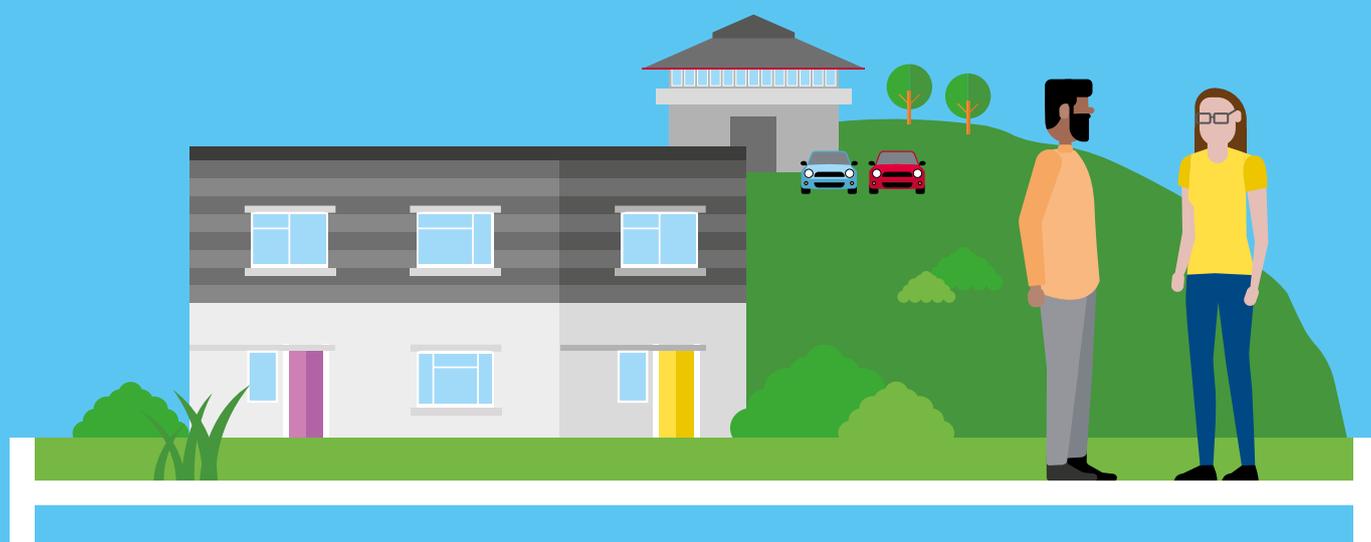


# HS2

# Local Area Engagement Plan

## West Midlands – Crewe (Phase 2a)

2022





## Department for Transport

High Speed Two (HS2) Limited has been tasked by the Department for Transport (DfT) with managing the delivery of a new national high speed rail network. It is a non-departmental public body wholly owned by the DfT.

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# About this plan

Our Community Engagement Strategy outlines all the ways that we will engage with people and communities that are affected along the Phase 2a route. We have written this Local Area Engagement Plan to explain how we will deliver against the commitments set out in our Community Engagement Strategy. This plan sets out how we will engage with communities on Phase 2a, how we will make communities aware of the work we are doing, and how to contact us. This is particularly important this year, as our contractors will be visible in communities, surveying the road networks which will be upgraded and ensuring habitats can flourish with our early environmental projects.

## This plan:

- introduces you to the contractors working on our behalf;
- provides maps showing the Phase 2a route; and
- informs you about the different ways you can contact us.



## How we will engage

We're committed to working with communities affected by the building of the new railway and making sure you can find out about our planned works and activities in your area easily. We also want you to have the opportunity to give us your feedback and tell us your concerns. We will engage with you by:

**Informing.** We'll keep you informed through clear, timely and tailored communication about issues that affect you. This includes:

- engagement events in your area;
- regular newsletters;
- sending you information sheets about our planned works before they start; and
- making sure we keep up-to-date information on the local community pages of our website.

**Involving.** We'll create opportunities for you to get involved throughout the design and delivery of the Project. This includes:

- interactive archaeology and ecology programmes;
- meetings and events; and
- local community investment.

