



## What is Buckinghamshire Council doing on behalf of residents?

### Buckinghamshire Council bitterly disappointed with High Court decision on lorry routes

On 21 July, in the High Court, Sir Duncan Ouseley dismissed the appeals brought by Buckinghamshire Council to quash decisions made by the Planning Inspectors to allow four environmentally damaging lorry routes submitted by HS2 Limited in 2021.

Steven Broadbent, Buckinghamshire Council's Cabinet Member for Transport, said:

"We are bitterly disappointed with the result, but the decision to go ahead and take these appeals to the High Court was always the right thing to do for our residents and communities. Following robust Counsel advice, we believe we had strong and very valid reasons to challenge the decisions of the Inspectors in allowing lorry routes to be used which will have an enormous and detrimental impact on our local roads.

"We and other local authorities are already limited in our overall influence and control on much of the HS2 scheme, and the High Court's decision puts a further financial burden on us to provide more and more evidence when challenging anything HS2 does in our area. This is so unjust, when our residents are already covering the cost of a huge infrastructure project whose construction is causing disruption to a wide swath of Buckinghamshire.

"We have now met with our legal representatives to discuss next steps, and after careful consideration we have decided not to appeal the decision.

"I want to assure residents that we will fully use the limited powers we have. We will hold HS2 Limited and their contractors to account and continue to work tirelessly to mitigate the impact of the construction and the project on our local communities, environment and infrastructure – doing whatever we can to influence the design of the railway, the lorry routes and traffic management to reduce the impact of the scheme."

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## HS2 Road Safety Fund – Tranche 2

Stage 1 assessments have now been completed for Tranche 2 of the HS2 Road Safety Fund which was launched in February 2022. In total, applications were made for 39 eligible schemes. Collectively, the cost of the schemes far exceeds the budget available and so priority has been given to the highest scoring schemes.

A number of relatively low cost, simple schemes have been recommended for approval without the need for further assessment. These are:

- SID for use on A418 Oxford Road, Stone
- Sentinel Device and 4 x SID posts for Quainton
- Installation of Speed Restriction warning signs and the widening of bel-mouth at junction of School Hill with Perry Hill, Charndon
- Improved warning signage on various roads in Gawcott
- 2 x MVAS for use on Edgcott Road, Grendon Underwood
- MVAS for Steeple Claydon

Additionally, six more complex schemes are being taken forward for further assessment which will include some feasibility work, including identification of any significant risks and refinement of estimated costs. These are:

- Zebra crossing outside Robertswood School, Chalfont St. Peter
- Footpath at Wotton Road, Ashendon
- Raising of existing zebra crossings on Deanway and High Street, Chalfont St. Giles
- New Puffin crossing on A418 opposite Church Street, Wing
- Pavement along A355 between Long Bottom Lane and Ledborough Lane, Beaconsfield
- Traffic calming measures on A4129 at Kingsey

Steve Broadbent, Cabinet Member for Transport, said: "The demand for the funding of road safety improvements in areas impacted by HS2 construction is very evident. It is pleasing to be able to take forward so many schemes, but equally frustrating that even more, good schemes cannot be progressed due to the constraints on the HS2 RSF budget.

"Representing a county which is particularly impacted by this large infrastructure project, we continue to look for ways to secure additional funding from HS2 Ltd to improve road safety and to offset the damage that has been caused to our roads and landscape."

A final tranche of funding is likely to be launched in 2023 and further details will be provided soon. For further information, visit [The HS2 Road Safety Fund | Buckinghamshire Council](#) or email [hs2roadsafetyfund@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:hs2roadsafetyfund@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)

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## **Work started on part of the Misbourne Greenway from Wendover to Great Missenden**

Sustrans, the charity responsible for the National Cycle Network, a UK-wide network of traffic-free paths for everyone, connecting cities, towns and countryside, began work on a part of the Misbourne

Greenway at the end of July. This is a four-kilometre, traffic-free walking, wheeling and cycling route along the Misbourne Valley from Wendover to Great Missenden. Sustrans has been working with Buckinghamshire Council, the Chiltern Society, Network Rail and Greenways and Cycle Routes on this long-awaited route due to be completed by early 2023.

It will form part of the council's vision of a Buckinghamshire Greenway covering the length of the county. This section will link up with other parts of the Buckinghamshire Greenway to the north with a continuous route to Aylesbury and beyond. It will also stretch to the south with a future route heading towards Amersham and the Chalfonts.

