



HS2 E Update

September 2021

What is Buckinghamshire Council doing on behalf of residents?

Road repairs

We are aware that road repairs are a significant concern for communities and we have been continuing to work with HS2 and EWR to find a resolution, whether they carry out the necessary repairs or provide funds for the Council to undertake these works. While we continue these difficult and complex negotiations involving other Phase 1 highways authorities, on which the technical burden to prove damage is on the Council, you can continue to report potholes and any other highways issues at Fix My Street, to which improvements have recently been undertaken:

<https://www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/>

HS2 Ltd carries out repairs to Moorfield Road, Denham

We are pleased that we negotiated with HS2 Ltd to carry out repairs to this road, which is currently on a construction route for the project. The works commenced in August and continue in September with overnight closures, to minimise disruption.

Concerns with tunnelling beneath the aquifer

We sent HS2 Ltd a number of detailed questions on the potential impacts, they have now responded and we have assessed their answers. We have published their answers on our HS2 web page. We continue to remain concerned and are not reassured by their responses to date:

<https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/media/4517092/bc-position-statement-hs2-impacts-on-chalk-streams.pdf>

HS2 have now updated their own webpages on water:

<https://www.hs2.org.uk/building-hs2/hs2-environment-facts/fact-check-hs2-and-water-supply/>

Misbourne Environmental Protection

A company has been created to protect the Chiltern Aquifer, the River Misbourne and Shardeloes Lake from the damaging effects of HS2, and in particular the Chiltern Tunnels. Despite years of meetings and negotiations, the Environment Agency (EA) has approved the scheme proposed by HS2 Ltd. The group say they have therefore resorted to requesting a Judicial Review of the approval process. Further details can be found here:

<http://misbourneprotection.co.uk/>

Leather Lane realignment

We have been proactively engaging with EKFB on the removal of trees at Leather Lane which are on the route (actually on the trace) to ensure that ecological surveys have been carried out as it is an area used for foraging and travel by bats. Our ecologist has viewed a summary of the surveys and considers that they have been appropriate. Works were halted whilst this check was being carried out. We continue to work with the contractors to assess an alternative realignment which came forward from local residents.

Buckinghamshire Council appoints two marshals

Both our new HS2/EWR Marshals are now in post and undergoing induction and meetings/tours with the ward Councillors and Parish Councils in the county and helping to resolve issues quickly on the ground. Let us know if you would like an introduction to Mark Rann or Steve Hall or would like them to visit your area. You can contact them through EWR and HS2 enquiries Mailbox EWRANDHS2enquiries@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

MPs Debate relating to HS2

On 13 September, MPs debated a petition which called for 'Parliament to repeal the High Speed Rail Bills, 2016 and 2019, as MPs voted on misleading environmental, financial and timetable information provided by the Dept of Transport and HS2 Ltd. It fails to address the conditions of the Paris Accord and costs have risen from £56bn to over £100bn.'

Local MPs Rob Butler, Greg Smith and Sarah Green spoke during the debate. You can view the proceedings here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Au6TZYztPdg>

Public Accounts Committee Summer 2021 HS2 Report

The House of Commons public accounts committee says that it is 'increasingly alarmed' about the lack of progress on HS2's Euston Station plans. The report also says there is 'no clear end in sight' to HS2 cost or delays with 'many difficulties ahead. The full report is here:

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm5802/cmselect/cmpubacc/329/report.html>

HS2 Community Engagement Progress Report Jul 2020-Mar 2021

HS2 Ltd has published a report which they say draws on a number of case studies of activity during the period covering July 2020 to March 2021, along with currently available data such as from the help desk (number of enquiries, complaints, etc.), funding awarded and the events they have held. You can read the full report here:

https://www.hs2.org.uk/document_types/community-engagement-progress-reports/

HS2 ongoing work

You can see the work that is taking place in Buckinghamshire on the HS2 website, Commonplace section, (Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire) and also sign up for automatic alerts. HS2 Ltd or contractors are committed to send out Advanced Warning Notices 2 weeks ahead of works commencing:

<https://hs2inbucksandoxfordshire.commonplace.is/schemes/proposals/works-in-your-area/details>