**Responding.** We'll provide free and accessible ways for you to contact us to answer your questions about the Project and help with any problems that may arise from our works. This includes:

- our Helpdesk team, who are available all day, every day via Freephone 08081 434 434, Minicom 08081 456 472 or email [hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk);
- holding regular online or in-person drop-in sessions with your local engagement team; and
- replying promptly to information requests.

# Who we are

It is important for everyone working on HS2 to understand the impact that their decisions and actions have. This includes all the companies and people working on our behalf. Your local Community Engagement team is here to speak on your behalf and to act as your voice within HS2 Ltd and our supply chain. Your local team is made up of staff from HS2 Ltd and our contractors. We all work together to listen and respond to local communities.

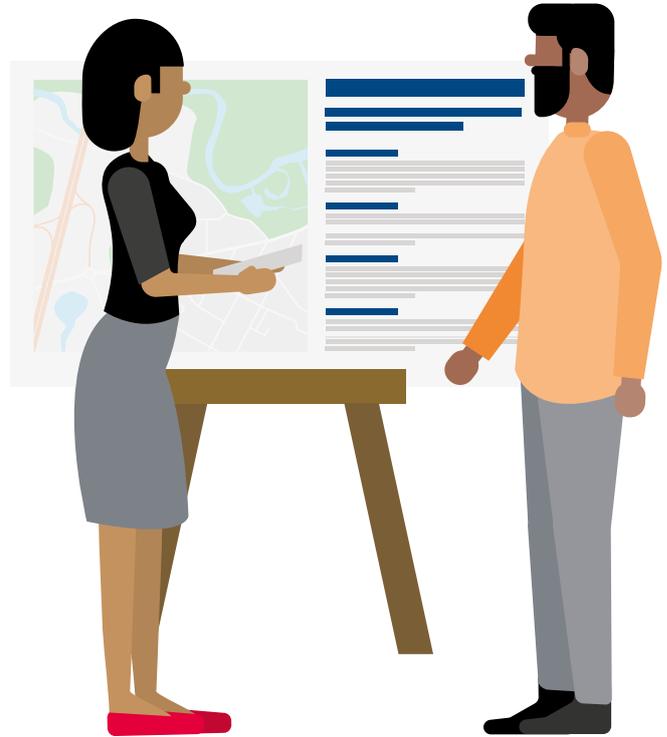
## Who is working with us and what are they delivering during 2022?

Throughout 2022 we are continuing to prepare the way for building the new railway. This work is being carried out by three early works contract teams.

Balfour Beatty have been undertaking ground investigation surveys to inform the design of the railway since 2020. It is expected that the majority of this survey work will be finished by the middle of 2022, with monitoring continuing into next year.

Balfour Beatty will also deliver both the Early Environmental Works and Early Civils Works 1 package. Kier will deliver the Early Civils Works 2 package.

Each contractor and work package will have construction compounds in the area, which allow their workforce to undertake work safely and effectively. This will include office space and storage facilities.



## Balfour Beatty

Balfour Beatty is delivering our early environmental works on Phase 2a. They will establish critical environmental mitigation and translocation sites, creating new habitats for local wildlife before we start to build the railway.

During 2022 Balfour Beatty will be excavating archaeological trial trenches, planting woodland and hedges, and creating ecological ponds surrounded by grassland habitat. During this work they will be creating around 20% of the total new green infrastructure for Phase 2a, including tree planting at 47 sites, covering the area of 87.5 football pitches; 5.6 miles of new hedgerows; and enough new grassland meadows to cover 136.5 football pitches, encouraging wildflowers and insects to flourish. Construction of new artificial badger sets, new bird and bat houses will also take place this year. Establishing all these new habitats in 2022 will allow them to mature ahead of any construction activity.

Balfour Beatty will also deliver two road improvement schemes at Wood End Lane near Lichfield, and the Hanchurch Interchange (M6 junction 15/A500).

These schemes are being delivered early given their importance in carrying construction traffic needed to build the railway. The road at Wood End Lane will be made wider and Newcastle Road, which is currently a single carriageway, will be dualled at Hanchurch Interchange. These will be permanent changes to the road network and remain in place following the construction of the railway.