During construction there will be minimal disruption to local travel, affecting only a small number of local rights of way. Stretches of path that pass by wooded areas will be raised slightly, adopting a 'no dig' construction method to protect tree roots below. New hedgerows and trees are also being planted along the route and in adjacent land, as well as filling in gaps in existing hedgerows to enhance green corridors for wildlife.

Once completed, this entirely traffic-free section will give more people in the area the chance to choose walking, wheeling, and cycling for their everyday journeys. It will provide a safer and more enjoyable alternative to the busy A413. It is hoped that more people will choose to leave the car at home helping to relieve congestion in the area, reduce carbon emissions and improve local air quality.

Tom Beston, Chief Officer at the Chiltern Society said: "We're delighted to be doing our bit in helping Sustrans and Buckinghamshire Council create The Misbourne Greenway; an accessible, high-quality active travel route that will connect people and communities running across the Chilterns. It will greatly enhance the walking and cycling facilities for wide range of groups in the Chilterns, connecting with existing footpaths, train stations and the wider Greenway routes currently in development beyond the Chilterns."



Photograph courtesy of Chartridge Photographic

## HS2 Water Supply and Management

Buckinghamshire Council has received a number of complaints about the extraction and use of water by HS2 and its contractors. Residents in Amersham and Wendover have questioned the extraction of water by HS2 contractors from water hydrants in the area. These complaints have been about safety issues, where the tankers are parking in such a way as to reduce visibility for traffic in the area, and also questions about why they need to extract water especially during the period of drought.

Buckinghamshire Council have liaised with Affinity Water, Thames Valley Water and Anglian Water as well as the HS2 contractors, EKFB and Align to resolve these issues. Align no longer use the local water hydrants, instead getting their tankers to fill up at the South Portal Site. Whilst EKFB do use local mains supplies they have contingencies in place if required to fill up further afield where the drought has not impacted supplies. The tanker companies contracted to fill up are subject to licence conditions for doing so including limiting the amount of water they can use.

HS2 can extract surface water from water courses by exemption under UK legislation for abstraction of less than 20,000 litres per day as set out on [GOV.UK website](#). EKFB have used this exemption in agreement with the Environment Agency to extract water from a number of locations. For example, they have agreed two abstraction points, approximately 2km apart, from Padbury Brook, but have only used one of them.

EKFB and Align have been working on reducing the amount of water they use by not using the wheelwash during warm weather. EKFB are using recycled water from the silt buster for dust suppression, watering plants using collected rainwater in the attenuation pond where possible, using the dishwasher instead of filling a sink, having sensors on all of their taps, and providing toolbox talks to staff about using less potable water. EKFB are also monitoring the amount of dust on site locally and the number of complaints that they receive about dust through the HS2 helpdesk to ensure that their controls remain effective whilst balancing compliance with the Code of Construction Practice with the use of water.

Rohan Perrin, HS2 Project Client, said: "Align's tunnelling programme uses two of the most advanced TBM machines and back-up support plants in the world. They are using Thames water supplied by a dedicated fixed line to supply Maple Cross using river water. Twenty-four filter presses based on water treatment plant technology squeeze the chalk sediment to extract and recycle as much water as is possible for reuse.

"I am pleased that EKFB have been studious to build a series of ponds along the whole of our section both to still (slow down run off) water flows to protect local streams and rivers (EA undertake regular site inspections). These also serve a dual process at low rainfall periods, or drought to act as a buffer supply to help with our dust suppression during our summer bulk earthworks operation. Supplies are clearly running low as discussed previously and are being monitored week by week, i.e. we have a finite supply and I'm looking forward to the predicted next rainfall to replenish our ponds.

"Both teams were prepared by the very high likelihood of a hose pipe ban hence have made the appropriate management intervention plans to abide by Affinity and Thames Water guidance. Now the ban has come into force we will activate those provisions, but rest assured this matter is being treated with the upmost importance."

Further information on water supply and management can be found on the HS2 website section [Water supply and management](#).

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## CCTV Location requests

On 20 August we located one of our mobile CCTV cameras on Amersham Road, Beaconsfield just south of the Maxwell Road for a period of approximately eight weeks. During this period, we will be monitoring HS2 construction traffic to ensure that it is now using the new relief road and avoiding nearby local roads.

CCTV cameras currently located at Stoke Mandeville (A4010 Station Road/Risborough Road/B4443 Lower Road mini-roundabout) and Great Missenden (Link Road roundabout) will remain in situ for a further period.

Our monitoring of all sites is based on the review of samples of footage, but whilst the CCTV camera is in situ, we can recall footage from any specific date/time, so if you spot any HS2 vehicles related incidents, please let us have details of the date and time and a description of the issue, as soon as you can by sending an email to [EWRandHS2enquiriesmailbox@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:EWRandHS2enquiriesmailbox@buckinghamshire.gov.uk).

