

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

HS2 Update

Old Oak, North Acton and Old Oak Common Lane | Autumn 2026

Welcome to HS2's Old Oak, North Acton and Old Oak Common Lane Autumn 2026 newsletter.

High Speed Two is the new high-speed railway for Britain. Here you can read all about the latest progress we are making in your local area and see what we are doing to support the local community.

Old Oak Common Lane road closure

The long-term closure of Old Oak Common Lane is due to start in the first quarter of 2028 and will last until the end of 2031. We can now confirm that the closure will be in place for four years. We know that this will have a big impact on local communities and businesses. We are sorry about the disruption this will cause, and we are developing a number of support measures and mitigations. We have already been engaging with local authorities and community representatives on the support and mitigation measures we will have in place during the closure.



Some of the works taking place during the road closure

We are holding several **public engagement sessions starting in October** for local communities to see our latest plans for the closure and find out further information on the support we will put in place in recognition of the local disruption this will cause.

Please find information below on the four engagement sessions planned over the next few months:

- Wednesday 14 October at the HS2 site on Atlas Road, NW10 6DN from **4pm until 8pm**
- Thursday 22 October at the Old Oak Family Hub and Community Centre (76 Braybrook St, London, England, W12 0AP) from **12:30pm until 4pm**
- Wednesday 28 October at the Visitor Centre, Old Oak Common Station Site, Old Oak Common Lane, NW10 6DZ from **4pm until 8pm**
- Tuesday 1 December at the Bow Arts centre - Oaklands Social (formerly known as The Lab), 19 Green Street, London NW10 6FT from **10am until 2pm**

We welcome you to come along to these sessions and have your say on some of the community support measures we are proposing. We will take all feedback into account when designing the final programme and community support measures which will be confirmed early next year.

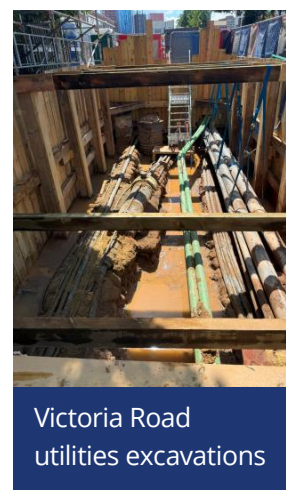
Utility works on Victoria Road rescheduled to minimise disruption

Skanska Costain Strabag (SCS) JV and its utilities partner, Clancy, completed critical utility diversion works on Victoria Road, Acton, at the end of September 2026. This is in preparation for UK Power Networks infrastructure improvements to support the construction of the HS2 railway.

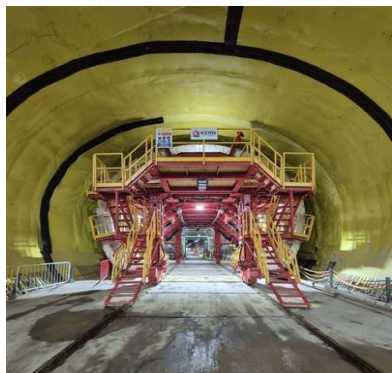
Following discussions with the London Borough of Ealing, the works have been rescheduled to avoid clashing with others taking place in the area. This coordinated approach will help minimise the impact on residents, businesses and road users by reducing traffic disruption and maintaining road access.

The utility diversion works are required to protect underground electricity assets. As with many complex projects involving underground infrastructure, the full condition of buried utilities can only be confirmed once excavation begins. Previous phases of work uncovered several unforeseen issues, including blocked ducts, which required additional engineering solutions to resolve safely.

SCSJV continues to work closely with the London Borough of Ealing, utility providers and other stakeholders to coordinate activities across the area, helping to reduce cumulative disruption while ensuring essential infrastructure improvements can be delivered safely and efficiently.



Tunnelling update



Old Oak Common tunnel waterproofing before the secondary lining is sprayed

HS2's tunnelling main works partner in the area, SCSJV, has completed the construction of the walkways inside the Northolt Tunnel. This will provide access for maintenance and emergencies between the Victoria Road Crossover Box and Greenford. The works were completed in September 2026.