During 2022 the team at Balfour Beatty will continue with their detail design of each highway scheme, sharing the plans with the Highways Authorities. Environmental and technical surveys will take place to inform this detailed design. The construction process will start later in the year with designs shared with communities ahead of work starting.



During 2022 Kier is undertaking environmental and technical surveys along the whole Phase 2a route, which will inform the detail design of the railway itself. The type of surveys they will be doing include, but are not limited to:

- ecology surveys to find out what is living and growing along the route. These will help us to identify if we need to move any plants or wildlife to a new location, so they are not impacted by the route;
- archaeological surveys to better understand and preserve the evidence of the past that may lie within the Phase 2a route; and
- watercourse surveys to understand any existing flood risk, so that bridges and other structures can be sized appropriately to reduce flood risk impacts.

Kier will also be delivering a number of highway modification schemes along the Phase 2a route. These roads were identified during the design and hybrid Bill stage as requiring an upgrade or the implementation of traffic calming measures before HS2 construction traffic uses them. Some of the work being undertaken is of a temporary nature and several highway schemes will be returned to their original layout once the new railway is in operation.

During 2022, the Kier team are working on the detail design of each highway scheme, sharing the plans with the Highways Authorities and will undertake any surveys required to inform the designs.

Construction of the highway schemes is expected to start in 2023 following the designs being shared with communities.

# nationalgrid

The route of Phase 2a railway will pass over National Grid gas pipelines in several locations and these need to be diverted to ensure they continue to operate safely and reliably. They are undertaking a number of diversions in 2022.

Work to divert a gas pipeline around 5 miles south of Crewe near Chorlton is already underway with a 370-metre section needing to be moved. Following environmental and technical surveys and any archaeological investigations the existing pipeline will be removed and the new pipeline in place by autumn 2022.

A haul road to facilitate another gas diversion near Rugeley is also underway, with the diversion expected to be finished by October 2022, and the site set up and surveys have started for a 2km section of pipeline near Great Haywood with the diversion due to finish in autumn 2022.

# Cadent

Your Gas Network

Cadent will be carrying out two gas pipeline diversions along the Phase 2a route in 2022. Work started to divert a gas pipeline by Pyford near Kings Bromley in March with completion expected by the end of autumn 2022.

Cadent has also started work to divert a gas pipeline to the north of Swynnerton, near Stone. The diversion is approximately 500m in length and will finish in autumn 2022.

