

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

HS2 Update

Euston tunnel newsletter | Autumn 2026



High Speed Two (HS2) is the new high-speed railway for Britain. The Euston tunnel, being built by Skanska Costain STRABAG joint venture (SCSJV), is the eastern section of the HS2 London tunnels, connecting HS2's Old Oak Common station to the Euston Approaches.

Update on the Euston tunnel

Our tunnel boring machines (TBMs) have now left the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and are currently in the London Borough of Brent, making their way into Camden in October, before reaching their final destination at Euston in summer 2027.

In this newsletter, we take a closer look at progress on the Euston tunnel, how we are protecting heritage as tunnelling continues, and how we're engaging young people in Camden and King's Cross about careers in construction.



Please follow the link to the **HS2 Email Form** to subscribe to our email newsletter and receive updates about what's happening in your area.

Public engagement events

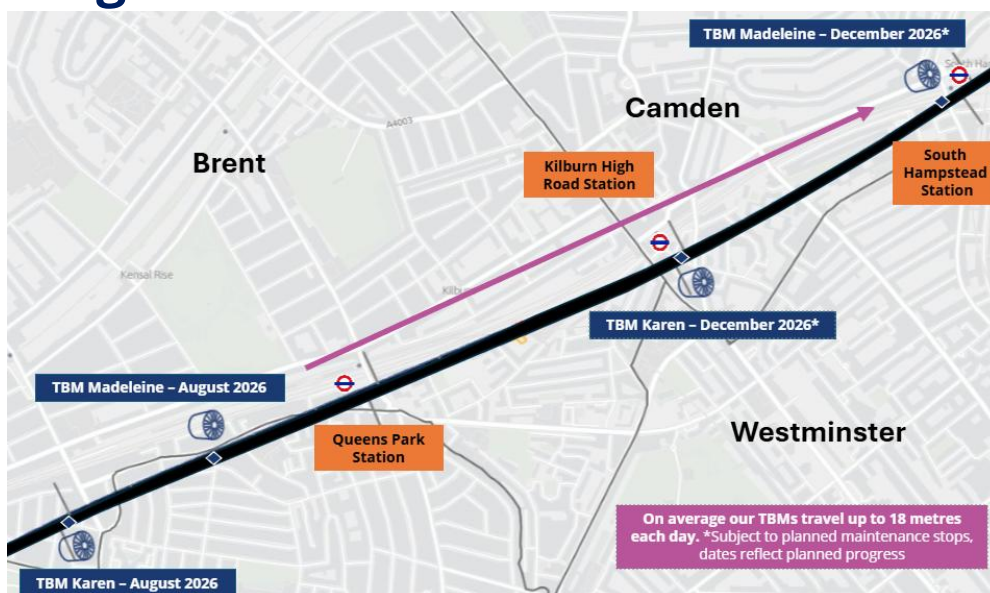
We will continue to hold in-person and virtual tunnelling engagement events:

- 1:1 virtual event every third Tuesday of the month. Our next events will be on Tuesday 15 September, 3pm to 6pm
- In-person drop-in event at the Euston Community Hub, North Gower Street, NW1 2LY, on 22 September, 4.30pm to 7pm

Further details can be found on www.hs2.org.uk/events or scan the QR code below with your smart phone camera.



Progress on the Euston tunnel



To view the progress of the Euston tunnel please scan the QR code below, or you can visit:

www.hs2.org.uk/map/
and select 'Tunnels'

HS2 in your area map



The Euston TBMs, Madeleine and Karen, have now passed under Kensal Green Cemetery and are currently tunnelling under the Queen's Park area in the London Borough of Brent.

We've completed about 4,800 metres of tunnelling

Since the launch of our TBMs we've completed around 2,400 metres of tunnelling for each of the twin-bore tunnel. That's nearly a third of the distance we need to travel to Euston, and the length of nearly 23 football pitches!



Front of a TBM cutterhead

We've removed over 530,000 tonnes of London clay

That's the equivalent weight of about 75,000 vintage style London Routemaster buses or enough to fill around 100 Olympic sized swimming pools!

Euston tunnel FAQ

Please scan the QR code on this page with your smart phone camera to access the Euston tunnel FAQ or follow this link here.

You can also find more information about how we are building Euston Tunnel following this link: **<http://www.hs2.org.uk/building-hs2/tunnels/euston-tunnel/>**



Protecting our heritage

When the past touches our present

Our TBMs have recently built the twin-bore tunnel under Kensal Green Cemetery as we continue along the route towards Euston.