Separately, SCSJV are continuing the excavation of the Old Oak Common tunnels using excavators and the sprayed concrete lining method. They are due to complete this stage in December 2026. The final phase will involve waterproofing and installing the secondary tunnel lining, with completion expected in August 2027.

Works on Old Oak Common Lane

We have been working to prepare Old Oak Common Lane for two key milestones which will enable us to build new bridges and make road improvements.

One key milestone has been removing utilities from underneath the road by the Wells House Road entrance to prepare for our tunnelling contractor, SCSJV, to start putting through the HS2 tunnels which will eventually carry thousands of passengers a day into and out of Old Oak Common station. The other has been to prepare the road for its eventual lowering and the new bridges by, for example, demolishing the old Wycombe line western bridge abutment.

We are continuing to support the utility companies to upgrade their services ahead of the opening of the station. We have been installing new ducts near the railway bridge and along the south of Wells House Road and under Old Oak Common Lane. This work is underway and will carry on until October 2026*.



New utility ducts helping to 'future-proof' the area

* Available online: <https://assets.hs2.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/AWN-UKPN-enabling-work-for-HET-August-2026.pdf>

Upcoming bridge works

The work we have coming up along Old Oak Common Lane is to prepare for the work to construct the HS2, Great Western Mainline and other bridges which will carrying tens of thousands of people a day through the area. This includes the removal of major utilities from underneath the road so that it is ready for lowering.

In the next few months, our colleagues at UK Power Networks (UKPN) will be relaying some of their important cables in the area, following work we have done to provide new ducts and tunnels for them in the vicinity of Old Oak Common Lane. UKPN will be working in the area behind the south of Wells House Road to install a new high voltage cable.

A number of works over the coming months will be carried out directly by the utility companies. These companies will contact you directly about any works that might impact you.



Upgrading the Wells House Road Stairs

Work is well underway on upgrading and re-opening the Wells House Road stairs to provide additional public access to Wells House Road and Old Oak Common Lane.

The old stairs are being removed, and the excavations have taken place to make space for the new reinforced stairs. To make the stairs robust and safe a number of steel 'arches' are being erected and the delivery and installation of these requires a number of short temporary lane closures in Old Oak Common Lane, while they are lifted into position. These have been notified in our notice: **Wells House Road stairs lane closure (ref: HS2-OOC - SCP-26-2305)*** and a reminder of the remaining dates this year when one lane of Old Oak Common Lane will be unavailable is listed below.



- Until Thursday 1 October 24/7, Old Oak Common Lane bridge excavating works
- Wednesday 14 October and Thursday 15 October, 8am – 6pm, Install steel support frame
- Wednesday 11 November until Wednesday 18 November, 8am– 6pm, Connect drainage into existing network and reinstate pavement

HS2 is fully funding this project which will be open for public use by the end of this year.



* Available online: <https://assets.hs2.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/AWN-WHR-stairs-lane-closure-july-2026-update-5-Aug.pdf>

High-speed platforms completed at Old Oak Common

- **The first platforms for HS2 services have been constructed**
- **The six 450m underground platforms are now in place ready for further fit out as construction works continue on the superhub station in west London**

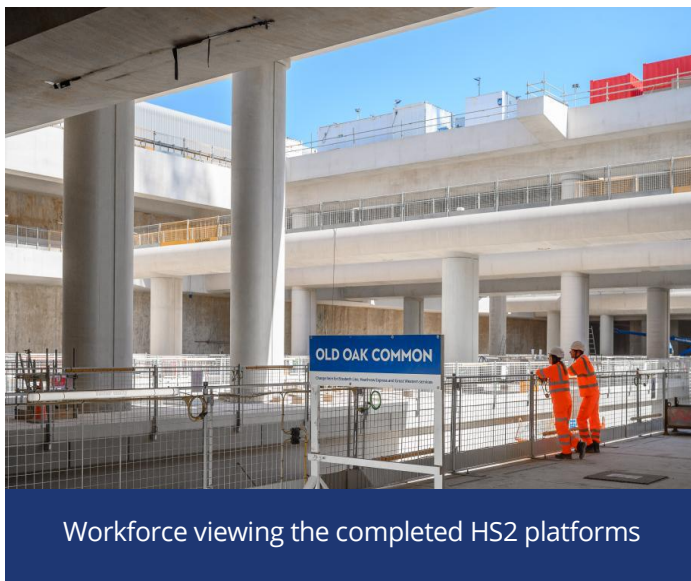
In August, HS2 unveiled its first six completed platforms on the railway in the underground station box at Old Oak Common in west London.

