke Mandeville

The map below shows the location of works in your area:



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

Please contact us if you'd like a free copy of this document in large print, Braille, audio or easy read. You can also contact us for help and information in a different language.

We are committed to protecting personal information. If you would like to know more about how we use your personal information, please see our privacy notice (www.gov.uk/government/publications/high-speed-two-ltd-privacy-notice)

Reference number: HS2-EKFB-26-1715

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