Works in Buckinghamshire

Although still classed as preparatory/early works there are some quite substantial impacts already being experienced by our communities. I have listed some of the main works (but this is not a comprehensive list):

Works	Duration
Colne Valley Viaduct construction	Mar 2021-2023
Closure of DEN3/1 footpath (Denham)	Oct 2020-Oct 2021
Chalfont St Giles, CSG10/1 and CSG32/1 footpath closures	Jun 2020-Feb 2030
Chalfont St Giles, Bottom House Farm Lane closure	Aug 2021-Feb 2022
Little Missenden A413 lane closure (various dates)	Sep 2021-Oct 2021
Commence north portal earthworks	Aug 2021-Oct 2021
Little Missenden vent shaft D walling	Jul 2021-Oct 2021
Aylesbury A418 utilities diversions	Mar 2021-Nov 2021
St Mary's church, Stoke Mandeville archaeology	Sep 2020-Summer 2021
Marsh Lane and Old Risborough Road closures	May 2021-6/4/2026
Fleet Marston ecology works	23 Mar 2021-31 Dec 2021
Quinton construction activities	Sep-Winter 2021

HS2 Forthcoming Works Packages submission to Buckinghamshire Council

Please note however, forecast dates are subject to slippage by contractors

Schedule 17 package	Location	Planned submission date
South Heath cutting Cottage Farm accommodation overbridge TLE/2 Footbridge Bowood Lane overbridge and highway	Bowood Lane (BC package 1)	December 2021
South Heath cutting Footpath GMI/12 overbridge and GMI/2 accommodation overbridge Leather Lane overbridge and highway realignment	South Heath (CDC package 1)	October 2021
Ground level permanent earthworks and fencing and restoration proposals for Colne Valley Viaduct northern area. (Moorhall Road North)	Land Between the A412 and Moorhall Road	October 2021
Wendover Green Tunnel Ellesborough Road re- construction Wendover north cutting Nash Lee Road and overbridge	Nash Lee (AVDC Package 04)	October 2021
Twyford Embankment / Twyford Viaduct / Cowley Embankment / Twyford Cutting / Godington East Viaduct / Godington East Embankment / Chetwode Embankment	Twyford to Chetwode (AVDC Package 14)	Received 17 September 2021
SCL/8 Footbridge	Steeple Claydon	TBC
Chesham Road intervention Shaft Plans and Specifications	Chesham Road	October 2021
Footpath ELL/20 Overbridge / Stoke Mandeville South Embankment / Aylesbury South Cutting PRA line diversion, overbridge and underpass Stoke Mandeville Relief Road and overbridge	Stoke Mandeville (AVDC Package 5)	September 2021
Bicester Road Embankment Waddesdon South Cutting Bridleway FMA/1 overbridge A41 Bicester Road realignment and overbridge Footpath WAD/4 Accommodation overbridge	Putlowes to Waddesdon (AVDC package 9)	October 2021
Waddesdon Embankment / Footpath WAD/3	Waddesdon to Quanton (AVDC Package 10)	September 2021

Accommodation underbridge / Needles Farm Accommodation overbridge / Waddesdon North Cutting / Quainton South Embankment / Station Road realignment and Aylesbury link overbridge / Quainton Cutting		
Doddershall Embankment / Woodlands Cutting / Bridleway QUA/28A Accommodation overbridge	Quainton to Grendon Underwood (AVDC Package 11)	October 2021
North portal design and external appearance of buildings	Land to the west of Frith Hill	December 2021
Rocky Lane underbridge / Small Dean south embankment / Small Dean viaduct / Small Dean north embankment / A413 diversion Green Tunnel South Portal / Bacombe Lane re-construction	Small Dean (AVDC Package 03)	November 2021
Aylesbury North Cutting Oxford Road Embankment Whaddon Hill Cutting Bridleway SBH/32 overbridge Bridleway SBH/2 overbridge	Hartwell (AVDC Package 07)	November 2021

Key Design Elements as described in [HS2 Information Paper D1: Design Policy](#) have been subject to community engagement on design developments.

Buckinghamshire Council HS2 coordination team

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