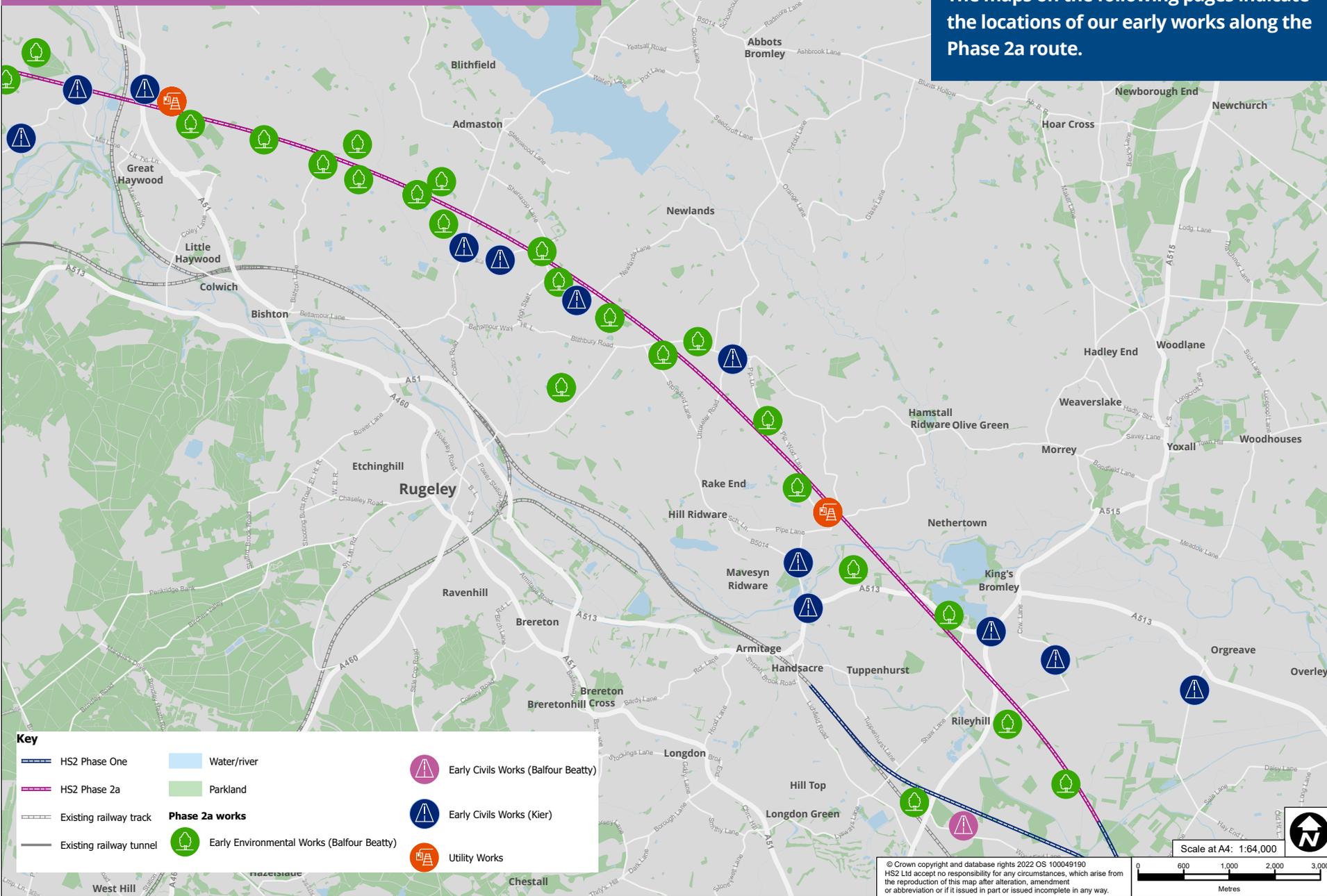
## Advanced Civils Works

During 2022, we will be awarding new contracts to deliver our Advanced Civils Works. This package of work includes the construction of haul routes which will be used to keep as much construction traffic away from the public highway as possible. The appointed contractors will also prepare the land for the main railway construction including setting up construction compounds and establishing access. Their work is expected to start in mid-2023.

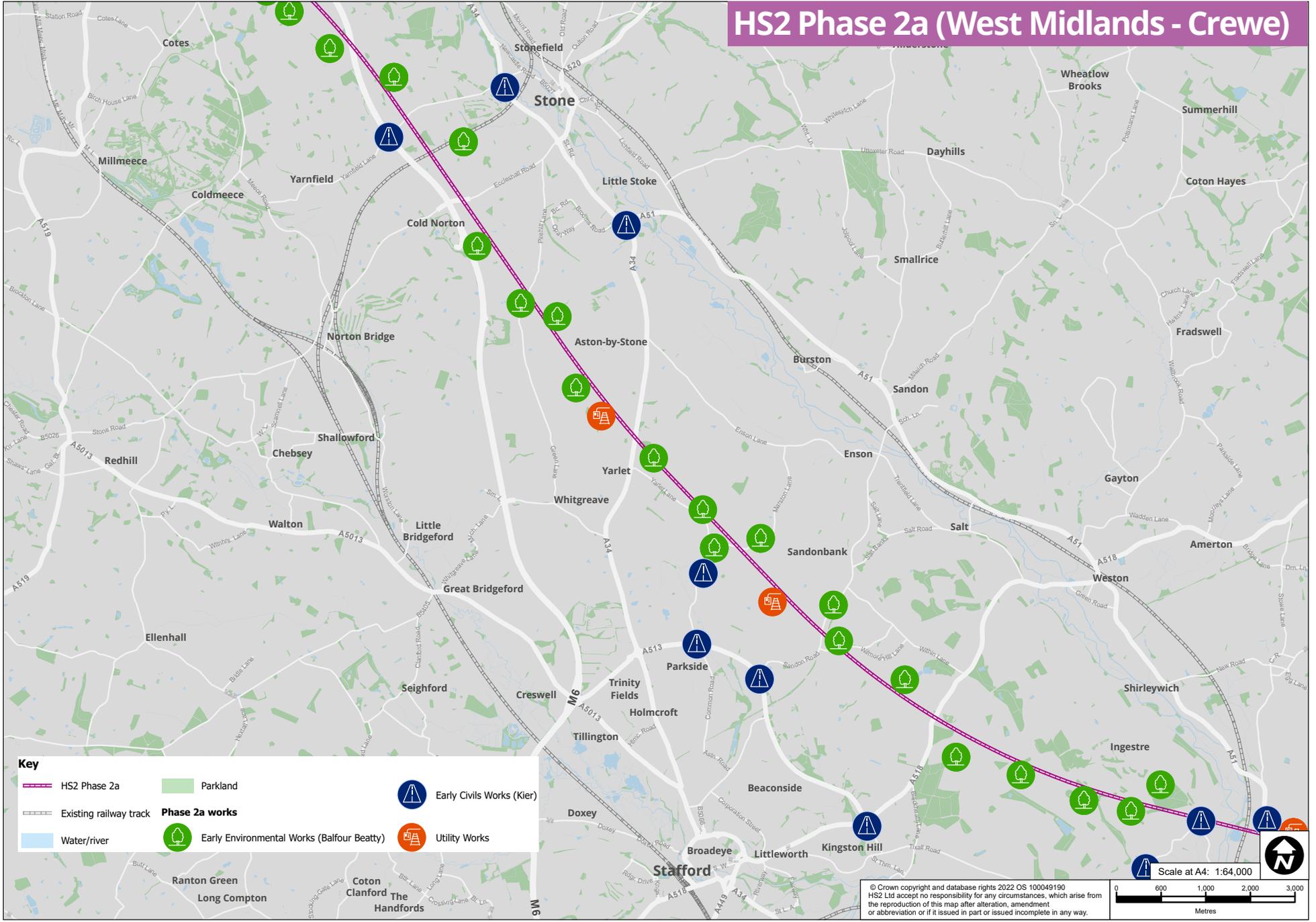


# HS2 Phase 2a (West Midlands - Crewe)

The maps on the following pages indicate the locations of our early works along the Phase 2a route.



# HS2 Phase 2a (West Midlands - Crewe)



**Key**

HS2 Phase 2a	Parkland	Early Civils Works (Kier)
Existing railway track	<b>Phase 2a works</b>	Early Environmental Works (Balfour Beatty)
Water/river	Utility Works	

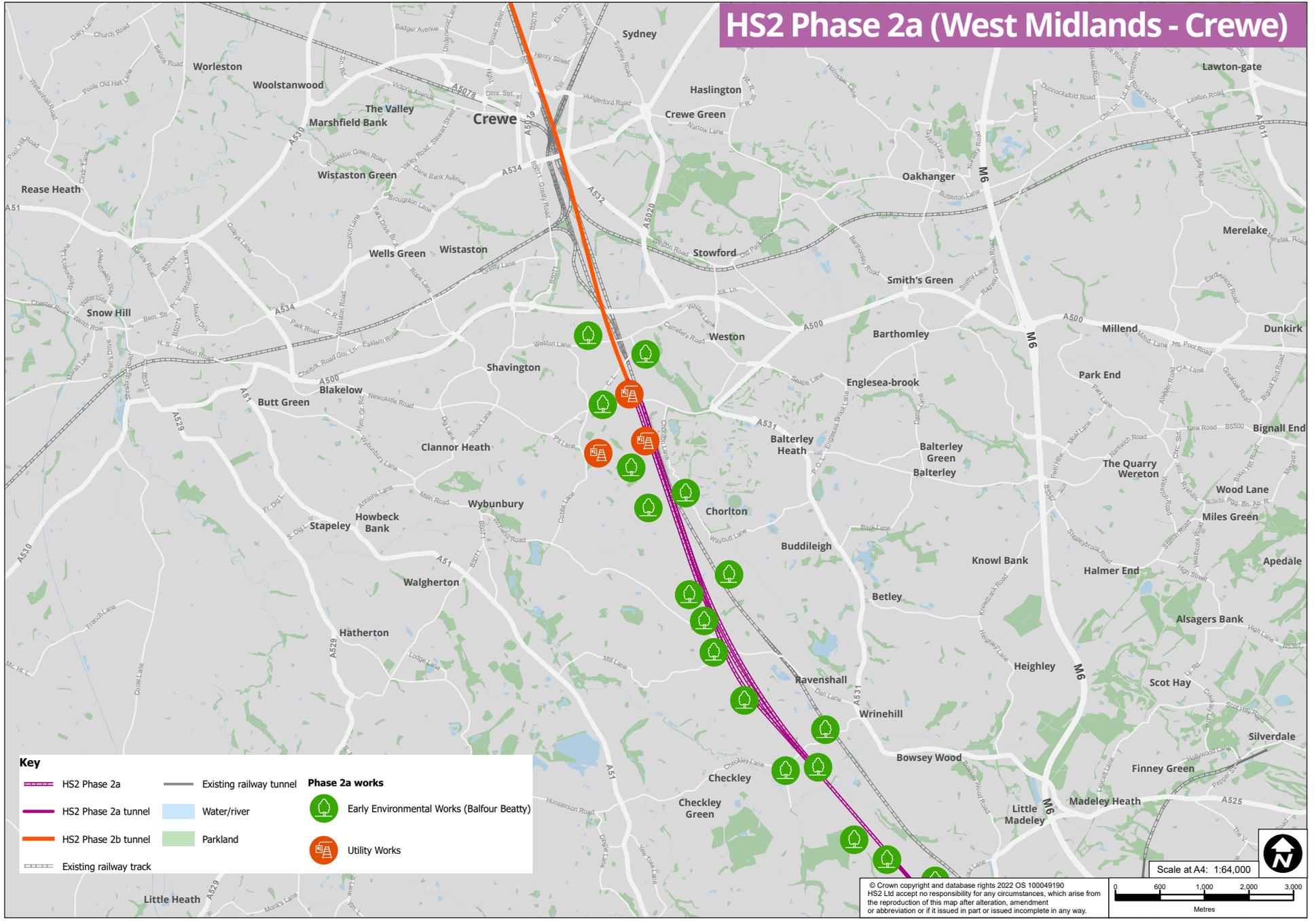
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# HS2 Phase 2a (West Midlands - Crewe)



**Key**

HS2 Phase 2a	Existing railway tunnel	<b>Phase 2a works</b>
HS2 Phase 2a tunnel	Water/river	Early Environmental Works (Balfour Beatty)
HS2 Phase 2b tunnel	Parkland	Utility Works
Existing railway track		

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# Our key documents

We have a range of documents on hand to help you understand our approach to community engagement and keep up to date with our works in your area.

## Community Engagement Strategy

Our Community Engagement Strategy explains all the ways that we'll engage with people, businesses and communities along the route. It also includes our 10 Community Commitments.

You can read our Community Engagement Strategy here:

<http://www.hs2.org.uk/about-us/documents/community-engagement-strategy>

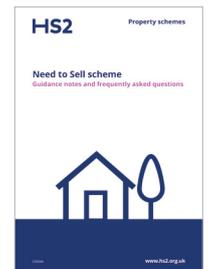


## Land and Property guidance

We have several guidance documents about our different property schemes. These documents help you to understand the different types of compensation that's available if your property is affected by the HS2 route. These documents include specific booklets about the Need to Sell scheme, Rural Support Zone and safeguarding and compensation guidance.

You can find these at:

[www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/assistance-for-property-owners](http://www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/assistance-for-property-owners)



## Residents' Charter

Our Residents' Charter sets out our 10 Community Commitments. It explains the roles of the independent Residents' Commissioner and the Construction Commissioner in ensuring that we're held to account on these Commitments.

You can read our Residents' Charter here:

[www.hs2.org.uk/documents/hs2-residents-charter](http://www.hs2.org.uk/documents/hs2-residents-charter)



# How to get in touch and find out more

## Our HS2 Helpdesk team are available all day, every day of the year

You can contact our Helpdesk team with any questions you may have, to request copies of documents, to register and track complaints, and to coordinate incident responses.