Kensal Green Cemetery is one of London's 'Magnificent Seven' cemeteries. It contains 152 listed tombs, memorials and mausoleums, including those for famous Victorian architects, engineers, artists, politicians and preachers.

Two of the most famous people buried at the cemetery are Sir Marc Brunel and his son, Isambard Kingdom Brunel.

Two hundred years ago they designed and constructed the Thames Tunnel, the first tunnel to pass under a navigable river.



Brunel Family Headstone

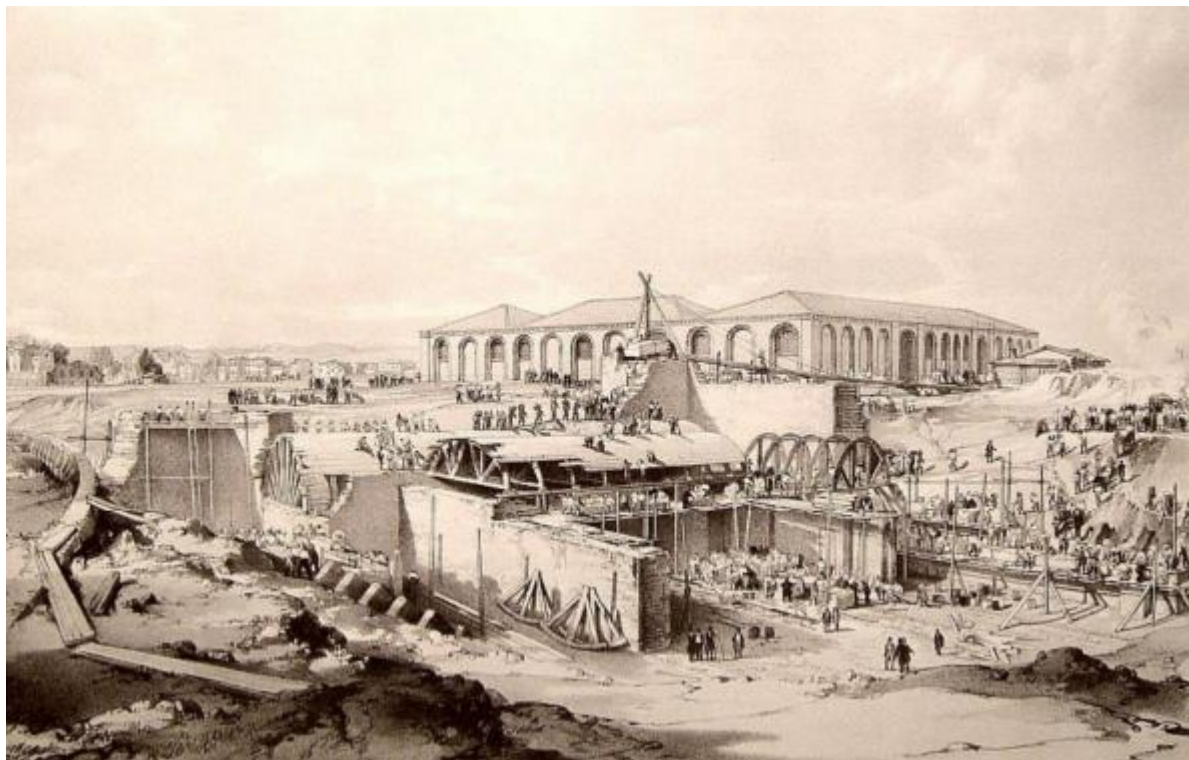
Key to their engineering success was the use of the tunnelling shield, newly invented by Marc Brunel and Thomas Cochrane, which echoes the techniques we're using on our tunnels. This temporary, moveable, support structure was used during the excavation of large tunnels in unstable ground conditions, prevented collapse and protected construction workers installing permanent tunnel support systems. Brunel is the perfect example of how our past is touching our present on our project, as the principles of the tunnelling shield are still used today in our Tunnel Boring Machines.

We have worked closely with the General Cemetery Company, Friends of Kensal Green Cemetery, Historic England, the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and The Archbishop's Council for the past few years to prepare for the tunnelling works under the Cemetery.

