



Communities & Localism Select Committee agenda

Date: Tuesday 17 January 2023

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: The Oculus, Buckinghamshire Council, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury HP19 8FF

Membership:

M Harker OBE (Chairman), A Waite (Vice-Chairman), A Alam, S Barrett, P Bass, P Cooper, P Drayton, G Hollis, M Hussain JP, M Knight, F Mahon, C Oliver, G Smith, M Stannard and L Smith BEM

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Agenda Item	Time	Page No
1 Apologies for absence / Changes in membership		
2 Declarations of Interest		
3 Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 5th October 2022 to be confirmed as a correct record.		5 - 12

4 Public Questions

Public questions is an opportunity for people who live, work or study in Buckinghamshire to put a question to a Select Committee.

The Committee will hear from members of the public who have submitted questions in advance relating to items on the agenda. The Cabinet Member, relevant key partners and responsible officers will be invited to respond.

Further information on how to register can be found here: <https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/your-council/get-involved-with-council-decisions/select-committees/>

5 HS2 and East West Rail : Community Engagement

13 - 76

The Committee will hear from representatives from HS2 and East West Rail regarding their engagement with communities who are impacted by the construction of these two major infrastructure projects. Members will also be informed of opportunities which are available through associated community investment funding.

Contributors:

Cllr Peter Martin, Deputy Cabinet Member for HS2/EWR
Richard Lumley, Service Director, Strategic Transport and Infrastructure
Dr Laura Leech, Head of Major Projects, Strategic Transport and Infrastructure
Jackie Copcutt, HS2 Team (Engagement)
Susan Browning, EWR Stakeholder & Team Leader

HS2

Maddelyn Sutton, Head of Engagement, HS2
Simon Matthews, Interface & Stakeholder Director, EKFB
Rohan Perin, Project Client Director (EKFB), HS2
David Emms, Project Client Director (Align), HS2
Darielle Proctor, Head of Engagement & Compliance, Align
Joel Sykes, Senior Engagement and Interface Lead, HS2
Patrick Kelly, Buckinghamshire Lead, Align & EKFB
Elena Gonzalez, Social Value and Legacy Manager, EKFB
Michael Eckett, Head of Acquisitions, HS2
Michelle Cook, Senior Stakeholder Manager (Land & Property), HS2

EWR

Mark Cuzner, Director, EWR Alliance

Jez Baldock, Deputy Director, EWR Alliance

- 6 Community Board Review - 6 month progress update** **11:30** **77 - 86**
The Select Committee will review the progress of work on implementation of recommendations made in the Community Board review report which was presented to Cabinet on 10th May 2022.
- Contributors:**
Cllr Steve Bowles, Cabinet Member for Communities
Roger Goodes, Service Director – Policy and Communications
Wendy Morgan-Brown, Head of Community Boards
- 7 Work Programme** **12:00** **87 - 88**
The Committee will discuss the work programme and note the items for the next meeting.
- Contributors:**
All Committee Members
- Papers:**
Work Programme attached
- 8 Date and time of the next meeting**
The next meeting will take place on 8th February 2023 at 10am.

If you would like to attend a meeting, but need extra help to do so, for example because of a disability, please contact us as early as possible, so that we can try to put the right support in place.

For further information please contact: Kelly Sutherland on 01296 383602, email democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk.

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Agenda Item 3
Buckinghamshire Council
Communities & Localism Select
Committee

Minutes

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITIES & LOCALISM SELECT COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 5 OCTOBER 2022 IN THE OCULUS, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL, GATEHOUSE ROAD, AYLESBURY HP19 8FF, COMMENCING AT 10.00 AM AND CONCLUDING AT 12.57 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT

M Harker OBE, P Bass, P Cooper, P Drayton, G Hollis, M Hussain JP, M Knight, F Mahon, C Oliver, G Smith, M Stannard and L Smith BEM

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

K Sutherland, A Hussain, R Ambrose, R Barker, S Drummond, M Everitt, D Jones, L Davies, K Dejoux and L Mangisi

Agenda Item

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE / CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP

Apologies were received from Councillor Ashley Waite.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Mimi Harker and Stuart Wilson declared an interest in Item 6 as they each were hosting a Ukrainian family in their homes. Councillor Peter Cooper also declared this interest as he would be hosting a Ukrainian family soon.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on Wednesday 13th July 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

4 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no public questions.

5 CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

The Chairman updated Members on the following:

- Following the Joint Meeting between the Communities and Localism and Growth, Infrastructure and Housing Select Committees, Councillor David Carroll and the Chairman had written to the Leader of the Council to express support for the development of a visitor economy strategy that had been discussed. The response was included in the Agenda Pack, and the Chairman invited Members to provide feedback.

- A meeting had been held with HS2 and they confirmed their attendance at the next Select Committee Meeting in November.

6 UPDATE ON REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT SCHEMES

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Cllr Arif Hussain, Deputy Cabinet Member for Community Safety; Richard Barker, Corporate Director, Communities; Matt Everitt, Interim Service Director, Service Improvement, and Richard Ambrose, Director of Major Projects, Resources to the meeting, who provided an overview of the scheme:

- Over the past two years, Buckinghamshire had welcomed families from Afghanistan and Ukraine. Whilst the settlement schemes were slightly different, the key principle was to offer wraparound care and support. The voluntary and community sectors were working with the Council, alongside generous residents and local businesses.
- There were significant differences between the two different cohorts being resettled within the county: Arrivals from Afghanistan had a right to remain indefinitely, whereas those from Ukraine could remain for a period of three years.
- Partners including health, the police, Buckinghamshire Business First and charitable organisations were providing support including through working groups, for example, focussing on health and education, working collaboratively to ensure that families were quickly linked with healthcare services and all children who had arrived had secured a school place.
- Buckinghamshire's arrival figures were high compared to other local authorities. We had received over 1200 Ukrainian refugees, with another 551 which had been matched to Buckinghamshire. At the end of August, there were just under 700 active sponsors.
- Long term, the Council had a target of hosting 30 Afghan families, and to date, there were 12 families (a total of 52 people) housed across 13 different properties. All children in those households were linked to an appropriate education establishment. There were an additional 8 families in the pipeline.
- The presenters welcomed the generosity displayed by Buckinghamshire residents, both in terms of hosting guests, organising community activities, and providing donations.

The following points were noted during the Committee's discussion:

- The Chairman thanked the Council and the voluntary sector organisations, particularly Community Impact Bucks and Heart of Bucks, for their support in settling their Ukrainian guests. She also complimented the Council for efficiently dealing with the home inspections and DBS checks that each sponsor host must have before their guests arrive.
- A Member raised concerns that the funding provided by Central Government was not being directed to support refugees to access private housing. Finding appropriate housing following the six-month hosting period was revealed to be particularly challenging due to the private housing market's highly competitive and expensive nature in Bucks
- Whilst a detailed breakdown of the funds could not be provided in this meeting, the Deputy Cabinet Member assured the Committee that funds were used carefully to ensure the appropriate services for refugees were provided and expanded on. Whilst the scheme provided the Council with funds of £10,500 per guest, these were received in quarterly arrears. Most of the funding would be spent on medium-term accommodation arrangements beyond the sponsorship period. Funds received so far (roughly £8m) had been allocated for housing and accommodation support, staffing, checks on welfare support and safeguarding. Some of the money had also been spent on support packages,

parenting programmes and mentoring. The Council had also commissioned Community Impact Bucks to ensure translators are available for effective communication with local hosts. It was also stated that funding for families who do not remain in the UK for 12 months of their sponsorship would not be received.

- Whilst it was noted that the flow of funding was very fluid and there was uncertainty around future funding from Government, another member agreed that it would be helpful to see the breakdown or balance sheet as it was important to be realistic about the options for Ukrainian guests when their 6-month placement comes to an end. It would be very difficult for them to move into privately rented accommodation due to the cost implications but also issues around credit history etc. Could the Council consider a rent guarantee scheme to support them in moving into private rented accommodation?

- The Deputy Cabinet Member agreed that a breakdown of the funding would be provided to the Select Committee.

Action: Matt Everitt

- It was pointed out that the pressure on housing was not just an issue for refugees, but also for local residents currently waiting to be housed. Concerns were also raised regarding families needing to leave their placements before the 6 months have elapsed. The Committee was advised that there were only a very small number of families who needed to leave their placement homes, for example, to move closer to employment opportunities. There were also several means of support in place, such as referral to private accommodation, financial incentives for sponsors who might be struggling or rematching the family with another sponsor.

- The Chairman drew attention to the support available from the voluntary sector, which dealt with a number of the issues raised in this meeting (Community Impact Bucks, Rothschild Foundation, Heart of Bucks, Leap and the Clare Foundation).

- Members noted that whilst the short- and medium-term support provided had been successful, attention must also be drawn to providing positive opportunities for the future. It was currently difficult to predict what the future of Ukraine could look like. However, the Committee were assured that education for children, but also funded training for adults for sought-after skills as well as English language training had been organised to ensure sufficient integration. Once more information about future plans and finances was available, this would be shared with the Committee. Overall, the Council deployed the national strategy of supporting people to remain settled in their current locations.

- In response to a member's question around Ukrainian children's educational experiences, it was noted that all children were in an appropriate educational establishment. Additional pressures in light of new scheduled arrivals would be discussed by a dedicated education subgroup. Furthermore, webinars for Ukrainian parents would be held in some schools to clarify expectations around the process and the UK schooling system. Teachers were also being prepared to deal with emotional distress that Ukrainian children could likely experience, and mental health support was also available.

- A member noted that whilst support for refugees was appreciated, support for current residents of Buckinghamshire was also needed due to the cost-of-living crisis. The member was advised to refer residents to the Helping Hand Scheme.

- In response to a question regarding Afghan families still living in hotels and their options for accommodation, members were advised that if a family refused two offers of accommodation, they could then present as homeless to any local authority. Locally, the Council was working closely with the Ministry of Defence (MoD) with a view to accessing some of the larger houses which the MoD had surplus for Afghan families.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Arif Hussain, Richard Barker, Richard Ambrose and Matt Everitt for attending the meeting. The Select Committee wished to thank all officers who had been

working on support to Afghan and Ukrainian guests, many of whom were doing this alongside their usual role and the residents and communities who had taken guests into their homes.

7 BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIBRARIES - DEVELOPING A VISION AND A STRATEGY

The Chairman welcomed Richard Barker, Corporate Director, Communities; David Jones, Head of Libraries; Laura Davies, Operations Manager; Lyn Mangisi, Support and Development Manager; and Katie Dejoux, Culture and Outreach Services Manager, to the meeting.

During the presentation, the following key points were made:

- The service provided access to 29 libraries, plus the school library service, prisons and virtual libraries. 14 of those were Council-managed, with 10 being self-managed and 9 community libraries. Buckinghamshire's library offer was noted to be excellent due to the community-run model which has proven to be both financially robust and sustainable. The employment of digital technology and new approaches around income generation has also helped to sustain income over time.
- Many libraries were also customer access points which provided residents and visitors with a wide range of health and wellbeing programmes, cultural and learning opportunities and community engagement activities.
- In the past decade, costs for the library service had been reduced by 40%. Staff levels had been reduced to seven per capita of population, compared to a national average of 11.5 due to the use of technology and volunteering. The cost of premises had also been reduced through co-locations and partnerships. Despite the reduction in cost, there had also been some income challenges, particularly due to the increased use of online streaming services. However, the service had also moved away from traditional book-borrowing services and developed a strong service offer in terms of digital inclusion, health and wellbeing, and culture.
- A proposed purpose and vision statement had been published following discussions with staff, volunteers and community library partners. These discussions had also resulted in four strategies priorities being identified:
 1. Health and Wellbeing: This included health checks, blood pressure checks, smoking cessation and sessions to bring socially isolated people together.
 2. Culture and Learning: Cultural activities in libraries allowed people who are less likely to access culture to do so and continue to do so.
 3. Stronger Communities: Libraries helping to develop a sense of place and bring communities together.
 4. Access, Information, and Inclusion: The core of libraries was free access to information. Libraries worked with a range of organisations to ensure that information can be accessed also by people who were not used to using computers.
- The delivery of the service's vision included libraries being delivered as hubs. This way, premises could be remodelled according to the library offer, thus making better use of space. This would allow residents to get information and help from a single point. A countywide engagement process with meetings, focus groups and online surveys would be used to work up a detailed five-year plan.

The following points were noted during the Committee's discussion:

- A member raised concerns that books appeared to be less of a priority to libraries. Mr Jones assured the Committee that books were still at the heart of the strategy. However, it was important to consider issues such as sustainability and resilience as well in order not to lose the facilities for books and reading.
- It was noted that Buckinghamshire were ahead of the curve in maintaining a great

service offer on a reduced budget. Whilst more funding for libraries would be welcomed there was pressure on the Council's budget.