The underground platforms will be served by HS2's fleet of new high-speed trains, taking passengers between the capital and the West Midlands, as well as destinations further north via the West Coast Main Line.

HS2's station construction partner Balfour Beatty Vinci SYSTRA (BBVS) oversaw the work to construct the platforms from its sub-contractor Expanded, which began in April 2025.

Work began by building 1.59m-high walls, known as invert walls.

These were cast in situ on site before the pre-cast platform slabs, manufactured by Explore in Worksop, East Midlands, were lifted and secured on top. In total there are 1,946 slabs, each measuring up to 2m by 4m and weighing between four and five tonnes.



Workforce viewing the completed HS2 platforms

The team built the platforms concurrently from each end, before meeting in the middle in a formation of three island-style blocks. The platforms have a void below, allowing for services, such as electricity to be installed underneath.

Further fit out work on the platforms will now take place, including the construction of staff and equipment rooms. On the platforms, steelwork for lifts and escalator installation will begin, and floor finishes will be fitted once the other elements have been



Scan the QR code to watch how we built the platforms. Built from both ends at once, the platforms now form three "island" style sections, with open space underneath for things like electrical wiring. Further work will follow, including passenger facilities, lifts, escalators and tiling.

Supporting young people through our supply chain

Creating opportunities for young people is a shared commitment across the HS2 project.

SCS (Skanska Costain Strabag) JV's supply chain partner Flannery Plant Hire recently supported Harmood 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 meaningful interactions with industry professionals helps students 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.

New HS2 recruitment hub opens in Acton to support job seekers

A new one-stop-shop has been opened for job seekers looking for opportunities on major infrastructure schemes as part of the HS2 programme.

The Department for Work and Pensions has joined forces with HS2 to invest in the new dedicated Recruitment Hub in Acton, West London. The facility, located within Acton Jobcentre Plus, opened its doors to the public in June.

The new drop-in facility will help local people of all ages to access employment and training opportunities on HS2 and other major infrastructure and regeneration projects in the area.



West London residents who have secured jobs on HS2

To date, over 2,000 people have secured an apprenticeship on the project, and over 5,000 people who were unemployed have received support to help them start a new career.

Around a third of HS2's current total workforce is based in London, and more new career opportunities will be created as the project progresses.

Celebrating Women in Engineering

As part of our commitment to increasing diversity within the industry, SCS (Skanska Costain Strabag) JV's 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.



Pupils on site viewing platform



Pupils at Women in Engineering presentation

New wildlife-friendly sculpture unveiled on Wells House Road

Balfour Beatty Vinci Systra (BBVS) JV presented a new eco-friendly sculpture at the entrance of Wells House Road to the local community. The sculpture was unveiled in time for their annual street party in July.

The sculpture was created by local sculptor Tim Norris for ARTification, a charity connecting people and places through art, after they received funding from the HS2 Community & Environment Fund. Made from natural materials, the sign was shaped by residents' feedback and designed to support wildlife, including nesting birds.

This project has been a few years in the making, and the final coordination and installation required a full team effort between the engagement, logistics and supply chain team, along with the Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation, to ensure the sign was in place ready for the street party.

BBVS also directly supported the annual street party, providing tables, chairs, gazebos and a power unit. Our supply chain was also on hand, planting new flowers and shrubs ahead of the event, supplying ice creams and drinks in the sun and managing the local road closure making sure residents could focus on the celebrations.

Learn more about ARTification here: <https://www.artification.org.uk/artists>



Wells House Road Street Party



Wildlife sculpture

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

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HS2 Reference Number: HS2-OOC - SCP-26-2564