We have three mobile CCTV cameras which are available to monitor concerns relating to HS2 construction, so if you would like to request a future deployment, [please complete a request form](#).

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## HS2 Annual Report and Accounts 2021-2022

HS2 published their Annual Report and Accounts for 2021-2022 in July. The introduction by the new Deputy Chair, Sir Jon Thompson, said that: "HS2 provides an engine to help kickstart economic recovery. We are fundamental part of the Government's plans to level-up the country, revolutionising the way people travel and boosting growth while decarbonising the transport sector, the UK's largest emitter."

Sir Jon Thompson also talks about the impact on local communities along the route saying: "Our engagement has not always met our own expectations and we will continue to improve as Phase One construction and Phase 2a early works gather pace. We can always do more to support communities by working together with our supply chain to fulfil the commitments we've set out in our new strategy, *Respecting people, Respecting places.*"

[Read the full report here.](#)

## Newly appointed Minister for Transport

Trudy Harrison MP, was appointed Minister for State at the Department of Transport on 7 July 2022.

She replaced Andrew Stephenson MP, who was appointed as Party Chairman of the Conservative Party and as Minister without Portfolio. However, it is not known how long she will remain in this role as it is likely that the new Prime Minister announced on 5 September will want to choose their own Cabinet.

## HS2 Local Business Register



HS2 are keen to find more SME's and local businesses (businesses based along the route of the new railway) that could become part of the HS2 supply chain. To help their main works contractors find these companies, they hold engagement events and curate the 'Local Business Register'. This register gets passed on to their Tier 1 suppliers to make them aware of businesses which could help them fulfil their contracts and serve the needs of their workforce.

The local business register can be found on HS2's local business pages. If you are interested, please go on and [add your details](#).

## Drone footage of HS2 in Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Stop HS2 have produced some aerial footage showing how much land HS2 is taking. The footage is flying west from South Heath to Wendover Dean in the 'protected' Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

The area previously comprised woodlands (including some ancient woodlands) and arable farmland. AONBs have the same protection status as National Parks.

[See the drone footage here.](#)

## HS2 ongoing work

You can see the work that is taking place in Buckinghamshire on the HS2 website, '[In Your Area](#)' [section](#), (Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire) and sign up for automatic alerts. HS2 Ltd or contractors are committed to sending out Advanced Warning Notices two weeks ahead of works commencing.

## Works in Buckinghamshire

We have listed some of the main works in the table below (please note this is not a comprehensive list):

Works	Duration
Colne Valley Viaduct construction	Mar 2021-2023
Chalfont St Giles, CSG10/1 and CSG32/1 footpath closures	Jun 2020-Feb 2030
Chalfont St Giles, Bottom House Farm Lane closure	Aug 2021-June 2023
Chesham Road, temporary traffic lights	Nov 2021-Sep 2022
Great Missenden, commence north portal earthworks	Aug 2021-Sep 2022
Aylesbury, south earthworks cutting	Oct 2021-Oct 2024
Aylesbury, a number of long-term public rights of way closures for construction of internal haul road and HS2 line.	Oct 2021-late 2024
Marsh Lane and Old Risborough Road closures	May 2021-Apr 2026
Quinton road closures due to utility relocation and connections on Station Road and Snakes Lane, site access construction on Station Road	July 2022-December 2022
Waddesdon, south earthworks cutting	Oct 2021-Sep 2022
Small Dean Lane, Wendover road closure	Dec 2021-March 2024
Daytime lane closures on A413 London Road between Small Dean Lane roundabout and Rocky Lane for conveyor belt works	Feb 2022-Oct 2022

Preston Bissett and Twyford PROW closures for construction of Twyford embankment and Godington East culvert	April/May 2022 to early 2026
Waddesdon PROW closures for construction work	April 2022 to late 2024
Denham Country Park footpath closure extended due to electricity pylon work by National Grid	April 2022 to September 2022
Denham, overnight closures of A412 to install giant red girder for deck of Colne Valley Viaduct	19 August to 25 October 10pm to 6am every night.
Radstone, A43 overnight closure for safety audit 14 <sup>th</sup> August and full closure of sections of Whitfield Road	14 August to end of September 2022
Westbury A422 temporary traffic lights and diversion for drainage and utility diversion works	29 August to February 2023
Temporary traffic lights on the A413 at three locations to trial delivery of abnormal load. These will be at both roundabouts on the A413 at Great Missenden between the Link Road and Frith Hill, near the railway bridge at Little Missenden and on the A413/A404 roundabout at Amersham	14 September

## HS2 Forthcoming Works Packages submission to Buckinghamshire Council

Schedule 17 of the HS2 Act puts in place a process for the approval of certain matters relating to the design and construction of the railway, which requires that the nominated undertaker (HS2 Ltd and its contractors) must seek approval of these matters from the relevant planning authority. As deemed planning permission has been granted by the Act, requests for approval under Schedule 17 are not planning applications and there are few grounds on which the council can refuse.

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

Schedule 17 package	Location	Planned submission date
Featherbed Lane Overbridge Tibbets Farm EFATS Barton to Mixbury Cutting Mixbury Culvert Mixbury Embankment Bridleway 303/4 Overbridge	Mixbury (Cherwell DC Package 03)	August 2022
Wendover Green Tunnel Ellesborough Road reconstruction Wendover north cutting Nash Lee Road and overbridge	Nash Lee (AVDC Package 04)	August 2022
Aylesbury North Cutting Oxford Road Embankment Whaddon Hill Cutting Bridleway SBH/32 overbridge Bridleway SBH/2 overbridge	Hartwell (AVDC Package 07)	August 2022
A422 Brackley Road NMA.	Brackley Road	August 2022

SCL/8 Footbridge	Calvert (AVDC P13g)	August 2022
Turweston 132KV Construction Site Restoration	Turweston	September 2022
Featherbed Lane 132KV Site Restoration	Featherbed Lane	September 2022
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	September 2022
Chetwode Cutting Barton Hartshorn Embankment Barton to Mixbury Cutting Footpath CHW/18 Accommodation Overbridge School End Overbridge The Green Highway Realignment	Chetwode to Mixbury (AVDC Package 15)	September 2022
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)	September 2022
Infrastructure Maintenance Depot	Calvert North (AVDC P13c)	September 2022
Above-deck details on Addison Road Overbridge	Calvert North AVDC P13b. Condition 1 (Addison Road Overbridge)	September 2022
A41 Worker Accommodation	A41	October 2022
Blackgrove Road Quanton Lorry routes	Schedule 17 lorry routes	October 2022
Calvert North Mitigation Planting	Calvert (AVDC P13b)	October 2022
North portal design and external appearance of buildings	Land to the west of Frith Hill	October 2022
Above-deck details on Perry Hill Overbridge	Calvert North AVDC P13b. Condition 2 (Perry Hill Overbridge)	November 2022
Sheephouse Wood Bat Mitigation Structure Calvert Cutting	Sheephouse Wood (AVDC Package 12)	December 2022
Addison Road Overbridge	Addison road Overbridge (BC.BIU,01)	January 2023
Leather Lane Overbridge and Associated Earthworks	Leather Lane	January 2023
Grim's Ditch Earthworks	Grim's Ditch	February 2023
Conditions	Newton Purcell Cherwell (DC P02.C01)	February 2023
Flow Spreaders	BC Route wide	February 2023
Aylesbury Embankment Footpath SBH/19 and 27 overbridges	South West Aylesbury (AVDC Package 06B)	February 2023

(combined)		
Overbridge Parapets Resubmission	BC Routewide	TBC
Featherbed Lane Worker Accommodation	Featherbed Lane	TBC

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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EWR and HS2 enquiries Mailbox and to contact the Buckinghamshire Council marshals  
[EWRANDHS2enquiries@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:EWRANDHS2enquiries@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)

## HS2 Ltd Helpdesk and Mobile Visitor Centre

**Email** to HS2Enquiries at [HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)

**Freephone** 08081 434 434

**Minicom** (used to help people with hearing or speech difficulties) 08081 456 472

**Post to** FREEPOST, HS2 Community Hub

## Upcoming Mobile Visitor Centre Dates and Locations

- Thursday 8 September 4-7pm - Westbury Village Hall, Playing Field Rd, Westbury, Brackley, NN13 5LA
- Friday 16 September 10 – 3pm - Stone Bishopstone Road car park, HP17 8RD
- Tuesday 11 October 10am - 3pm - Wendover Manor Waste, HP22 6EP
- Thursday 20 October 10am - 3pm - Aylesbury, Market Square, Aylesbury Town Centre, HP20 2QF
- Wednesday 26 October 10am - 3pm - Ellesborough Parish Hall, Butler's Cross, HP17 0XA

Pre-booking is not required to visit the HS2 Mobile Visitor Centre, and people are free to drop in at any time. Please check the dates on the HS2 events page before attending in case of any changes. Future dates will be advertised on [HS2 events](#).

To keep up to date with the latest news from Buckinghamshire Council, please follow us on social media:



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