- A member pointed out that community libraries should be given the opportunity to operate as freely as possible, as Buckinghamshire's community libraries had been successful in the past. Mr Jones agreed with the comment and noted that a third of the libraries were co-produced to ensure library offers were tailored to local needs. Funding, books, and premises were provided to the 14 community partnerships, but there were no plans to inhibit local and creative service offers.
- Concerns were also raised around Bourne End Library which had been under threat of closure some time ago. Mr Jones was asked how struggling libraries could be supported. He suggested that an active Friends of the Library group was always helpful so they could look for volunteers to support this. He also noted that the hall at the library in Bourne End could be a valuable source of income when hired out, so the local members could also promote this opportunity.
- A member suggested that more interaction with parish councils was needed to effectively offer support to libraries. It was noted that some communication with parishes was already underway and in Wendover, discussions were taking place with a view to co-locating the parish council and the library. Following the renovation of Marlow Library, the town council also now had an office in the building.
- At the last Select Committee looking at Visitor Economy, it had been suggested that libraries could host visitor information. David Jones agreed that with libraries acting as community hubs, they could provide information across many areas including tourism.
- In the winter it was likely that libraries would be marketed as warm spaces that could be accessed by anyone struggling to heat their homes and there would be information available on energy conservation and debt management. Library staff were known for their kind and helpful attitude.
- A member raised concerns about libraries losing funding and no longer focussing on their core offer of lending books. He questioned if the Council was complying with the 1964 Libraries Act. Mr Jones advised that the 1964 act was quite vague and due to the challenges of reduced local government budgets, the library service had to diversify in order to survive. Anyone visiting a library could still borrow books and access information for free, although this might be held digitally. He also expressed the view that the professional craft of librarianship was no longer as relevant because technology had taken over a lot of the traditional skills, so volunteer staff were able to help library visitors in meaningful way. The countywide Summer Reading Challenge and other initiatives still promoted literacy.
- Buckinghamshire had a proportionally higher number of libraries being open 20-25 hours/per week compared to the national average. A member expressed concern that his local library in Haddenham was only open three days a week and closed at 5pm, which meant that children couldn't use the library to do their homework. However, he was aware that there were concerns about energy costs. The individual library's opening hours were defined by the trustees so this could be discussed with them.
- In response to a member's concerns about gaps in physical access to libraries, it was noted that work had been undertaken to map areas and identify gaps in provision. Mr Jones noted these concerns and advised that this issue would be considered further.
- An analysis of the use of mobile libraries had shown that the majority of people who used mobile libraries were also using physical libraries. As the vehicles used for the service were not reliable, and the cost of service was inefficient in terms of use, the service was withdrawn some time ago following a formal consultation process.
- During the pandemic, the offer of physical newspapers had been removed. However, the digital offer had been enhanced, with 300 different titles having become available. As well as saving costs by not providing physical copies, a consultation also revealed the

residents' preference for digital newspapers.

The Chairman thanked Richard Barker, David Jones, Laura Davies, Lyn Mangisi and Katie DeJoux for attending the meeting. Members commended Mr Jones for his passionate knowledge of his service and the positive way he presented his item at Committee.

8 UPDATE ON CHILTERN'S LIFESTYLES CENTRE

The Chairman welcomed Sue Drummond, Head of Leisure, to the meeting.

During the presentation, the following key points were made:

- The Chiltern's Lifestyles Centre opened in December 2021. A flagship facility in Amersham, it was deemed an area of national best practice in terms of the quality of the sports and leisure offer, and a blueprint for leisure provision in Buckinghamshire going forward. The usage, access and customer feedback had been positive, but comments from members to shape the future leisure strategy were welcomed.
- Despite Covid restrictions still being in place when the centre had opened, the number of visitors during the first few months had been high, with numbers reaching 817,000 by the end of September 2022.
- The expansion of the centre had a particular focus on health and wellbeing. The number of swim memberships had exceeded expectations. However, residents were also using the centre for social meetings, with young people filling the library to study together.
- An outreach development officer had been appointed to engage with communities and public health partnerships, such as LEAP. A range of GP referral schemes such as health and wellbeing programmes were also offered. With its connection to the local youth community building, young people also received opportunities for training, such as qualifying as lifeguards. A programme to engage with Ukrainian refugees was also offered.
- The Chiltern's lifestyle centre also offered a variety of sports, with basketball clubs, cricket, table tennis and badminton.

The following points were noted during the Committee's discussion:

- Members welcomed the development of the centre and were pleased about the positive reception from visitors. The teams involved in the project were thanked for their work.
- The centre had presented a number of challenges in the early days, particularly around cleanliness and the number of visitors. However, the team continued to monitor these issues closely. A member also noted that the booking system needed to be easier to use, which would be fed back to the operator.
- A leisure strategy for the whole of the county was noted to be in development. An analysis of gaps in leisure provision was currently being undertaken, with a particular focus on population growth. Provision of a similar facility in other areas would require a business case and discussions with partners, community boards, parish councils and local stakeholders.
- A member raised concerns about the rising energy costs and asked about ways these could be mitigated. It was noted that the Centre was equipped with solar panels, which not only provide energy to the facility but also produced additional energy. The facility had also received a high energy efficiency rating. The Chiltern Lifestyles Centre also proved to be lucrative, generating a net income of £2m per year. Thus, officers were confident that the offer would be maintained going forward.

- Pupils have been seen to use the facility for study, as did people who wished to work collaboratively instead of at home.
- A member asked whether there were plans to further engage people aged 16-24, as well as those over 50, who currently showed less usage of the facilities. More funding for school sports had been received for young people in recent years, encouraging them to be more active. The centre itself also looked at a range of holiday programmes offering specific sports such as basketball and cricket.
- More focus had been placed on older adults, with senior sessions of badminton and table tennis happening regularly. Furthermore, walking football and netball session would be introduced shortly. Campaigns were also being done to increase activity for older residents. A larger Health and Wellbeing programme had also been established with the Live Well Stay Well programme. It was also noted that targets had been set before the pandemic, which resulted in some groups being less represented. However, these were being reconsidered for the future, to ensure that the whole community was able to use and benefit from the facility.
- The Chairman suggested that consideration should be given to offering family memberships, as some residents had indicated that the cost of individual memberships was prohibitive. It was also noted that the car parking charges presented an issue for some residents. Whilst there were no current plans to change the parking charges on-site, there may be an opportunity to consider other areas nearby which would not amount to the same cost.

9 WORK PROGRAMME

Members were advised to contact the Scrutiny Officer for the committee with any additional topics they wished to be included in the Communities and Localism work programme.

10 DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting would be Tuesday 22nd November 2022 at 10am.

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Report to Communities and Localism Select Committee

Date:	17 January 2023
Title:	Engagement with communities impacted by HS2 construction: what HS2 is doing and how Buckinghamshire Council is supporting and supplementing that engagement
Author:	Laura Leech, Head of Major Projects and Judith Wainwright, Engagement and Funds Officer

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 The HS2 Act gives powers to HS2 Ltd in relation to the construction of a high-speed railway between London and Birmingham, passing through the length of Buckinghamshire.
- 1.2 Under the Act, HS2 Ltd has responsibility for public engagement; that engagement is supplemented by Buckinghamshire Council at an annual cost of £500k.
- 1.3 The public do not fully appreciate the powers granted to HS2 Ltd or the limitations placed on the Council. There is a perception that words such as 'consultation' and 'engagement' as described in HS2's Engagement Strategy, mean they and the Council will be able to have greater influence over decisions than they actually have.
- 1.4 Through its additional engagement activity, the HS2 Team within Buckinghamshire Council has been able to influence a number of strategic and tactical developments on behalf of residents.
- 1.5 The presence of HS2 provides a catalyst for the community to raise a range of additional highways/transport related issues.
- 1.6 In addition to public engagement, HS2 Ltd has made available a number of funding streams to compensate or mitigate for the impact of construction.
- 1.7 The Committee's attention is drawn to S8 which sets out a number of recommendations to address current areas of concern.

2 Background

- 2.1 In February 2017 the HS2 hybrid (Phase 1) Act received Royal Assent. This provided HS2 Ltd with an Act of Parliament, The HS2 Act (which is equivalent to deemed planning permission) to construct a high speed railway between London and Birmingham.

One third (approx. 60km) of Phase 1 dissects Buckinghamshire (approx. 16km of which is in tunnel). See Appendix 1.
- 2.2 The HS2 Act grants deemed planning permission for HS2 Phase 1, but some of the design and construction detail are subject to further approval.
- 2.3 Buckinghamshire Council is a Qualifying Authority, which means that it is responsible for granting that approval; it has a limited degree of influence over the details of the proposals, in comparison to the Councils more familiar role in the normal planning process.
- 2.4 Within Buckinghamshire Council, the HS2 Team has responsibility for processing all approvals for HS2 infrastructure and transportation arrangements. The team is responsible for ensuring that HS2 Ltd and its contractors work within the HS2 Act and agreed consents and fulfil their obligations in terms of engagement with directly affected parties, the wider community, and those with an interest in the scheme.
- 2.5 HS2 has responsibility for public engagement which includes ensuring residents and businesses know about upcoming works and changes to plan, in good time, and resolving issues if things go wrong. The project has its own Engagement Teams who are resourced to undertake engagement and that any engagement undertaken by local authorities is at their own expense.
- 2.6 Nevertheless, with responsibility for its residents, and for a variety of reasons detailed below, it has been necessary for the Council to supplement HS2's engagement and communication activity to ensure the provision of timely and relevant information to appropriate stakeholders and to respond to the increasing number of enquiries, complaints and requests for information. This has placed additional pressure on the HS2 team as well as on colleagues from the wider Council Communications Team (especially the Media and Social Media teams) and is incurring a direct cost of circa £500k per annum.

3 HS2 Community Engagement

- 3.1 HS2 Ltd has an obligation to engage with directly affected parties. In October 2021, HS2 Ltd relaunched their refreshed Engagement Strategy, which is attached at

Appendix 2. This includes 10 commitments on which they will measure their success, which fall into four key areas:

- a) Keeping people informed/updated on works in their area through websites, newsletters, and local community teams
- b) Listening/responding to people and helping with questions and concerns, via a 24/7/365-day helpdesk, complaints process and Construction Commissioner
- c) Involving people in education programmes, meeting with local authority and attending forums, organising workshops and seeking their views on engagement and communication
- d) Undertaking formal consultations to inform policy

- 3.2 The formal consultation period has now ended. Unfortunately there remains a disconnect between public perception and reality about the meaning of 'consultation', which is at the root of many enquiries and complaints, as residents believe they and Buckinghamshire Council will be able to have more input to, and influence over project activities than they are actually able to. When HS2 speak of 'engagement' this often translates as 'consultation' in the eyes of the public.
- 3.3 As referenced in S2.6, HS2 Ltd is responsible for ensuring residents and businesses know about upcoming works at least 14 days in advance, via the Advance Warning Notice (AWN) process. In some cases, the Council has been informed within this same timeframe, whereas earlier notifications, especially in relation to significant works would enable more constructive dialogue between HS2 Ltd and the Council and avoid rushed, last minute communications, as was the case with the installation of the Small Dean Conveyor Overbridge.
- 3.4 The Council's HS2 Team is keen to support local engagement by HS2 and its contractors, as this is a useful way of gauging public opinion, and understanding any issues arising, however there have been some problems in securing early information about planned upcoming events.
- 3.5 In addition to their formal engagement responsibilities, HS2 and their contractors take part in a range of educational and community activities/projects. Recent examples include the development of forest classrooms at Quinton School and Booker Park School, by EKFB. Such projects are always very well received by local communities.

4 Funding opportunities available from HS2

- 4.1 In recognition of the impacts of HS2 construction, HS2 has made available a number of funds. Some are designed to provide specific mitigation for construction or environmental impacts of construction in particular areas, whilst others are designed to offer more general benefits to communities and businesses that are disrupted.
- 4.2 Various schemes are available to offer funding or compensation to people whose homes or businesses are affected by HS2. These vary depending on proximity to construction and support is available from the HS2 Residents Commissioner.
- 4.3 £40m has been made available for a Community Environment Fund (CEF) and Business and Local Economy Fund (BLEF) for projects during construction Phases 1 and 2a from London to Crew. Over £12m has already been allocated to over 200 projects of which 60 located in Buckinghamshire have benefitted from funding of £3.4m (see appendix 3). This fund is administered on behalf of HS2 by Groundwork UK. The Council promotes availability of these funds and supports applicants wishing to obtain information or make an application. Buckinghamshire is grouped with neighbouring counties Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire and Hertfordshire, within the central region, for which £15m has been allocated. Buckinghamshire has already been awarded approximately half of the total £6.6m allocated and is not currently regarded as priority area for funding.
- 4.4 Buckinghamshire has been awarded £3.95m to fund road safety improvements in recognition of the impact of construction. The HS2 Road Safety Fund, which was launched in Buckinghamshire in 2021, is administered by the Council who decided to open this to community bids with the objective of spreading the benefit to as many affected communities as possible. To date 34 schemes have been approved or are being taken forward for feasibility work at an estimated collective cost of £2.9m (see appendix 4). A final tranche of funding will be released next year. It is worthy of note that the impact of inflation, particularly in the construction sector, has seriously eroded this budget and to date there have been no adjustments to mirror the increase in HS2 construction costs.
- 4.5 During the project consultation phase, HS2 gave a number of commitments, known as undertakings and assurances (U&A), some of which are financial, for example £3m for environmental mitigation in the Chilterns AONB, £3m for the Colne Valley and £1m to four parishes around Calvert. The Council is working actively with relevant communities and organisations to ensure the funds are fully utilised and compliance requirements met.
- 4.6 Pothole Fund – In recognition of the damage being caused to our highways, HS2 have agreed to contribute towards the cost of road repairs, required due to additional wear and tear caused by construction vehicles on lorry routes. £93k has been agreed for this year, with discussions underway regarding contribution of a

similar sum for next year. Other negotiations are ongoing with regard to more substantial funds for repairs to highways.

