

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

# HS2 Update

Old Oak and North Acton | Spring 2026

High Speed Two (HS2) is the new high-speed railway for Britain. Their contractors, Balfour Beatty VINCI SYSTRA (BBVS) and Skanska Costain STRABAG (SCS) joint ventures, are continuing works in Old Oak and North Acton to build the new railway.

## Progress at Old Oak Common

Construction across the Old Oak Common station site is progressing well. Road and utility diversions on Old Oak Common Lane are at an advanced stage, while public realm works – including drainage, water tanks, and lighting installation – are ongoing. The station control area building basement is beginning to take shape, with the upward concrete columns being assembled.

At the HS2 station, platform slabs are going in, while works on the ground floor and other core structures continue. At the conventional station, the external wall is being installed.

The Old Oak Common station site was also prepared in readiness for the launch of ‘Madeleine’ – the 1,624-tonne tunnel boring machine (TBM) –

which set off on its 4.5-mile journey to dig the Euston tunnel in January.

‘Madeleine’ was joined by ‘Karen’ in March, both creating new rail tunnels deep beneath the capital. Tunnelling is expected to take 18 months, excavating over 1.5 million tonnes of spoil in the process.

In order to reduce emissions and traffic impacts, the spoil will be carried out using a conveyor system, which will take the material from the tunnels to Willesden Euroterminal and out of the area by rail.

The excavated material is then re-used for a range of construction and restoration projects across Kent, Cambridgeshire, and Warwickshire helping to reduce the environmental impacts and support other construction projects.



SCS's TBM ‘Madeleine’ being blessed

## Virtual Drop-ins

Running until 15 December 2026, 3 – 6pm, every month

### HS2 & SCS JV Tunnelling Works



Come and see how HS2 is being built by signing up for one of our virtual drop-ins! You'll get to see the railway taking shape and have a chance to speak to our specialists. You can register by scanning the QR code above or visiting HS2 website: <https://www.hs2.org.uk/events/>

## Social Value

### Kenmont Primary School: Garden Project

SCS has recently completed work to support Kenmont Primary School by transforming their garden strip into an outdoor growing space. Through collaborative effort, SCS installed new planters, a purpose-built growing area near the sports pitch, a new gate, and a hoggin pathway made of a mix of clay, sand, and gravel. The transformation has created a much larger, more functional, and inviting environment where every class will now have access to a planter and a shared greenhouse.

This project will provide pupils with hands-on opportunities to learn about growing fruit and vegetables, teamwork, and sustainability, while enjoying the wellbeing benefits of spending time outdoors. SCS are delighted to have supported the school and the local community by creating a space that will be enjoyed by students throughout the spring and summer and for years to come.

“Thank you again to you and your team. We are so overjoyed with the new garden strip which you have totally transformed. You have brought our vision to life and to be honest, it is even better than we could have imagined.” – Catherine, School Business Manager – Kenmont Primary School.

### Christmas Toy Appeal

Over the Christmas period, BBVS and its subcontractors organised a Toy Appeal for the Salvation Army in Ealing. This led to 164 toys donated for distribution to families in need across the borough.



Completed Kenmont Primary School outdoor growing space



Salvation Army Toy Appeal

## Social Value

### Ealing Construction Awards

Congratulations to Charlotte Thomas, HS2's Civil Engineering Apprentice, who won Apprentice of the Year, and to Luca Wickham, HS2's Supported Intern for winning Work Experience Student of the Year in the Ealing Construction Awards!

Charlotte attended Brentside High School in Ealing, completed work experience at Old Oak Common and then secured a Level 4 apprenticeship with HS2. She's now studying a fully funded BEng Civil Engineering degree at the University of Exeter.

Luca is a Supported Intern at Old Oak Common, part of a programme for young people with special educational needs and disabilities. He is a resident of Ealing and regularly supports schools' outreach programmes in the local area.



Charlotte Thomas,  
Apprentice of the Year

### Old Oak HS2 Community Funds Event

HS2 delivered an information session for 33 community and voluntary organisations in Hammersmith & Fulham. The event, hosted at the Old Oak Community Centre, gave attendees an opportunity to hear from Greg Ward, HS2 Funds Manager, about the funding available to organisations near Old Oak Common station.

This was organised in partnership with H&F Giving and the Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation (OPDC) to promote the event and ensure their own funding opportunities were also shared.

Following an information session with the Young Ealing Foundation and Ealing Council earlier in 2025, a number of the community organisations that attended have now received a grant from the HS2 Community Environment Fund (CEF).



HS2 Community Funds event at Old Oak  
Community Centre

# 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)

Ref: HS2-OOC - SCP-26-1934

## 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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