



September 2020 | www.hs2.org.uk

High Speed Two (HS2) is the new high speed railway for Britain. We are continually reviewing the works on our construction sites in line with Government and Public Health England (PHE) advice on dealing with COVID-19. The Government's current strategy makes it clear that construction activity can continue as long as it complies with this guidance.

Please be assured that only sites that can operate within the guidelines are operational. All sites will remain under constant review. We have postponed all face-to-face engagement events and meetings and have put in place a number of channels to communicate with communities, such as letters and phone calls, as well as updates and alerts from each of the local community websites. You can sign up for regular updates in your local area at www.hs2inbucksandox.co.uk

#### What will we be doing?

As part of our continuing works ahead of the construction of the railway we need to undertake some further work in your area. These works will consist of:

- A43 night time lane closures
- Installation of a bailey bridge
- Installation boundary fencing
- Great crested newt fencing and relocation
- Archaeology trial trenching
- Grass and shrub maintenance

If you have a question about HS2 or our works, please contact our HS2 Helpdesk team on 08081 434 434 or email hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk

#### **Notification**



#### **Duration of works**

The works will start in September 2020 and will be completed by November 2020

Normal working hours Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm and Saturday 8am -1pm

#### What to expect

Night time lane closures on A43

Some additional traffic on local roads and noise from equipment. Site storage and welfare vehicles. Site operated with 24-hour security and temporary flood lighting

#### What we will do

Manage any impacts, such as traffic and noise with the aim of reducing or removing them



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#### A43 night time lane closure

To complete the archaeology trial trenching and fencing works in this area we need to use heavy plant machinery to install a bailey bridge across the River Ouse. Due to the size of the plant which includes low loaders carrying a crane and lorries for fencing and trackway, we will need to access the north of the site from the A43. This will require a night time lane closure to enable us to carry this out this safely and with minimal disruption to users of the highway.

The night time lane closures will take place between 20:00 and 06:00 on (subject to consent);

- From 10/09/2020 to 11/09/2020
  To bring in all plant & materials for fencing work.
- Between 21/09/2020 to 09/10/2020, dependent on work programme. To bring in all plant & materials for trial trenching works and to remove all plant & materials for fencing work.
- Between 16/11/2020 to 28/11/2020, dependent on work programme. To remove all plants & materials for trial trenching works.

The closure will be identified by roadside signage and cones on the highway.

#### **Installation of bailey bridge**

To complete the fencing and archaeology trial trenching we will need to cross the River Ouse. To enable us to carry this out we will need to install a bailey bridge which will give access to all the work areas.

Please see the image included in this notification as an example of a bailey bridge.

## Installation of boundary fencing and public rights of way

Our fencing works will continue during late September 2020 and will be completed by the end of the year. For this stage of works we will not be closing any Public Rights of Way, but we will need to occasionally cross over them with machinery to access working areas. To ensure this happens safely we will have marshals in place who will suspend pedestrian access temporarily while the machinery passes through.



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#### **Great crested newt fencing**

Newt fencing consists mainly of a plastic membrane which is buried into the ground and supported by stakes. This is to prevent newts entering the work area, and to collect the newts. Collected newts are then taken to an ecology approved mitigation site that has been prepared for them and is suitable to support the population. We will move the newts and reptiles from an area scheduled for future works to a new habitat site. Ecologists use pit fall traps and mats which are set along the line of the fencing. When the newts move from the breeding pond, they move towards the line of the fence until they either fall into the trap or hide under a mat.

All traps are checked daily by experienced ecologists who are accredited under the HS2 Great Crested Newt Licence.

This work will begin on 28 September 2020.

#### **Archaeology trial trenching**

Archaeological investigation trial trenching work will be undertaken to give us a greater understanding of any significant archaeology that may be in your area. The next phase of work will begin 6 October 2020 until 30 November 2020. The trial trenches will be back filled once the works have been completed. We will keep you updated on any further investigative works required.

Access to the site will be from the A422 compound heading towards Oatleys Road where we will cross the road and continue track matting past Ballabeg buildings. Access will continue to the archaeology work site work near to Versions Farm.

There may be some noise from the machinery, this will be restricted to running between the hours of 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday.

Please see map enclosed.

#### **Grass and shrub maintenance**

Grass and hedgerow maintenance works are undertaken under the instructions of the ecologist on site, who decides the appropriate methods based on the vegetation present. This involves a detailed hand search to determine if any ecology is present. If it is found that the area is clear of ecology, the works will be allowed to take place. A small workforce will use machinery and hand-held equipment to maintain sections of grass and hedgerows. Grass will be cut down to 15 centimetres above ground. These works will take place between 14 – 21 September 2020.



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#### **Bailey bridge**

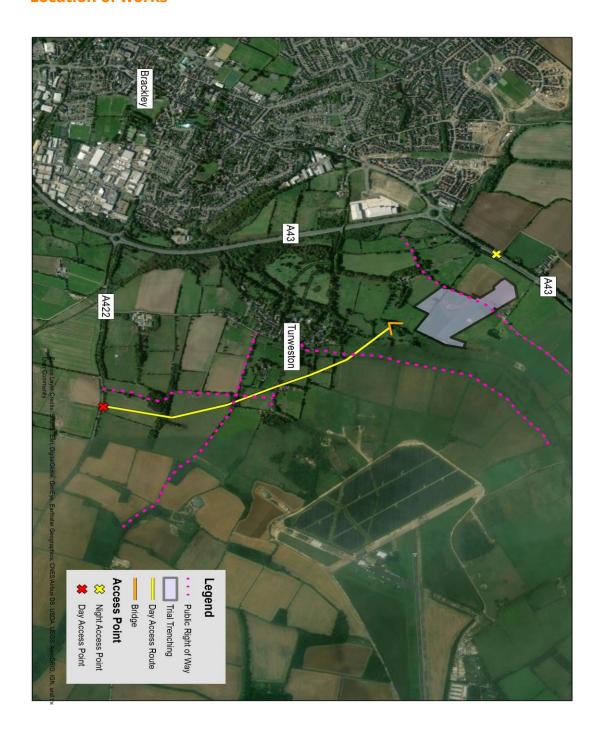
Example of a bailey bridge



Notification

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**Location of works** 



### **Keeping you informed**

We are committed to keeping you informed about work on HS2. This includes ensuring you know what to expect and when to expect it, as well as how we can help.

#### **Residents' Charter and Commissioner**

The Residents' Charter is our promise to communicate as clearly as we possibly can with people who live along or near the HS2 route. www.gov.uk/government/publications/hs2residents-charter

We also have an independent Residents' Commissioner whose job is to make sure we keep to the promises we make in the Charter and to keep it under constant review. Find reports at: www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-ltdresidents-commissioner

You can contact the Commissioner at: residentscommissioner@hs2.org.uk

#### **Construction Commissioner**

The Construction Commissioner's role is to mediate and monitor the way in which HS2 Ltd manages and responds to construction complaints. You can contact the Construction Commissioner by emailing:

complaints@hs2-cc.org.uk

#### **Property and compensation**

You can find out all about HS2 and properties along the line of 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/how-to-complain

#### **Contact Us**

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

🏗 Freephone **08081 434 434** 



Minicom 08081 456 472



(a) 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 local area, visit: www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk

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