5 Engagement: the Challenges for Buckinghamshire Council

5.1 Despite HS2's position that the Council should not need to undertake additional engagement activity, there is a clear need for us to fulfil our responsibilities to residents; this means ensuring that communications are clear and timely and to investigate and respond to enquiries and complaints from residents, local businesses, members of the Council and Parliament.

Key factors driving an increase in demand for Council engagement:

- a) Residents and local businesses do not understand the Council's limitations in its role as a Qualifying Authority and constantly expect that our intervention will be greater than it can be, resulting in demands for access to technical officers who are able to explain the details of works.
- b) Some residents and local businesses have unrealistic expectations of the involvement they will be able to have in scheme designs, possibly misinterpreting the focus on involvement in the HS2 Engagement Strategy.
- c) Many engagement activities are undertaken too late to enable stakeholders time to challenge or influence decisions that affect them, or proposals are presented as a fait-accompli. A recent example of this is the plan to construct a conveyor over the A413 to move earth from the east side of the road to Small Dean Lane. This was a major departure from plan which was first communicated in early February 2022 with work on site clearance scheduled to commence the same month.
- d) The submission of applications without full supporting documentation and surveys, e.g. drainage, compromises the timescale available to the Council for assessing applications, resulting in post approval queries and complaints.
- e) There is a perception that HS2 do not listen to local ideas or recognise that local people know their community including roads and traffic and may be able to help.
- f) HS2 is a catalyst used by residents to raise an additional range of road/transport related issues with the Council, so some 'HS2' branded enquiries or complaints which are received by the HS2 Team are complex, including elements of HS2 impact as well as non-related traffic/transport issues. Responses require co-ordination across transport disciplines, for example road safety, road repairs, speed limits, increased traffic volumes and traffic management.

g) An increasing number of community groups and forums have been formed and officer presence is requested in addition to attendance by HS2 Ltd and/or relevant contractors. Whilst placing added pressure on already stretched Council resources, this has proved useful in terms of consistency of messages being received.

h) frustration has led to greater engagement of residents with members, who in turn require additional information/briefing from officers

5.2 The net result of these issues is that the Council is increasingly being asked to intervene on behalf of residents and organisations and to undertake wider engagement activity.

5.3 Many of these issues were articulated at a workshop hosted by Buckinghamshire Council in November 2021, with HS2 Ltd and several Parish Councils, which explored how effective engagement was felt to be and whether local people felt they could influence outcomes. This led to a number of recommended improvements, for example:

- earlier engagement with parish councils
- reinstatement of village hall style face to face engagement /exhibitions
- more constructive responses to queries raised with the HS2 helpdesk
- earlier notification of upcoming works
- visits by designers so that they could better design structures in keeping with local areas
- local promotion of jobs on the project.

There are some good examples of where action has been taken, for example recent engagement/exhibition sessions organised by EKFB in Quainton Village Hall, and it would be appropriate to consider this output as a benchmark and seek community feedback in a more structured way, on an ongoing basis.

5.4 Five members of Buckinghamshire Council's HS2 team, including two Marshals covering both HS2 and EWR are currently fully employed in engagement activity. Additionally, HS2 Highways and Planning staff within the Council as well as within the Communications Team are significantly impacted by the additional communications and engagement workload associated with HS2.

6 Buckinghamshire Council intervention on behalf of residents

6.1 The Council has responded proactively to the increasing challenges. Key actions taken over the last year include:

a) Recruitment of two marshals

- b) Implementation of mobile CCTV cameras and inviting the community to request deployments
- c) Establishing a CRM system
- d) Enhancements to our website and increasingly popular E Newsletter

6.2 Two marshals have been recruited to work on stakeholder engagement. They support residents with the construction of both HS2 and EWR by undertaking investigations into enquiries and complaints. The marshals work proactively and are on hand to undertake site visits, investigate issues, meet face to face with residents and liaise with contractors to resolve concerns.

6.3 Three mobile CCTV cameras were purchased in 2021 with the benefit of HS2 funding and they have been deployed at key locations across the county where there are believed to be adverse impacts resulting from HS2 construction. Reasons for deployment vary from location to location, but include monitoring for congestion, banned manoeuvres and the use of unauthorised routes by HS2 construction vehicles.

Following the introduction of the cameras it became clear that there was significant confusion regarding which routes HS2 construction vehicles are permitted to use and under what circumstances, leading to our publication of a document 'HS2 Large Goods Vehicles on our roads' on the Council's HS2 website.

6.4 The volume of work associated with the management and resolution of complaints and enquiries, the majority of which are complaints, has increased as activity on the ground has escalated, and we believe this is a trajectory which will continue as the project progresses. These come from a wide variety of stakeholders, as well as members of the Council and Parliament.

The growing level of engagement and contact management has led to the recent development of a customer response management (CRM) system to support the resolution process. The system, which additionally caters for EWR enquiries and complaints, will also drive management reporting along similar lines to that produced by HS2, enabling more proactive focus on key issues and trends, going forward.

This system is currently undergoing a "soft launch" to ensure that it is being used consistently across the team. Alongside this, reporting software has been developed to generate meaningful management information and enable analysis of trends so that remedial action can be taken to address common issues.

6.5 A monthly e-newsletter is produced by the HS2 engagement team to provide updates on significant events relating to the project and details of forthcoming HS2 works packages being submitted to the Council for approval. Content includes:

- a) articles where Buckinghamshire Council has acted on behalf of residents, businesses, and other stakeholders in the county to hold HS2 to account. For example, previous editions have included information on the Judicial Review on lorry routes, the HS2 Road Safety Fund and HS2 Water Supply and Management.
- b) links to key information on the HS2 website and
- c) information about the availability of funding.

There are currently 399 subscribers who receive a copy by email and it is also available to view on the Buckinghamshire Council HS2 webpages.

A copy of the latest Newsletter is attached as Appendix 5.

6.6 Technical and engagement members of the HS2 Team, attend several regular community meetings and forums. They also engage proactively with HS2 and their contractors at all levels of management. A recently formed weekly forum between officers from the Council, HS2 and contractor organisations for reviewing incoming enquiries and complaints has proved particularly beneficial and has led to faster resolution and a better understanding of trending issues.

6.7 As a result of the additional engagement activity undertaken by members of the Council's HS2 Team, there have been many notable interventions in terms of highways, planning and the environment. Some of these relate to infrastructure design which will be evident for years to come, whilst there have been numerous smaller scale interventions which impact on quality of life for our residents. Specific examples within the last few months include:

- a) a challenge to the original design of the Amersham Head House and Vent Shaft, which resulted in a lower structure and the replacement of the proposed steel cladding with more sympathetic flint. HS2 have acknowledged that these changes were as a result of feedback and advice from Buckinghamshire Council,
- b) challenged the extraction of water by HS2 contractors from two sites in Amersham due to lorries obscuring visibility for other vehicles and taking too much water. Now both contractors either bring water from South Portal or outside of Affinity Water area
- c) challenged HS2 contractor EKFB, following reports by residents of thick layers of dust on the road and in clouds rising around the Westbury site. As a result of the intervention, EKFB agreed to implement additional measures including placing tarmac in the break from highway and implementing a wheel wash station

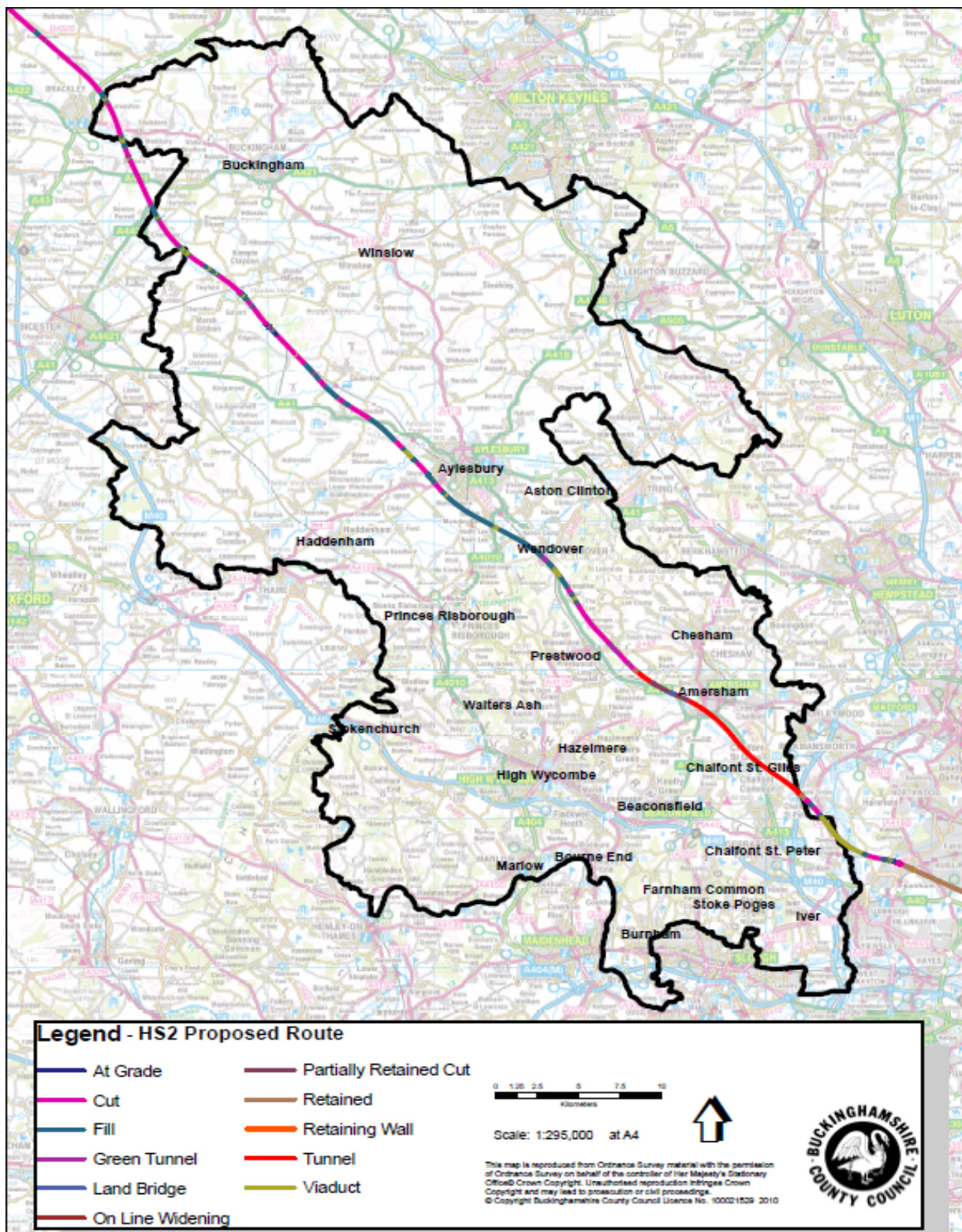
7 Trend & Expectations

- 7.1 The scale of construction activity will be increasing over the next couple of years.
- 7.2 As referenced in 5.4 above, the amount of work involved in resolution of enquiries and complaints being received by the Council is increasing and we see no signs that this is set to level out or reduce.
- 7.3 This contrasts with HS2 recorded volumes of enquiries and complaints relating to operations in Buckinghamshire, which has shown a reduction from 2021 to 2022. For example, in the period April to August 2022, 618 enquiries and 106* complaints were recorded; this contrasts with 859 enquiries and 226* complaints in the same period of 2021. Circa 50% of complaints in both periods related to 'Traffic and Traffic Management'. Other key categories in both periods were 'Noise & Vibration' and 'Site Operations'. In 2021, 19 complaints related to 'Programme of Works' also this dropped to just one in the same period of 2022.
- 7.4 *It should be noted that HS2 recorded complaints are defined as those that include the word 'complain' or 'complaint' in the title, irrespective of what is said in the body of the communication. We are advised that this is a reporting issue only, as once a complaint is identified, it is dealt with as such, however it is still just reported as an enquiry.

8 Recommendations and What We Would Like to see from HS2

- 8.1 Establish a 'Task and Finish Group' comprising representatives from The Council's TECC and C&L select committees as well as HS2 Ltd; the remit of that Group being to identify and implement effective solutions to engagement issues quickly, by working collaboratively and finding ways of cutting 'red tape'.
- 8.2 Use the engagement workshop held in November 2021 and attended by Parish Council representatives as well as the Council and HS2 Ltd as a benchmark, and re-run in 2022 to review actions and determine whether communities feel that improvements have been made. Outcomes from that meeting should be specific and action orientated, potentially feeding into the Task & Finish Group.
- 8.3 HS2 and their contractors should review processes leading to the submission of planning applications to ensure that these are both timely and complete at the point of submission
- 8.4 The Council's HS2 team needs to fully utilise the new CRM system and finalise development of reporting, which should be shared with HS2 and its contractors.

- 8.5 HS2 have been requested to review their internal processes to enable accurate reporting of complaints.
- 8.6 Schedules of community engagement activity being undertaken by HS2 contractors should be reliably communicated in advance.



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HS2



Respecting people, Respecting places

HS2 Community
Engagement Strategy

Updated
October 2021



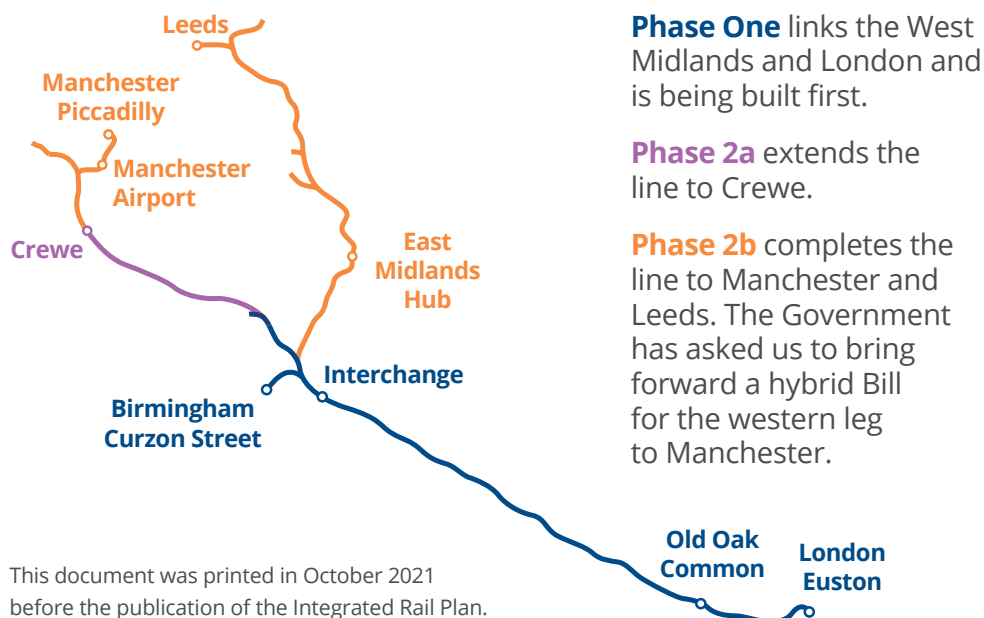


HS2 staff member meeting with members of the public at the HS2 Roadshow event in Birmingham, September 2021.

Who we are

HS2 Ltd was set up by the Government to design and build HS2, Britain's new high-speed railway.

We are building HS2 in three different phases known as Phase One, Phase 2a and Phase 2b.



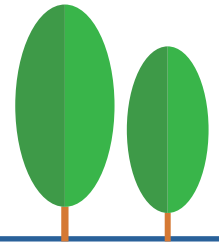
Phase One links the West Midlands and London and is being built first.

Phase 2a extends the line to Crewe.

Phase 2b completes the line to Manchester and Leeds. The Government has asked us to bring forward a hybrid Bill for the western leg to Manchester.

This document was printed in October 2021 before the publication of the Integrated Rail Plan.

Respecting people, Respecting places



This summary explains what we mean by respecting people and places as we build HS2.

We know that planning and building the railway disrupts the lives of local people. We will always try to do the right thing and reduce disruption as much as we can.

We will

- tell you what we are going to do and when;
- let you know if things change; and
- if we get something wrong, we will listen to you and do our best to make it right.

How we will engage with you



Informing

We will keep you updated on issues that affect your area.



Involving

We will involve you in opportunities as we plan and build HS2.



Responding

We will listen to you and help with your questions and concerns.



Consulting

We will formally consult with you while we seek permission to build Phase 2b. We now have permission to build Phase One and Phase 2a.

Informing

We will keep you updated on issues that affect your area.



Our commitments

- We will tell you about HS2 works in your area.
- We have local community websites and newsletters with regular information and updates about our work in your area.
- We have local community teams who know your area. They will hold local events and run projects to keep you informed.

Fulfilling our commitments

- Our locally based community teams will provide regular opportunities for you to talk to us both face-to-face and online.
- A live interactive map will show all HS2 activity in your local area and along the line of route.
- Dedicated local community websites will share information about your local area online.
- Local information can be provided in print, different languages and accessible formats.
- A local area plan will explain how we will engage and keep you updated in your area.
- We will promote awareness of all our property schemes for people whose homes or businesses are affected by HS2.



HS2 staff member engaging with members of the public at the HS2 Roadshow event in Hertfordshire, June 2019.

Involving

We will involve you in opportunities as we plan and build HS2.



Our commitments

- We will involve you in opportunities to benefit and learn as we build HS2 including jobs, skills, education, employment and funding.
- We will ask you about the design of specific parts of the railway.

Fulfilling our commitments

- We will run interactive archaeology and ecology programmes.
- We will deliver education programmes for schools and young people affected by HS2, and regularly share information on jobs and employment.
- We will join existing community forums so that you can talk to us at local groups and events.
- We will meet with your local authorities and representative members along the route.
- We will support local areas through investment in community projects.
- We will invite you to workshops and discussions to ask you about the design of key features of the railway, such as stations, vent shafts, viaducts and hoardings.
- We will ask your views on how we communicate and engage, and the best ways of keeping you involved in information about HS2.



HS2 staff member planting flowers with members of the public at a local community garden in London, July 2019.

Responding

We will listen to you and help with your questions and concerns.



Members of HS2 Helpdesk team, September 2019.

Our commitments

- Our dedicated HS2 Helpdesk is available 24 hours a day, every day of the year, to help with any questions or concerns you have about HS2 or our work.
- If things go wrong, we have a complaints process and a dedicated complaints team.
- An independent Construction Commissioner monitors how we manage and deal with complaints.

Fulfilling our commitments

- Our dedicated HS2 Helpdesk is available 24 hours a day, every day of the year, including bank holidays. We can answer many of your queries straight away.
- The HS2 Helpdesk works with teams across HS2 and all our construction sites to put things right as quickly as possible.
- The HS2 Helpdesk is based in the UK and knows the full route of the new railway to better understand how we can help you.
- We provide an independent advocacy service which can help represent residents who need additional support when engaging with HS2.
- You can contact us by freephone, email, web contact form, minicom, or freepost www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/contact-us/
- We have a complaints process and a dedicated complaints team who investigate your concerns to published targets and timescales www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/contact-us/how-to-complain/
- The independent Construction Commissioner monitors how we manage construction complaints and mediates in disputes about construction that we can't resolve complaints@hs2-cc.org.uk

Consulting

Phase 2b

Formal consultation is a legal process that takes place while we are seeking permission to build the railway. Consultation helps inform government policy. We now have permission to build Phase One (between the West Midlands and London) and Phase 2a (between the West Midlands and Crewe).

Our commitments

- We will hold formal consultations with you while we seek permission to build Phase 2b of HS2.
- We now have permission to build Phase One and Phase 2a. This means we will only formally consult on this part of HS2 when we need permission to do things that fall outside the terms of the legislation agreed by Parliament.



Fulfilling our commitments

- We will hold formal consultations for the Government, while we seek permission to build Phase 2b of HS2. We will do this by:
 - publishing the consultation and making it clear what we are consulting on;
 - letting you know when a consultation is launched;
 - explaining what it means to you;
 - providing you with a way to respond; and
 - publishing the response.
- We will formally consult on:
 - the Phase 2b route;
 - changes to the design of the Phase 2b route known as design refinement;
 - the working draft Environmental Statement and our equalities impact assessment, which makes sure the plans for Phase 2b are fair for everyone; and
 - our property schemes for homes and businesses directly affected by HS2.

Independent commissioners and keeping you informed

HS2

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 you.

The Residents' Commissioner

The independent Residents' Commissioner oversees and monitors our commitments to you.

The commissioner's reports and our responses can be found at www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-ltd-residents-commissioner

The Residents' Commissioner makes sure we fulfill the commitments in this strategy.

The Residents' Commissioner can be contacted on: residentscommissioner@hs2.org.uk

Construction Commissioner

The independent Construction Commissioner regularly meets our Chief Executive Officer to raise any concerns or emerging trends across HS2.

The Construction Commissioner's role has been developed to monitor the way we manage and respond to construction complaints.

The commissioner mediates on disputes about construction, involving individuals and organisations, that we can't resolve. The commissioner advises members of the public about how to make a complaint about construction.

The Construction Commissioner can be contacted on: complaints@hs2-cc.org.uk

Property and compensation

You can find out about HS2 and properties along the route by visiting: www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-property

Find out if you can claim compensation at: www.gov.uk/claim-compensation-if-affected-by-hs2

Contact us

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

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 local area, visit: www.HS2inyourarea.co.uk

Please contact us if you'd like a free copy of this document in large print, Braille, audio or 'easy read' format. You can also contact us for help and information in a different language.

We are committed to protecting personal information. If you wish to know more about how we use your personal information please see our Privacy Notice www.gov.uk/government/publications/high-speed-two-ltd-privacy-notice

Holding us to account

If you are unhappy for any reason you can make a complaint by contacting the HS2 Helpdesk. For more details on our complaints process, please visit: www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/contact-us/how-to-complain/

Appendix 3

HS2 Community Environment Fund and Business & Local Economy Projects in Buckinghamshire to 220824		
Organisation	Project	Funding
Richings Park Sports Club Ltd	Richings Park Playground	£ 39,960.00
Coleshill Parish Council	Coleshill Play Area and Adult Activity Trail	£ 17,198.00
Ballinger Waggoners Cricket Club	Mini Tractor to improve Ballinger Cricket Ground and Surrounding Land	£ 9,672.00
Forest Enterprise England	Wendover Woods	£ 450,000.00
Community Impact Bucks	Bucks Parishes Community Led Planning and Neighbourhood Planning Information and Support Hub and Forum	£ 9,655.00
Wendover Swimming Charitable Incorporated Organisation	Wendover Swimming Pool Refurbishment (phase 2)	£ 74,000.00
Twyford Village Hall	Programme of Repairs and Improvements	£ 9,500.00
Padbury Pre-school	Budding Explorers	£ 1,000.00
Steeple Claydon Methodist Church	Church Refurbishment Project	£ 12,000.00
Wendover Parish Council	Witchell Car Park Extension	£ 74,990.00
The Saye and Sele Hall Foundation	Construction of a Storage Building & Kitchen Fixtures	£ 29,850.00
Quainton Parish Council	Quainton Windmill Restoration Project	£ 10,000.00
The Lee Parish Council	Childrens Playground Fort Replacement	£ 44,100.00
Road Farm Countryways CIC	Essential Facility Growth Project @ G Missenden	£ 74,950.00
Chiltern MS Centre Ltd	Improving Access to Exercise for People with MS	£ 74,855.00
Amersham Museum Ltd	Amersham Mobile Museum	£ 16,080.00
The Colne Valley Park CIC	The Colne Valley: Open for business	£ 72,202.00
Chilterns Conservation Board	Chalk, Cherries & Chairs	£ 243,103.00
Padbury Village Football Club	New Youth Goalposts & Seating Equipment	£ 2,440.00
Ballinger Waggoners Cricket Club	Female Coaching	£ 4,540.00
1st Wendover Scouts	1st Wendover Scouts' Hut Solar Power Installation	£ 10,000.00
Extra Storage and Replacement of Chairs	Quainton Memorial Hall	£ 1,755.00
Claydon Community Café CIC	Molly's Community Café	£ 75,000.00
Seye and Sele Foundation	Outside Learning Area, Chairs and Tables	£ 7,406.00
Charndon Parish Council	Inclusive Play Equipment for Disabled Children	£ 9,933.00
Amersham Band	Building a New Music Facility for the Amersham Community	£ 75,000.00
Chiltern CAB Ltd	Prestwood Integrated Outreach (PIO) Pilot	£ 8,927.00
Waddesdon Bowls Club	Clubhouse Kitchen Development and Bowls Green Development	£ 23,482.00
Ludgershall Parish Council	Ludgershall Village Play Area	£ 10,000.00
Great Missenden Parish Council	Great Missenden Memorial Centre Refurbishment Project	£ 71,142.00
National Paralympic Heritage Trust	Paralympic Values: Stories From' Project	£ 250,000.00
Lindengate	Lindengate Nature Reserve Development as a Community Facility	£ 62,282.00
Pebble Brook School	The Federation Café at the Healthy Living Centre	£ 63,558.00
Greater London Middlesex West Scouts	Replacement and Enhancement of Existing Climbing Wall and New Underground Artificial Climbing Complex	£ 217,372.00
Amersham Town Football Club	Rebuild of the Old and Decaying Wooden Part of the Clubhouse	£ 55,000.00
Westbury Parish Council	Westbury - Investing in the Future	£ 40,574.00
The Conservation Volunteers	Amersham, Coleshill & Chalfonts Green Gym	£ 73,018.00
The Royal Latin School	New Sports Campus in Buckingham	£ 75,000.00
Edgcott Parish Council	Accessible Car Park at Edgcott Village Hall	£ 12,050.00
2 nd Amersham on the Hill Scout Group	Jubilee Hall Appeal	£ 75,000.00
Holy Trinity Hazlemere Parochial Church Council	Trinity Project	£ 75,000.00
Coleshill Cricket Club	Coleshill Cricket Coaching Nets and Scorebox Refurbishment	£ 30,000.00
Amersham Cricket Club	Amersham Cricket Club Pavillion Refurbishment	£ 63,330.00
Prestwood Methodist Church	Prestwood Methodist Church Hall - replacement windows and doors	£ 4,000.00
Buckinghamshire County Museum Trust	Discover Bucks New Galleries Project	£ 74,430.00
Charndon Parish Council	Calvert Children's Play Area	£ 63,919.00
Twyford Parish Council	Twyford Play Area and Outdoor Gym	£ 38,000.00
Gawcott & Hillesden Cricket Club	Gawcott & Hillesden Cricket Club Ground Equipment	£ 9,690.00
Monks Risborough Church of England Primary School	Monks Risborough Footpath Diversion	£ 9,558.00
Twyford United Reformed Church	Twyford Community Building Project	£ 35,000.00
John Colet School, Wendover	Construction of 3G football pitch	£ 56,250.00
Little Missenden Parish Council	Little Kingshill playground improvements	£ 28,000.00
Carers Trust Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes	Supporting Carers in Buckinghamshire	£ 70,907.00
Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society	Digitisation of records for the Archaeology Data Service	£ 6,801.00
St Michaels Church Amersham	Upgrade of the facilities	£ 56,100.00
Penn Street Cricket Club, Amersham	Refurbishment of existing net area, providing a new surface area, net and cage	£ 9,750.00
On Air Radio	Set up and launch of a new local radio station for the South Bucks region	£ 26,150.00
Chalfont St Giles Parish Council	Refurbishment of village pond to improve water quality for plants & wildlife	£ 75,000.00
	Total CEF	£ 3,218,479.00
Buckinghamshire Business First	Visit Buckinghamshire Business Advisory Service (VBAS)	£74,898.00
Chilterns Conservation Board	Open for Business - Promoting tourism in the central Chilterns Corridor	£120,303.00
	Total BLEF	£195,201.00
	Total Funding to Buckinghamshire	£ 3,413,680.00

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HS2 Road Safety Fund - Approved Schemes			Appendix 4
Tranche	Ref	Scheme	Status
Tranche 1 (2021)	31	SID for Westcott	Delivered
	9	SID for Waddesdon	Delivered
	10	SID x 2 for Quainton	Delivered
	6	Improved visibility of School Hill/Werner Terrace junction at Charndon	Delivered
	12	White edge marking to various stretches of the A4010	Delivered
	18	Improved visibility of Bradenham Wood Lane junction with the A4010	Delivered
	19	Traffic calming measures on the A4010 at Bradenham and improved warnings/visibility of the Chiltern Rail bridge	Delivered
	22d	Traffic calming measures on A4010 at Saunderton	Approved by BC & HS2 Ltd
	29	Installation of high kerbing to prevent parking outside the Esso petrol station on A40 at Denham	Approved by BC & HS2 Ltd
	30	Installation of high kerbing to prevent parking outside the BP/M&S petrol station on A40 at Denham	Approved by BC & HS2 Ltd
	1	School Crossing on Weedon Hill outside Hyde Heath Infant School, Hyde Heath, Little	Approved by BC & HS2 Ltd
	4	Shared surface foot/cyclepath on A4010 at Ellesborough between the Gulf Petrol Station at Gaydon and the Freemantle Court Nursing Home	Approved by BC & HS2 Ltd
	8	Pedestrian Crossing over the A422 in Westbury just to the west of the Biddlesdon Road/Main Street crossroads	Approved by BC & HS2 Ltd
	23	Traffic calming measures (to include 2 sets of chicanes, reflective bollards, red anti skid surfacing, dragons teeth and improved signage) at Water Stratford	Approved by BC & HS2 Ltd
	24a	Convert existing zebra crossing on the B4443 outside Stoke Mandeville Combined School into a Toucan Crossing	Approved by BC & HS2 Ltd
	26	Double yellow lines around bus stops on each side of Brackley Lane, Calvert	Approved by BC & HS2 Ltd
Tranche 2 (2022)	57	Sentinel Device for Quainton	Approved by BC
	62	SID posts x 2 for Quainton	Approved by BC
	33	2 x MVAS for use on Edgcott Road, Grendon Underwood	Approved by BC
	44b	2 x MVAS for use in Steeple Claydon	Approved by BC
	47	SID for use on A418 at Stone	Approved by BC
	63c	Improved signage on various roads in Gawcott	Approved by BC
	66	Speed restriction warning signs on School Hill, Charndon	Approved by BC
	38	Widen belmouth of School Hill junction with Perry Hill, Charndon	Approved by BC
	55	Zebra crossing outside Robertswood School on Denham Lane, Chalfont St. Peter	Approved for Feasibility
	54	Footpath along Wotton Road, Ashenden from the junction with Main Street to the vehicular access to Hillside Cottages	Approved for Feasibility
	58b	Raising of two existing zebra crossings on High Street and Deanway, Chalfont St Giles	Approved for Feasibility
	41b	New Puffin crossing on the A418 at Wing, to the east of the Church Street junction	Approved for Feasibility
67	Footway along A355 joining existing footways from the bottom of Longbottom Lane to Ledborough Lane, Beaconsfield	Approved for Feasibility	
49	Traffic calming measures on A4219 at Kingsey (Stage 2 assessment by TfB to determine measures to be progressed, but could include signage, including on road, speed limit review/reduction and refuge islands)	Approved for Feasibility	

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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."

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

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](#).

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.

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](#).

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 th 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

Jackie Copcutt jackie.copcutt@buckinghamshire.gov.uk Tel: 01296 383793

EWR and HS2 enquiries Mailbox and to contact the Buckinghamshire Council marshals
EWRANDHS2enquiries@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

HS2 Ltd Helpdesk and Mobile Visitor Centre

Email to HS2Enquiries at 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:



Buckinghamshire Council
The Gateway, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury, HP19 8FF
buckinghamshire.gov.uk

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

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HS2

Buckinghamshire Council

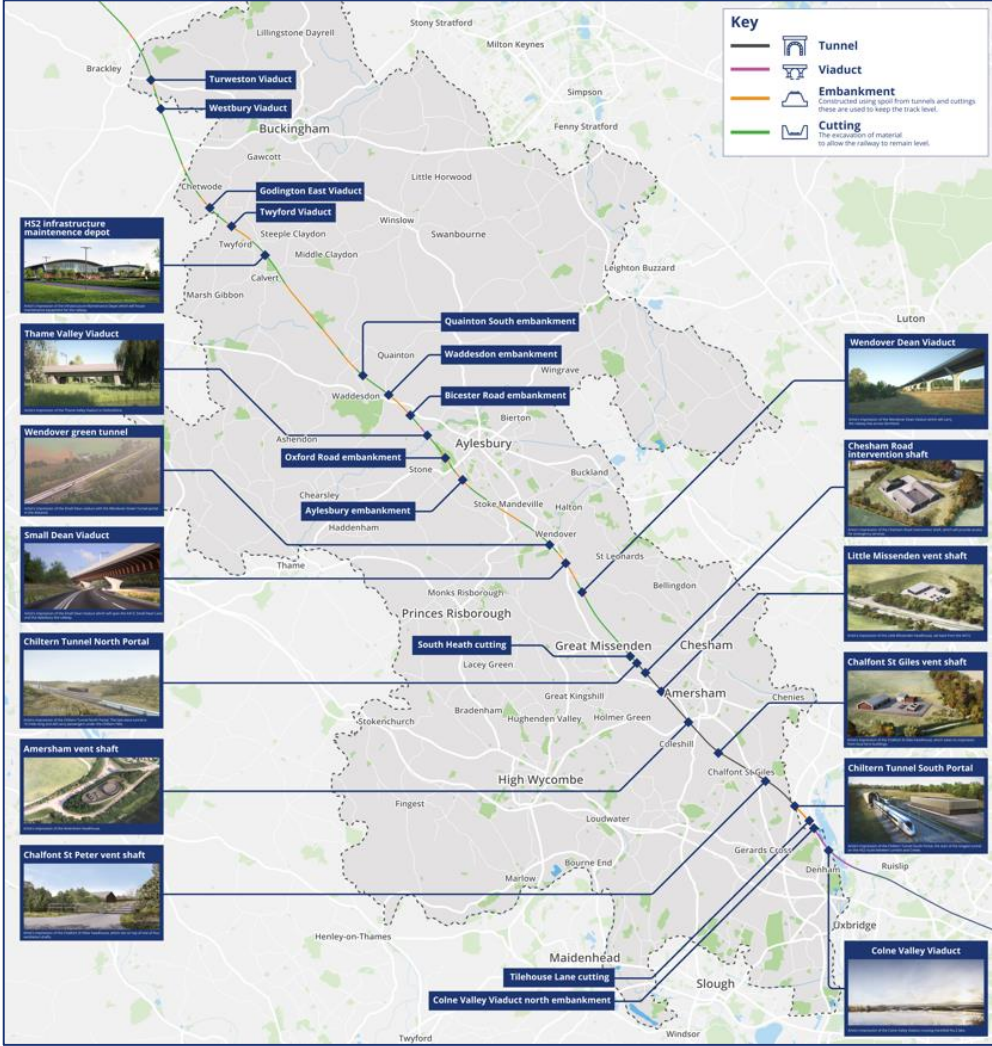
Communities and Localism Select Committee

17 January 2023

HS2 in Buckinghamshire

- 60km route through Buckinghamshire
- 16km Chiltern Tunnel including five shafts
- 1.5km Green Tunnel
- 16km Cutting
- 28km Embankment
- 8 Viaducts
- 57 Bridges

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Constructing HS2 in Buckinghamshire



Responsible for the delivery of:

- The Colne Valley Viaduct and the Western Valley Slopes
- HS2's Chiltern Tunnel
- Five shafts along the route of the tunnel
- The north portal of the tunnel, located near Great Missenden

Responsible for the delivery of:

- HS2 between Great Missenden and Turweston in Buckinghamshire
- A number of key design features inc Wendover Green Tunnel, Small Dean / Wendover Dean Viaducts
- The interface with East West Rail and the HS2 Infrastructure Maintenance Depot
- Stoke Mandeville Relief Road



HS2

Consents Engagement

Simon Matthews

Interface and Stakeholder Director, EKFB

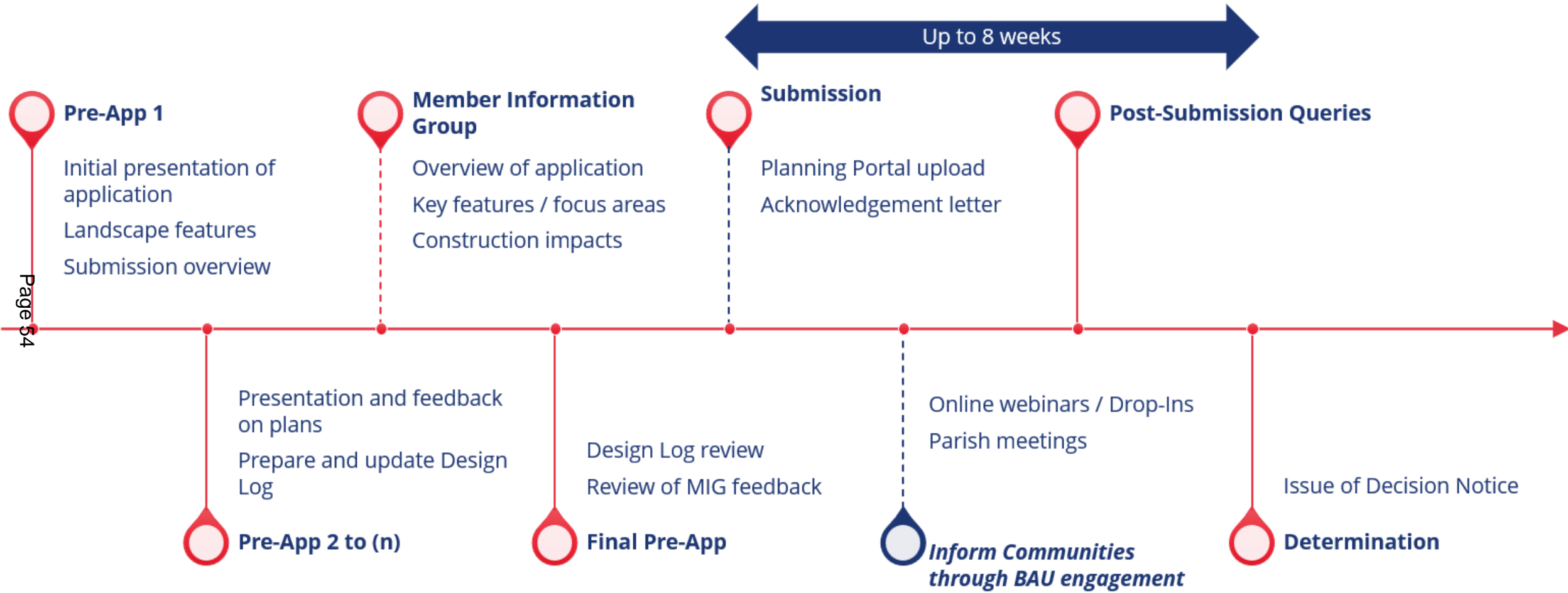
HS2 Act

- Grants powers to acquire land, build, maintain and operate the railway
- Dis-applies some legislation
- Specific provisions on powers and role of the local authorities
- Buckinghamshire Council have summarised the HS2 Act, and the associated legislation, and placed it online to aid local understanding. This content can be found [here](#)



High Speed Rail
(London - West
Midlands) Act 2017

Planning Approvals under Schedule 17 (non-KDE)



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Existing Process

New Process

Planning Memorandum requires proportionate forward discussions. The above process is likely to replicate larger non-KDE submissions. Applications of a minor nature may have shorter/limited pre-app

HS2

Community Engagement

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Maddelyn Sutton

Head of Community & Stakeholder Engagement, HS2

Community Engagement Strategy

How we will engage with you



We will keep you updated on issues that affect your area.



We will involve you in opportunities as we plan and build HS2.



We will listen to you and help with your questions and concerns.



HS2



**Respecting people,
Respecting places**



**HS2 Community
Engagement Strategy**

Updated
October 2021

Informing, involving, responding



Regular meetings



Events and webinars



Website and online

ALIGN Working in partnership with **HS2**

Temporary traffic lights and construction update: Chesham Road

High Speed Two (HS2) is the new high speed railway for Britain. This notice is to inform you of temporary traffic lights in place at Chesham Road site along with a construction update for the main works.

Why are we doing these works?
Over the last few months, you will have seen our intervention shaft site at Chesham Road being set up. The intervention shaft, located off the B485 at Hyde End, near Gt Missenden, is an important structure for the railway because it will provide access for emergency services. We are now ready to begin the excavation and construction of the shaft itself.

What will we be doing?
In November we will begin works to construct the outside wall of the intervention shaft at Chesham Road. The construction method being used is known as the caisson method where a temporary sheet pile cofferdam is constructed. These are preformed corrugated steel piles which are driven in from the surface. The cofferdam is circular and allows excavation of the weaker superficial clays so that the caisson can be installed directly into the stronger chalk.

Notification

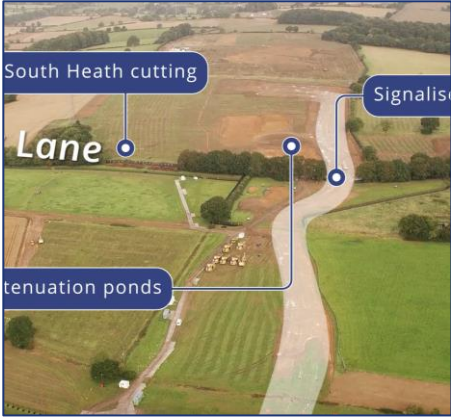
Duration of works
Caisson construction from mid November until summer 2022

Working hours are 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday and 8am to 1pm on Saturdays. Our contractors will be on site for one hour's start-up and shut down either side of these times. There will be at least two days each week where works will take place over 24 hours. We do not plan to work on a Sunday.

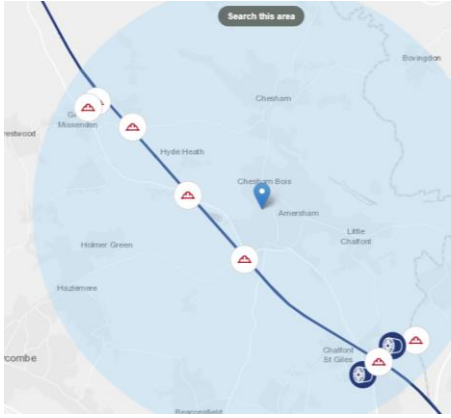
Notifications



Mobile visitor centre



Use of drone footage



In your area updates



Helpdesk

Complaints & Enquiries

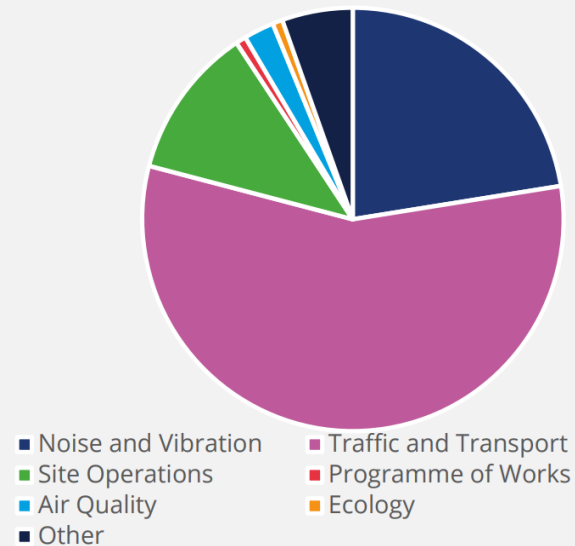
Local Authority Report – October 2022

Helpdesk Enquiries - Buckinghamshire Council

Numbers	October 2022	FY2022/23 (Year-to-Date)
Total cases	297	1037

Construction Complaints by Category FY2022/23 (Year-to-Date) - Buckinghamshire Council

Noise and vibration	29
Traffic and Transport	73
Site Operations	15
Programme of Works	1
Air Quality	3
Ecology	1
Other	7
Total	129



99% of complaints answered in 20 working days (FY2022/23)

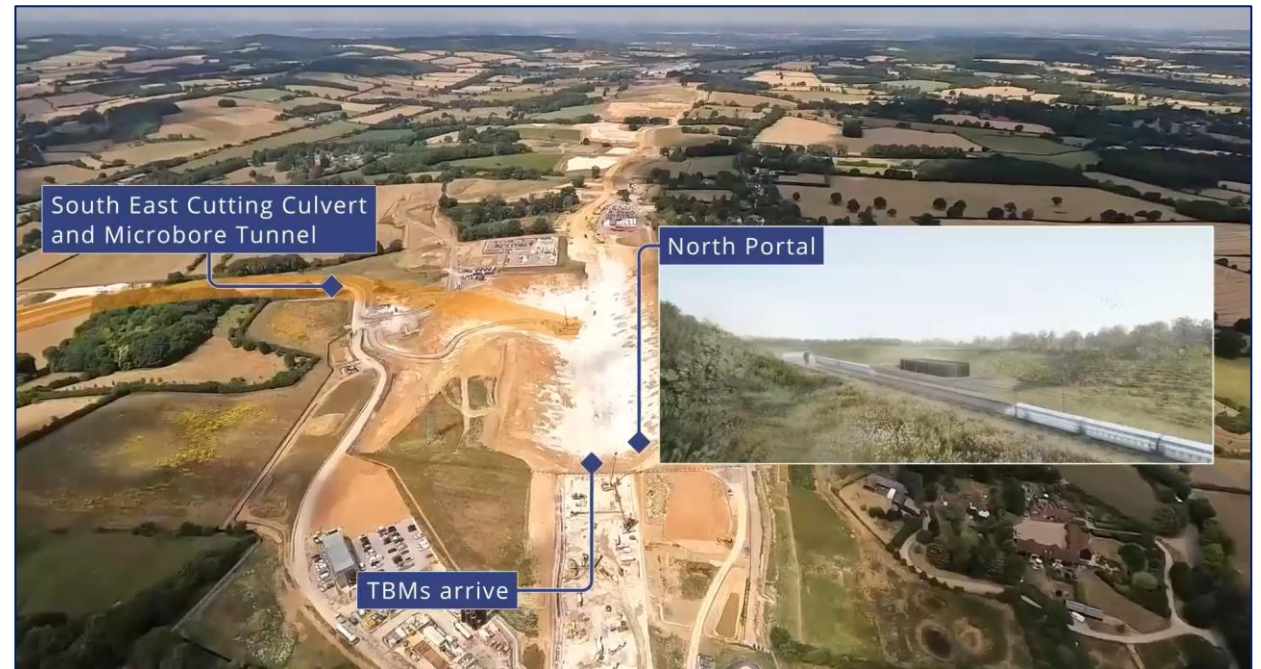
100% of complaints answered at the 1st step of the complaints process (FY2022/23)

	Total number October 2021	Total number FY2021/22 YTD
Complaints TOTAL	53	314
Service	2	23
Construction	51	291

	Total number October 2022	Total number FY2022/23 YTD
Complaints TOTAL	22	140
Service	2	11
Construction	20	129

You said, we did

- *“Line of route overview”*
- Annotated drone footage released every 2 months detailing current works. Footage now available to community and parish leads



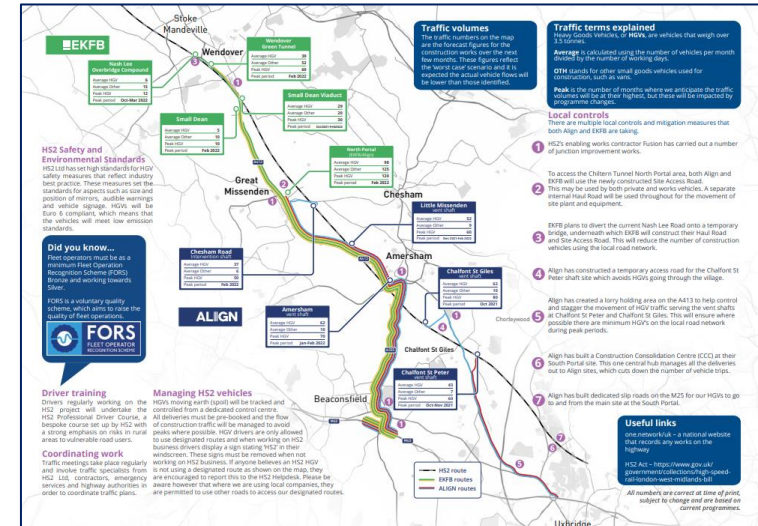
- *“Programme, consents and engagement clarity”*
- Lookaheads produced monthly and distributed to Buckinghamshire Council and community/parish leads

		2022		
		Aug	Sep	Oct
Pre-Treatment Equipment Demobilisation	ALIGN	[Progress bar]		
Main earthworks continuing	EKFB	[Progress bar]		
D-wall/Barrette/Slurry plug - Excavation	ALIGN	[Progress bar]		
D-wall/Barrette/Slurry plug - Concreting	ALIGN	[Progress bar]		
Site Fencing	ALIGN	[Progress bar]		
Piling and Grouting Equipment Demobilisation	ALIGN	[Progress bar]		
Piling Platform Dismantling and Reinstatement of Natural Ground	ALIGN	[Progress bar]		
Drainage Installation Works	ALIGN	[Progress bar] <small>December 2022</small>		
Headwall Excavation Works	ALIGN	[Progress bar] <small>January 2023</small>		
Construction of Roads and Platforms	ALIGN	[Progress bar] <small>February 2023</small>		
Microbore Tunnel	EKFB	[Progress bar] <small>April 2023</small>		

*Dates are approximate and subject to change

You said, we did

- **“More information on lorry movements”**
- Traffic Guide issued 2/3 times a year detailing predicted HGV volumes



- **“More public facing events”**
- Mobile Visitor Centre launched with multiple community events taking place each month



You said, we did

- ***“A map of all the key sites in Bucks”***
- Map produced with input provided by Bucks officers and members
- ***“Open your sites to community visits”***
- Multiple sites recently attended by community representatives

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You said, we did

- *“We need to understand the impact of road closures”*
- Phasing videos produced to aid community understanding

The A412 will be closed in both directions between West Hyde and Denham every night from 10pm to 6am.

These works are due to take place from **19 August** until **25 October 2022**.

A temporary diversion will be in place when the road is closed.



HS2

Legacy Opportunities

HS2 Community & Business Funds

A total of £40 million is available for community and business groups along the Phase One route to improve their local area or support their local economy

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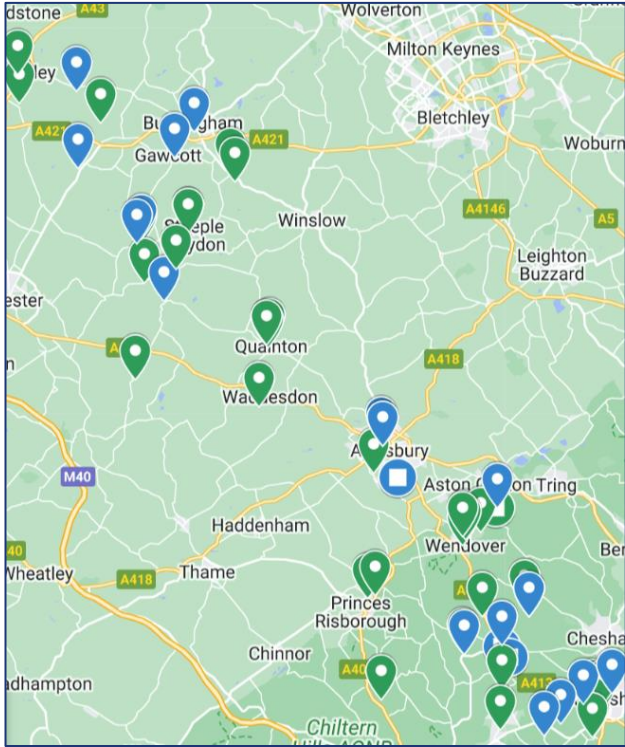
+£3.6m

£3,620,000 has been awarded in Buckinghamshire from HS2's Community & Environment Fund (CEF) and Business & Local Economy Fund (BLEF)

64

64 local projects in Buckinghamshire have received funding since 2017

Recent awards include Chalfont St Giles Village Pond, South Bucks Radio, Penn Street Cricket Club and Little Chalfont Charitable Trust



CEF & BLEF Project Map

Further funding

Road Safety Fund



Woodland Fund



Area Specific funding

Area specific funding for Buckinghamshire

£3m Colne Valley additional mitigation plan

Funding for additional landscape and ecological mitigation and enhancements within the Colne Valley Regional Park, in furtherance and beyond the mitigation proposed within the HS2 Proposed Scheme. This may encompass proposals both within and outside the present HS2 Bill limits.

Funds are administered through the Colne Valley Regional Park Panel.

X projects approved to date with a total investment of £1.7m.

£3m Chilterns AONB Panel

Funding to support the identification and delivery of local environmental integration and enhancement measures (over and above that proposed in the Environmental Statement or related detailed design).

Buckinghamshire Council is the commissioning authority for this funding. The Chilterns AONB Review Group has been established to drive this work. This group is made up of Local Authorities in the Chilterns affected by HS2, the Chilterns Conservation Board, Natural England, Department for Transport and HS2 Ltd.

3 projects approved to date with a total investment of £741k.

Localised Community Investment



HS2 Skills and Employment

We are committed to leaving a positive economic legacy across the route of the new railway, working with our contractors, local business organisations and stakeholders to help local people and businesses access opportunities offered by HS2.

JOBS & SKILLS

MORE INFORMATION

Apprenticeship Starts



24

24 new apprenticeship starts and have been in their apprenticeship for more than 12 weeks.

Workless Job Starts



69

69 people that were previously not in work and have been in employment for more than 26 weeks

MORE INFORMATION

HS2 Jobs Board

Find out about opportunities to work on HS2 and vacancies across the HS2 supply chain: [hs2.org.uk/careers/careers-with-our-supply-chain](https://www.hs2.org.uk/careers/careers-with-our-supply-chain)

Your local HS2 website

Community website with updates on local activities: www.HS2inBucksandOx.co.uk

The HS2 Helpdesk is available all day, every day

Freephone: 08081 434 434
Minicom: 08081 456 472
Email: hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk
Online: [hs2.org.uk/contact-form](https://www.hs2.org.uk/contact-form)

Current opportunities

Creating jobs, building the economy

We are actively recruiting new roles across HS2 and our supply chain, including apprenticeships and internships.

Search and apply for your next role today:



hs2.org.uk/jobs-and-skills



Jobs and Skills

Building a diverse, world-class supply chain

With 400,000 supply chain contract opportunities on Phase One alone, there are huge opportunities for UK businesses to deliver Britain's new high-speed railway.

See what opportunities are available for you:



hs2.org.uk/supply-chain



Supply chain contracts

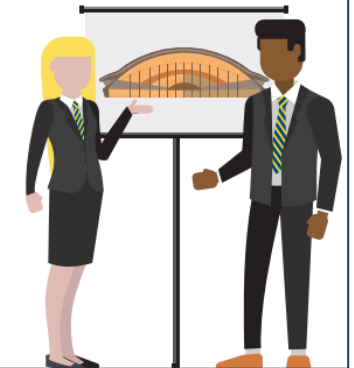
Inspiring young people

We've developed a collection of resources to support teachers. They aim to inspire young people to take an interest in STEM subjects and careers.

To view and download:



hs2.org.uk/jobs-and-skills/hs2-educational-programme



Educational resources

HS2

Community Investment & Social Value

Page 68

Elena Gonzalez

Social Value and Legacy Manager, EKFB

Community Investment & Social Value

Buckinghamshire



Over 1500+ volunteering hours delivered in the past 12 months on **25** community investment projects



Over £10,000 raised for local charities inc. Connection Support, Women's Aid, the PACE centre, Chiltern's Dog rescue, Bernie Christmas campaign



121 (4%) apprentices in addition to **61** workless starts



35% of all compliments received from communities relating to social value activities



Reached **3000** students across **16** schools in the county



60% of all community investment activity in EKFB is in Buckinghamshire

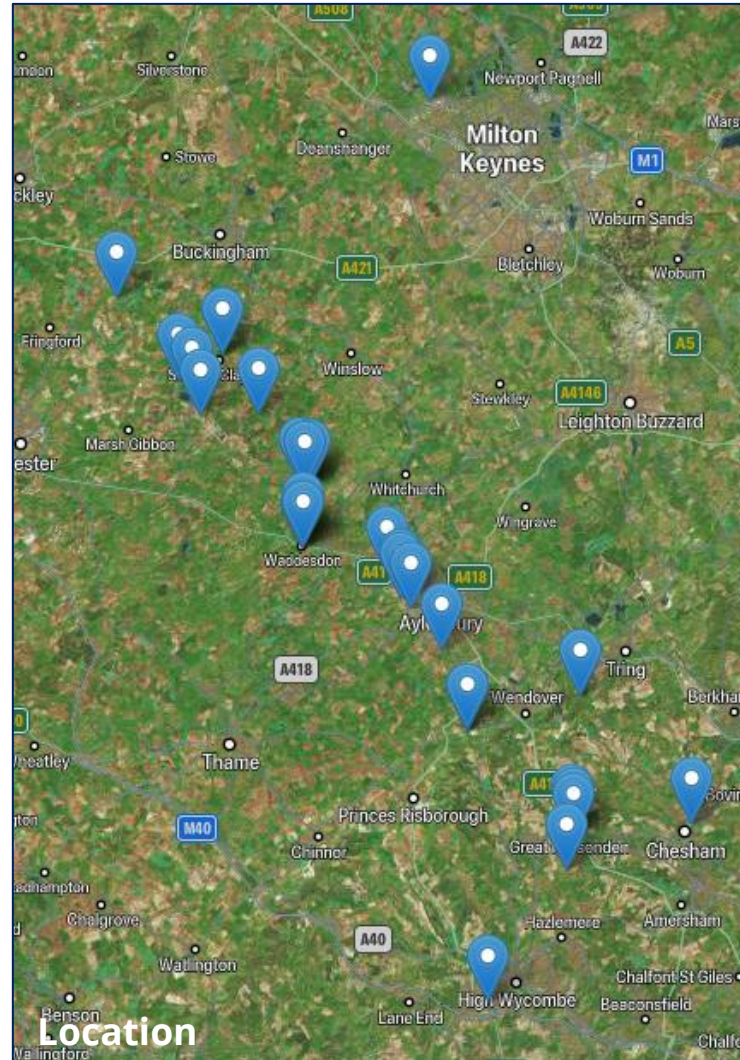
Community Investment Projects

Recent projects include:

- Creation of Learning Environment at Booker Park School, Aylesbury
- STEM session delivered to Scouts group in Little Kingshill

Upcoming projects include:

- Carpentry works at Buckingham, Winslow and District Scouts (Great Moor Sailing Club)
- Regeneration project in Great Missenden's High Street
- EKFB & Align collaborating on project in Prestwood



Community Investment & Social Value

Buckinghamshire Case Study

Plant Operator Training Programme delivers 50 jobs to local people

- The Blackwell Earthmoving Plant Training Team was assembled in late 2021, training local recruits to operate articulated dump trucks safely across the EKFB sections of work.
- Following an extensive local media recruitment campaign, trainees were put through a 2-week training programme which equipped them with a CPCS Red Trained Operator card to allow them to then operate plant in the active working area.
- Over 50 candidates, including 10 who were unemployed, were enrolled on our training programme at the Bucks Training Academy at Quainton.
- Successful recruitment and training of 13 women, who all came from other industries. Women now account for 10% of the Blackwell Earthmoving HS2 workforce.



Questions



Communities and Localism Select Committee

17 January 2023

This document is intended to inform the Committee, in advance of the Communities and Localism Select Committee on 22 November, of the legislation that is the HS2 Act, how this differs from ordinary planning consents and how we work with Buckinghamshire Council to gain consent for HS2 within the county.

The High Speed Rail Act

- Grants powers to acquire land, build, maintain and operate the railway
- Dis-applies some legislation
- Specific provisions on powers and role of the local authorities

Planning Consents

HS2 Act Powers

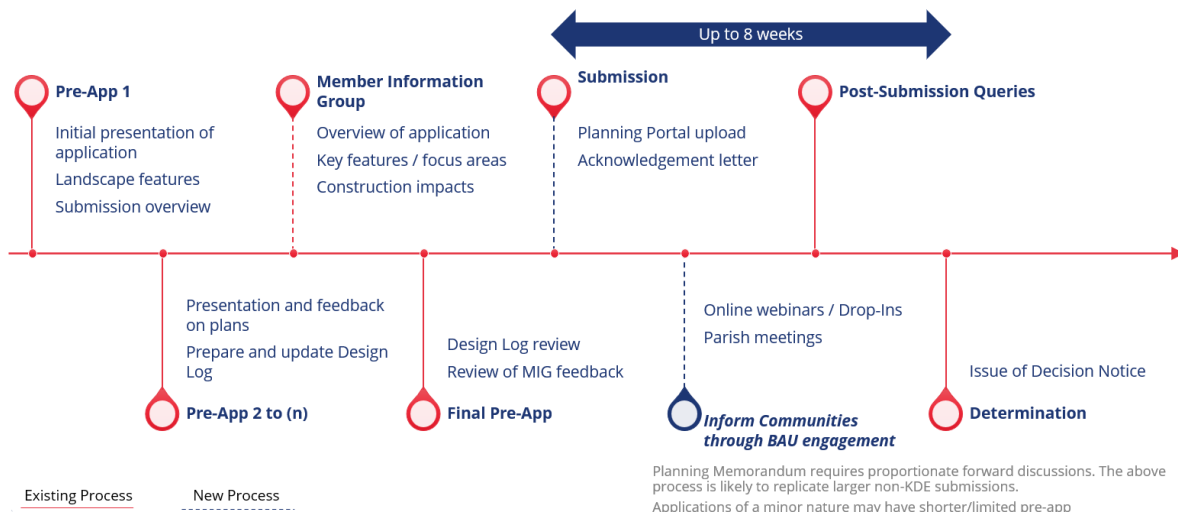
- HS2 Act grants deemed planning permission for design, construction and operation of the railway subject to the conditions set out in **Schedule 17** of the Act
- Schedule 17 requires approval from the relevant local planning authority to **certain matters** relating to the design and construction of the railway
- Schedule 17 approval is not required for **temporary works**
- The Council is a Qualifying Authority and therefore approves:
 - Plans and specifications
 - Matters ancillary to development (insofar as these are not covered by the Secretary of State's Class Approval)
 - Lorry routes
 - Bringing into use, site restoration and mitigation schemes

Planning Matters for Approval through Schedule 17

- Building works (permanent, above-ground buildings and structures)
- Other construction works (e.g. earthworks, road vehicle parks, screens, transformers, telecommunications masts, pedestrian accesses, fencing/walls, lighting)
- Matters ancillary to development (e.g. construction camps)
- Site restoration schemes
- Bringing into use (to ensure that appropriate mitigation has been incorporated)

Agreed Member Information Group (MIG) Process

- MIG Process established following frequent Buckinghamshire Council and HS2 consents review workshops
- Following process agreed with Ian Thompson, Corporate Director – Planning, Growth & Sustainability, Buckinghamshire Council:



Statutory Consultation

- Schedule 17 process identifies only three statutory consultees
 - Historic England
 - Natural England
 - Environment Agency
- Where the Local Authority decides to consult more widely than the Act requires, the timescales identified in the Planning Memorandum should continue to be met
- *The Council will inform the Parish Councils affected on the route but will **not seek formal comment***
- *Full details of Schedule 17 submissions (including plans and supporting documents) will be published on the Council's Planning Application search page*

Buckinghamshire Council website

- Buckinghamshire Council have summarised the HS2 Act, and the associated legislation, and placed it online to aid local understanding. This content can be found [here](#)
- The Council also produce a [monthly newsletter](#) that further details any upcoming consents and associated works.

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**Community Boards Review – Recommendations from the C&L Select Committee review group
Chairman – Cllr Mimi Harker OBE**

Response from Cabinet (June 22) and update on progress (January 2023)

Recommendation	Cabinet’s Response – Y/N & comments	Lead Member/Officer & Timelines
<p>1. A refreshed vision for Community Boards should be agreed and widely promoted to ensure a shared understanding for residents, key partners, elected members and council officers about the role of the Community Boards in enriching local communities.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Agree it is important to have a shared understanding of the role of Community Boards as the local face of the Council, leading local place shaping in collaboration with partners and local organisations and groups. We need to move away from the perception that they are simply grant giving bodies.</p> <p>January 2023: much change has taken place with the Boards which were the result of not just the select committee review, but also a Member Task & Finish Group and corporate service review. These changes have been brought together to provide for a refreshed vision and new ways of working. Community Boards have set their priorities for 2022/23 and projects and other activities are focused on delivering these priorities.</p> <p>Messaging has taken place with key partners on the changes to the funding criteria and for projects to deliver the agreed priorities with key VCS stakeholders and with town/parish councils (through individual Boards). Community Board Managers also explain the</p>	<p>Steve Bowles /Roger Goodes June 2022</p> <p>January 2023: this recommendation is complete.</p>

Recommendation	Cabinet's Response – Y/N & comments	Lead Member/Officer & Timelines
	vision when working with new partners and organisations, as part of their daily work.	
<p>2. The unique skill set required to be an effective Community Board Chairman, as well as the necessary commitment in terms of energy and time, should be given due consideration when appointing Community Board Chairmen.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The Community Board Chairmen play an important role and it is positive to see that the review has recognised their contribution. The appointment of Community Board Chairmen is made by the Leader, alongside other key council appointments.</p> <p>January 2023: no further action required.</p>	<p>Martin Tett June 2022</p> <p>January 2023: this recommendation is complete.</p>
<p>3. Cabinet should ensure that there is sufficient resource and resilience in the Community Board Co-ordinator team due to the pivotal role they play in delivering the Council's localism agenda.</p>	<p>In part.</p> <p>The Committee will be aware that the Council has agreed to deliver a saving from the service review of the localities team in the current financial year to support the overall budget position. Whilst there is a reduction in the total number of posts however, the intention is to deliver increased resilience through streamlined processes and a new support function. Greater emphasis will also be placed on clarifying the role of the coordinators which is primarily around supporting the Community Board with local engagement and facilitating solutions, rather than direct project delivery. The service review has also identified a single point of contact for Town and Parish Councils in the service to help these organisations know who to contact in future.</p> <p>January 2023: a new structure was implemented on 1 June which saw the introduction of a new management team and a new Funding & Support team. The new structure has a dedicated Head</p>	<p>Steve Bowles/ Roger Goodes June 2022</p> <p>January 2023: this recommendation is complete.</p>

Recommendation	Cabinet's Response – Y/N & comments	Lead Member/Officer & Timelines
	<p>of Community Boards, two Senior Community Board Managers and a Funding & Support Team Leader. The Seniors are experienced Board managers and each continue to support a Board.</p> <p>The funding application process has now moved into the funding & support team with the Community Board Managers now only responsible for the initial discussions with the applicant and seeking Board approvals for projects. The removal of this work has allowed the Managers to refocus on their engagement work and spend more time in their Board areas working with their communities and residents.</p> <p>In terms of resilience, whilst the Managers continue to cover for each other, the funding & support team are also able to support Board Managers and cover as appropriate. Adjustment of resourcing has allowed for one part-time Board Manager role to be increased to full-time which further helps with resilience and support across the team.</p> <p>As part of the service review changes, a new revenue budget was established for the operational costs of running the Community Boards which provides for improved oversight and management of the service; this budget is separate to the £2m project budget allocated across the Boards. Taken together, these changes have delivered a more streamlined and effective structure, together with £160k savings to the support costs.</p>	
<p>4. Community Boards should be allowed full autonomy to identify and agree their own local priorities, in line with Buckinghamshire Council's priorities and to establish relevant sub-groups in order to tackle key issues in their area.</p>	<p>In part</p> <p>As an integral part of the Council, the role of Community Boards is to support Council priorities at a local level. Within that framework, however, the particular issues which they wish to focus</p>	<p>Steve Bowles/ Roger Goodes June 2022</p>

Recommendation	Cabinet's Response – Y/N & comments	Lead Member/Officer & Timelines
	<p>on as a Board will of course reflect local need. I have recently advised Community Board Chairman that funding in 2022/23 will not be ringfenced and the use of sub-groups is entirely a matter for them to determine.</p> <p>January 2023: as covered above, at Board meetings across the summer months, priorities were discussed and agreed with Board members. Boards have the discretion to use task & finish or action groups, whichever is the best fit for the priority they are working on. Boards can work as it suits them, in some cases, Boards have a priority for each quarter they have chosen to work on whilst others have decided to work on several at the same time. Priorities continue to deliver against the corporate priorities.</p> <p>The Boards are also able to flex to consider more immediate needs in their communities such as Ukraine, Opportunity Bucks or Cost of Living.</p>	<p>January 2023: this recommendation is complete.</p>
<p>5. A proactive communications strategy for Community Boards should be developed as a matter of urgency, to enable a 'step change' in community engagement, the promotion of Community Boards and the positive impacts they have had in their local area.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>A communications plan for the Community Boards will be developed, building on areas of good practice to date and ensuring that there is greater recognition of the work led by the Boards. In particular, the plan will focus on expanding opportunities for face-to-face engagement, and training will be provided as required.</p> <p>January 2023: a communications strategy has now been agreed, training and implementation will be completed by the end of January 2023.</p>	<p>Steve Bowles/ Roger Goodes August 2022</p> <p>January 2023: this recommendation is in progress.</p>

Recommendation	Cabinet's Response – Y/N & comments	Lead Member/Officer & Timelines
	<p>Going forward, communications and promotion about the purpose of the Boards and their overall aims and outcomes will be delivered by the corporate communications team.</p> <p>Individual Board activities and outcomes, social media and newsletters will be the responsibility of each Community Board Manager, supported by the corporate communications team.</p> <p>Where funding has been approved for a projects, terms and conditions now include the requirement to advertise/brand projects supported/funding by the Boards. Discussion about the promotion or branding will be discussed with the applicant when initiating the project.</p>	
<p>6. There must be greater clarity around the Community Board funding process and improved transparency around decision making. The process should be revised to deliver both the necessary governance and oversight and efficient processing of monies in a realistic and proportionate way.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>A review of the funding process has been undertaken and a series of changes are being introduced to streamline decision making and provide clear guidance, for example around the expectations about contributory funding.</p> <p>January 2023: following the establishment of the new funding & support team, a review of the funding process from start to finish has been undertaken and has seen process steps and governance streamlined but continuing to meet audit and financial requirements.</p> <p>A small grants process for projects up to £1k was also introduced in August; this scheme very successfully provides for small, ground roots organisations who don't usually meet the main funding requirements, to deliver projects with the Boards.</p>	<p>Steve Bowles/ Roger Goodes May 2022</p> <p>January 2023: this recommendation is complete.</p>

Recommendation	Cabinet's Response – Y/N & comments	Lead Member/Officer & Timelines
	<p>Targets were established for the timeliness in processing applications for Board approvals of 10 working days of a fully completed application for main project funding, and 3 working days for small grant applications. ('Processing' includes due diligence and governance checks, reports written and with Board Managers for each Board's approval process to start.)</p> <p>To-date, a total of 329 project applications have been received. 62% of applications for main project funding have been processed within 10 working days and 78% within 20 working days; 78% of small grant applications have been processed within 3 working days.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member has retained oversight of main funding projects going to the Boards for their decision through a fortnightly Funding Panel meeting which forms part of the 10 & 20 working day target.</p> <p>Contributory funding was a requirement introduced through the Member Task & Finish Group, very few applications do not have financial contributory funding and to-date this has generated c£743,381/87p for every £ CB spent on projects.</p>	
<p>7. Consideration should be given to an alternative mechanism for the delivery of local Highways schemes.</p>	<p>In part</p> <p>There are no plans to reduce the scope of the Community Boards to invest in a range of different highways schemes, although we will draft a protocol which identified projects more suited to funding through Community Boards, and include example projects and indicative costs to help develop proposals.</p>	<p>Steve Bowles/Steven Broadbent</p> <p>Richard Barker/ Roger Goodes</p> <p>September 2022</p>

Recommendation	Cabinet's Response – Y/N & comments	Lead Member/Officer & Timelines
	<p>With the new contract for Highways services coming into operation in 2023, there is an opportunity to consider changes in process in order to address the concerns identified. We will revise the protocol for the relationship between the Community Boards and the Highways service which will provide a framework for the delivery of local schemes and seek to address issues with transparency.</p> <p>January 2023: due to the change in highways contractor in April 2023 a review of the highways projects was undertaken. Some c55 PIDs had been produced but were yet to be formally considered for funding by the Boards, with a further c60 projects which had been funded and had either been started, due to start or not started and which were RAG'd for delivery under the current contract. Several projects have been able to progress to completion or to a suitable point for the new contractor to take forward. Several schemes remain unable to start or require repricing by the new contractor, including the unfunded PIDs. Community Boards and Highways are working closely together on the current situation and have begun to establish a suitable process for Community Board schemes.</p>	<p>January 2023: this recommendation is in progress.</p>
<p>8. Community Board Champions should be appointed in each service area of the Council, to demonstrate corporate commitment to the CBs as the local face of the Council and to act as a dedicated contact point for Community Boards Co-ordinators. In addition, guidance should be issued which sets out clear expectations for service officers in supporting</p>	<p>In part.</p> <p>It would not be practical to identify single champions in each service area, due to the breadth of issues that community boards address. We do however recognise the need to improve engagement with services about the way in which they link in and support Community Boards. We will work with the key service</p>	<p>Steve Bowles/ Roger Goodes</p> <p>December 2022</p>

Recommendation	Cabinet's Response – Y/N & comments	Lead Member/Officer & Timelines
<p>Community Boards and manages expectations of the Community Boards, in terms of the resource that might be available, especially in smaller service areas.</p>	<p>areas to agree appropriate mechanisms for them to engage with Boards and to better manage expectations. We will also review the role of Service Directors assigned to Boards to ensure this is working positively in helping Boards and the engagement with the wider council.</p> <p>January 2023: a review of Service Directors on the Boards has been undertaken and realigned where requested or needed. They have also received a presentation on their role in terms of supporting their Boards.</p> <p>Presentations on the Community Boards have been made to some SLTs and staff forums. Strong relationships continue to be built between the Community Board team with the main services in the Council.</p> <p>The Service Director and Head of Service met with Chairmen and within those meetings discussed the role of the Service Directors on the Boards and support which could be provided to the Chairmen and Board Managers. They have also met with Service Directors to discuss their role on the Boards and help they could provide, particularly where matters which may need some additional attention to ensure progress.</p>	<p>January 2023: this recommendation is complete.</p>
<p>9. An overarching plan, we suggest a three year road map, for the development of the Community Boards</p>	<p>Yes.</p>	<p>Steve Bowles/Roger Goodes July 2022</p>

Recommendation	Cabinet's Response – Y/N & comments	Lead Member/Officer & Timelines
<p>should be drawn up, with clearly defined milestones to enable their progress to be evaluated.</p>	<p>Recognising the significant level of change we are experiencing both nationally and locally, we will produce a high level road map covering a three year period, with more detail for the next 12 months. We will then update this annually. This will recognise the evolving role of Community Boards and the reduced funding available.</p> <p>January 2023: this work has been delayed due to a focus on actioning operational improvements.</p> <p>As part of the 2023/2024 MTFP a review of Community Boards will take place during 2023 to take account of the learning from operating the Boards over the last four years and other changes likely to affect the Boards, e.g. Boundary Review. The overarching plan will therefore be developed following this review.</p>	<p>January 2023: this recommendation is in progress.</p>
<p>10. The success of each Community Board and individual projects that receive funding should be evaluated in a simple and proportionate manner. (This could be as straightforward as each CB reflecting on the priorities they set at the beginning of each year and how well the projects they have supported have delivered on those priorities at year end)</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Agree that it is critical to introduce a way of evaluating projects supported by the Boards linked to outcomes. We will develop a simple and proportionate approach.</p> <p>January 2023: an evaluation process has been in place since July and all projects for 2021/22 have now been issued with an evaluation form ready for when the project is complete.</p> <p>Bespoke evaluation conditions are now included in funding award letters as appropriate.</p> <p>An evaluation report is currently being established and will be reported to the Cabinet Member.</p>	<p>Steve Bowles/Roger Goodes July 2022</p> <p>January 2023: this recommendation is in progress.</p>

Recommendation	Cabinet's Response – Y/N & comments	Lead Member/Officer & Timelines
<p>11. A mechanism should be established to enable greater sharing of best practice ideas across Community Board areas and to consider opportunities for working in partnership across Community Board boundaries.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Agree that we should ensure there are mechanisms to improve understanding and sharing of best practice. In addition to the existing meetings of Chairmen and Coordinators, we will seek to identify further opportunities for Community Boards to have better visibility of what others are doing and consider working together on similar issues.</p> <p>January 2023: a knowledge library has now been established for the Community Board Managers where details are available for processes as well as sharing information. Team meetings regularly cover best practice and information sharing. The Cabinet Member Chairmen's Sessions also provide for an opportunity to share ideas and projects. The Boards continue to work across boundaries – not just local but more widely where there are matters of similarity or interest to deliver the priorities.</p>	<p>Steve Bowles/ Roger Goodes July 2022</p> <p>January 2023: this recommendation is complete.</p>

Communities and Localism Select Committee (Chairman: Mimi Harker, Scrutiny officer: Kelly Sutherland)

Date	Topic	Description and Purpose	Lead Officer	Contributors
17 January 2023	HS2	A discussion with HS2 focussing on their engagement with communities impacted by construction and the opportunities available through their community investment funding.	Laura Leech	Peter Martin
	Community Board Review – 6-month progress report	The Select Committee will review the progress of work on implementation of recommendations made in the Community Board review report which was presented to Cabinet on 10 th May 2022.	Roger Goodes/ Wendy Morgan-Brown	Steve Bowles
8 th February 2023	Violence against Women and Girls	The Select Committee will review how the Council and Partner organisations are working together to prevent violence against women and girls.	Gideon Springer	Zahir M for Public Health
	Film Office	Members will learn about the work of the newly established Buckinghamshire Film Office.	Ruth Bryant	Clive Harriss, Sophie P, Ruth Bryant
19 April 2023	Devolution	The Select Committee will receive an update on devolution of services and assets and assess how effectively the Council has delivered devolution at pace.	Matt Everitt/ Tim Weetman	Steve Bowles
	Community Resilience Update (TBC)	Members will receive an update from the Resilience Service on their work with town and parish councils to strengthen community resilience.	Vince Grey	Steve Bowles, Vince Grey, Lloyd Jeffries
	Town and Parish Charter	Members will receive an update on the implementation of the Town and Parish Charter Action Plan.	Simon Garwood	Steve Bowles, Roger Goodes, Simon Garwood

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