Before our tunnelling started, we carried out ground movement assessments and considered the condition of every monument in the cemetery so we could understand what extra monitoring or protective works were needed. This informed a comprehensive programme of heritage protection, conservation and monitoring to make sure the funerary monuments were protected throughout the tunnelling process, whilst allowing the cemetery to remain in daily use.

Protecting our heritage

Camden Winding Vaults



Camden Winding Vaults by J.C. Bourne (1837)

Brunel isn't the only great engineer who reaches out through time to touch the HS2 tunnel project.

The Camden Winding Vaults were designed by Robert Stephenson and housed winding steam engines that were used to pull trains up the hill as they left Euston Station. They were built in the 1830s but were only in use for seven years and are a Grade II Listed Building.

As our TBMs will tunnel near the vaults on their journey into Euston, we carried out a detailed assessment of the vaults' condition.

We removed tonnes of debris that had built up during periods of flooding and carried out works to create a safe system for working within the confined space. This enabled us to undertake detailed surveys and a comprehensive assessment of the vaults' condition and structure.

Using a 3D model, we assessed the potential impact of ground movements caused by tunnelling and found that any effects would be minimal. The findings allowed us to develop precautionary measures and a robust monitoring programme to ensure the vaults remain protected throughout the works.

Inspiring Camden's future workforce

SCS's Skills, Education and Employment team continues to invest in the next generation by working closely with schools, colleges and local partners across Camden to inspire young people and showcase the wide range of careers available in construction and infrastructure.

Camden STEAM Work Experience Week

Working in partnership with Camden Learning, we welcomed sixteen students from schools across the borough as part of the Science Technology Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) Work Experience Week. Students from The UCL Academy, Acland Burghley School, Haverstock School, Regent High School, Hampstead School and LaSWAP Sixth Form spent the week exploring the exciting world of construction and infrastructure.

Throughout the programme, students gained valuable insight into the diverse careers within the industry while developing essential employability skills, including teamwork, communication, problem-solving and professional networking. By engaging directly with industry professionals, they were able to experience the breadth of opportunities available and build confidence for their future careers.

Supporting Young People Through Our Supply Chain

Our supply chain partner Flannery Plant Hire recently supported Harmond School's annual Careers Day, giving students with Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs the opportunity to engage directly with employers and learn about career pathways within construction.

Providing the chance to learn about a wide range of roles within construction helped the students to develop confidence, broaden their aspirations and better understand the skills and opportunities available to them as they prepare for the world of work. Through partnerships like these, we are helping to inspire local young people, build stronger connections with the community and create lasting social value across Camden.

Celebrating Women in Engineering

As part of our commitment to increasing diversity within the industry, our Women in Engineering team welcomed female students from Capital City College, King's Cross Centre for an interactive workshop focused on engineering and construction careers.

The session introduced students to a variety of roles available across the sector, challenged common misconceptions and highlighted the many opportunities for women to build rewarding careers in engineering and infrastructure.

By connecting students with female role models from across the project, the workshop encouraged the next generation to consider careers they may not previously have imagined.



Above: Engineering and construction careers workshop, Capital City College

Engagement events

We continue to engage with communities and residents along the Euston tunnel line of route.

We recently held our second engagement event at the Abbey Community Centre, Belsize Road in Brent on 30 June. During the event residents had the opportunity to learn more about Euston tunnelling progress over the course of the year, information on the Canterbury Works Vent Shaft site re-starting, as well as information about settlement deeds.



Above: SCS colleagues and residents discussing Euston tunnelling progress and Canterbury Works Vent Shaft site re-starting at the Abbey Community Centre on 30 June

Our next drop-in event is at the Euston Community Hub on 22 September (4.30pm to 7pm).

The event will provide information on the Euston tunnel, an update on works in Euston Approaches and Euston Station sites, remobilisation at the Adelaide Road Vent Shaft site and information on settlement deeds. You can find more information about this event at www.hs2.org.uk/events/



Above: Euston Community Hub, North Gower Street, NW1 2LY

Got a community investment project idea?



We are always looking out for ideas from local communities about community investment projects we could help with, if you have an idea or would like to know more about this, please follow the link here: www.HS2funds.org.uk.

Contact us

Contact our HS2 Helpdesk team all day, every day of the year on:

Freephone 08081 434 434

Minicom 08081456 472

Email HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk

Write to:

FREEPOST

HS2 Community Engagement

Website www.hs2.org.uk

To keep up to date with what's happening in your local area, visit www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk