

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

HS2 Update

Old Oak and North Acton | Summer 2026

High Speed Two (HS2) is the new high-speed railway for Britain. Our contractors Balfour Beatty Vinci Systra (BBVS) and Skanska Costain STRABAG joint Venture (SCSJV) are continuing works in Old Oak and North Acton to build the new railway

Old Oak Common Station progress

Work at Old Oak Common is progressing steadily, with several key milestones reached in recent weeks.

Along Old Oak Common Lane, further progress has been made on the railway bridges that will carry trains into the new station. A section of the old Wycombe Line Bridge supporting structure has now been demolished. This is part of the wider programme to realign the Great Western Mainline over the Central line and lower the road.

Within the station site, the site's permanent drainage connection has been constructed. This is an important step that will unlock future work for the conventional station railway track and equipment.

The first architectural support structures for the conventional station are currently being installed, which will support the future passenger concourse and roof.

We are preparing for the next stage of the station roof by inspecting key structural steel components. This work will support the construction of a full-scale mock-up section of the roof, enabling engineers to examine the design in detail and ensure its can be built and assembled as planned.



View from the Euston Tunnel

Tunnelling Virtual Drop-in event

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

HS2 & SCS JV Tunnelling works



Register for this event by scanning the QR code or by visiting the HS2 Events page at: <https://www.hs2.org.uk/events/>

Successful removal of one of three remaining conveyor bridges on Victoria Road

SCS JV has completed the removal of one of three remaining conveyor bridges over Victoria Road, next to the Dudding Hill rail bridge near Midland Terrace

The conveyor bridge formed part of the temporary construction logistics system used to support HS2 works in the Old Oak and North Acton area. Its removal marks an important step in the ongoing demobilisation of temporary equipment as works in the area continue to progress.

The work was carefully planned and delivered over a weekend closure of Victoria Road to allow the works to be carried out safely and efficiently. Large lifting equipment was used to remove the bridge sections, with traffic management, pedestrian diversions and local access arrangements in place throughout the works.

SCS JV would like to thank residents, businesses and road users for their patience and cooperation while the closure was in place. The successful removal of the conveyor bridge reflects the continued progress being made across the Victoria Road worksites, while reducing the amount of temporary construction infrastructure in the local area.



Conveyor bridge lift from the Flat Iron site

With the bridge removal works on Victoria Road, SCS provided a taxi shuttle service to help residents move around the area safely and conveniently.



Road closure on Victoria Road during conveyor bridge lift

Works to remove the remaining two bridges near School Road are planned for later this year. Updates will be provided to the local community.

Old Oak Common Tunnel

Work on the final section of the Old Oak Common tunnel will start in June and is expected to finish in December 2026.

During this work, tunnelling will move closer to homes on Wells House Road and will later pass under Old Oak Common Lane to connect to Old Oak Common Station. People living above the tunnel route may notice more ground noise and vibration during this period. To reduce disturbance at night, our tunnelling team will carry out the noisier excavation work during the day.

The SCS engagement team will provide regular updates to residents, so they are kept informed when noisier work is expected in the coming months.

For more information about the Old Oak Common Tunnel, see our FAQs via the following link: <https://www.hs2.org.uk/about-us/documents/old-oak-common-tunnel-faqs/>

Please contact the HS2 helpdesk if you would like to speak about these works.



Residents visit the Old Oak Common Tunnel (2025)

Progress at Victoria Road Crossover Box site (VRCB) in North Acton

Works at the Victoria Road Crossover Box in North Acton continue to make progress, with the site now showing clear signs of the permanent HS2 infrastructure that will form part of the future railway.

One of the most noticeable changes is the emergence of the above-ground structures like the headhouse. A headhouse is a building located above a ventilation shaft. It provides access to the underground railway infrastructure and houses essential equipment needed to safely operate the railway.

These elements are now becoming visible from outside the site, marking an important stage in the transformation of the area from major excavation and below-ground construction to the delivery of permanent structures.

The Victoria Road Crossover Box compound is a key structure on the HS2 route. Once complete, it will allow trains to switch between tracks within the tunnelled section of the railway. This is an important operational feature, helping to provide flexibility for the future railway service.



Steel and concrete structure of the VRCB headhouse

Future talent gets a front row seat at SCS

SCS JVs skills, education and employment (SEE) Team recently hosted St Dominic's Six Form College students for a week of work experience on the HS2 project in Acton.

Throughout the week, the pupils were introduced to a wide range of disciplines across the project, helping to showcase that modern construction is more than hard hats and orange overalls. From stakeholder engagement and environmental management to engineering, logistics, safety, communications and project delivery, the students experienced the huge variety of careers and skills required to deliver a project of this scale.

Working alongside different teams, the pupils supported departments with day-to-day activities while developing their confidence, communication skills and understanding of the industry. The placement gave them the opportunity to ask questions, learn from professionals across the business and gain a real appreciation of the collaborative effort behind major infrastructure works.

The week ended in the pupils delivering a presentation to SCS team members, reflecting on their experience and sharing what they had learned during their time on the project. The students spoke openly about what had gone well, the challenges they faced and the key lessons they would take forward into their future education and careers.



St Dominic's pupils receiving their certificates after the end of program presentations

The presentations highlighted not only how much the pupils had developed over the course of the week, but also the importance of creating meaningful opportunities for young people to engage with the construction and infrastructure sector.

Initiatives such as these continue to play an important role in supporting future talent, breaking down perceptions of the industry and inspiring the next generation to consider careers within construction, engineering and major project delivery.

A life changing apprenticeship

Niamh Meehan, who is from Greenford, recently spoke to Around Ealing magazine about her journey from apprentice to HR Advisor for BBVS, and what she's learned along the way.

She highlighted how helpful it was to combine hands-on work with studying:



Niamh Meehan interview with Ealing magazine reporter

"My apprenticeship felt like the perfect balance. I could learn something in college and then put it into practice at work straight away."

Since 2019, the BBVS Joint Venture and its supply chain partners have supported 202 apprentices working on the Old Oak Common station project.

Through our skills, education and employment programmes, we are helping local people across West London gain skills, build careers, and access long-term opportunities in the industry.

Read the story:

<https://www.aroundealing.com/news/life-changing-apprenticeship/>

Canal adoption programme

In early May, we joined the Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation (OPDC) and the Canal & River Trust for a walking tour along the Grand Union Canal.

As part of the canal adoption programme, being run by the Canal & River Trust and supported by OPDC, BBVS have adopted a stretch of canalside close by to the HS2 site in Old Oak.

This means we will be taking part in regular litter picks along the canal, helping to maintain the canalside and its wildlife, and making sure it is an accessible and pleasant place to visit.

We're looking forward to seeing this part of the Grand Union Canal thrive under the care of BBVS and other businesses who have adopted neighbouring stretches.



Canal visit with the Canal & River Trust and OPDC

Turning spaces into places: giving our office furniture a second life

BBVS recently donated furniture from the Old Oak Common office to local charity Old Oak Social Enterprise.

Old Oak Social Enterprise is a community-led organisation, working alongside residents to create welcoming spaces, meaningful activities and local opportunities.

They have recently moved into a building near East Acton station and needed a helping hand to furnish the space. We supported by donating a sofa, tables and chairs.

If you are a local charity or organisation with a project that could benefit from support, please contact us via the HS2 helpdesk to discuss potential opportunities.



Office furniture finding a new home

Over £340,000 awarded to local charities this year

From January, a total of £340,000 have been awarded to local charities and community groups across Ealing and Hammersmith & Fulham through the HS2 Community & Environment Fund (CEF) and Business and Local Economy Fund (BLEF).

These funds provide an opportunity for HS2 to give back to areas affected by construction. To date, the schemes have supported 405 projects, with a combined investment of £22.3 million.

Many local organisations have benefited from the latest funding round in May.

West Acton Community Association will refurbish the toilets and kitchen facilities at their community centre, helping to improve the space for local users.

Ark Conway School will expand their mental health and wellbeing support by offering after-school counselling sessions, ensuring more students can access help when they need it.

Springfield (Acton) Bowls Club will enhance its facilities to attract and retain members, including roof renovations and the installation of a rainwater harvesting and irrigation system.

Earlier in the year, funding also supported The Young Ealing Foundation, WEST Youth Zone in White City, HomelessNest and Home-Start Ealing, further strengthening community resources in the area.

We are proud to see this investment making a positive difference and supporting projects that matter to local people.

For details of CEF and BLEF funding, follow the link below (hs2funds.org.uk) - <https://hs2funds.org.uk/>



Opening of refurbished Greenford Library

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-SCS-26-2189