Our Helpdesk team are available via:

Freephone 08081 434 434

Minicom 08081 456 472

Email [hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)

## Keep up to date with the Project and sign up to notifications

You can find out more about HS2 in your local area and sign up to receive updates on upcoming work by visiting your local community webpage at:

<https://www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/local-community-webpages>

## You can meet us at our drop-in sessions

This year our engagement team are holding regular drop-in sessions, which may be in person or virtual. These are hosted by your local engagement team and will be supported by our specialists should you wish to discuss specific topics. To find out more, including the times of your next drop-in, visit [www.hs2.org.uk/events](http://www.hs2.org.uk/events) or contact our Helpdesk team.

We'll also hold engagement events and webinars to inform you about work in your area. All our events are published on the the HS2 website at [www.hs2.org.uk/events](http://www.hs2.org.uk/events). You can also receive alerts about events by signing up at <https://engagement.hs2.org.uk/join-mailing-list>

Our engagement team also attend Parish Council meetings and other local forums. If you would like the team to attend a community meeting in your area to give an update on HS2 please contact our Helpdesk team.



## Apply for funding for a local project through the community and business funds

We're offering two funds which are available to local communities and businesses – the Community and Environment Fund (CEF), and the Business and Local Economy Fund (BLEF). Both funds give local communities and business organisations the opportunity to receive funding of up to £1 million for projects that aim to improve their local area or economy. To find out more and how to apply, visit [www.groundwork.org.uk/hs2funds](http://www.groundwork.org.uk/hs2funds). You can also contact Groundwork UK by calling 0121 237 5880 or emailing [hs2funds@groundwork.org.uk](mailto:hs2funds@groundwork.org.uk). Groundwork UK is an independent charity that assesses applications and manages the funds on our behalf.

## We have more printed materials available

If you would prefer to have more information in a printed format, or you don't have access to the internet, we can provide printed copies of any of our publications. Please come and meet us at an in-person event, or get in touch with our Helpdesk team to request printed copies of information.

We are available via:

Freephone 08081 434 434

Minicom 08081 456 472

Email [hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)

## Alternative formats

If you need any of our printed materials in large print, Braille, audio or easy read please contact us. You can also contact us for help and information in a different language.



# Keeping your information safe

## If we ask for your personal information, we will:

- let you know why we need it;
- only ask for what we need and not collect excessive or irrelevant information;
- make sure nobody has access to it who should not;
- not share it with other organisations unless we have told you in advance or unless we are obliged to do so by law;
- only keep it for as long as we need to; and
- not make it available, or sell it, for commercial use, such as marketing.

## We do share information with our contractors to enable robust and informed responses to queries.

### In dealing with your personal information, we will:

- value the personal information entrusted to us and make sure we respect that trust;
- abide by the law when it comes to handling personal information;
- consider the privacy risks when we are planning to use or hold personal information in new ways, such as introducing new systems; and
- provide training to staff who handle personal information and respond appropriately if personal information is not used or protected properly.

To help us keep your information accurate and up to date, we ask you to give us accurate information and tell us as soon as possible of any change of circumstances.

You can find out what personal information, if any, we hold about you by making a 'subject access request'.

If we do hold information about you, once we have confirmed your identity, we will give you a description of it, why we are holding it and who it could be disclosed to. We will also provide you with a copy of the information in an intelligible form.

It will help us to locate any data we might hold about you if, in making your request, you could state what dealings we have had with you and why you expect us to hold information about you.

It is not the policy of HS2 Ltd to charge for subject access requests. If you wish to make a subject access request, please contact us via the details below. Our HS2 Helpdesk team is available all day, every day of the year.

They're available via:

Freephone [08081 434 434](tel:08081434434)  
Minicom [08081 456 472](tel:08081456472)  
Email [hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)

Write to us at:

**FREEPOST**  
**HS2 Community Engagement**

To read our privacy policy regarding your personal information, go to:  
[www.hs2.org.uk/privacy-notice](http://www.hs2.org.uk/privacy-notice)



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

## Residents' Commissioner

The Residents' Commissioner oversees and monitors our commitments to you. The Commissioner's reports and our responses can be found at <http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-ltd-residents-commissioner>

The Residents' Commissioner makes sure we fulfil the commitments in the [HS2 Community Engagement Strategy](#). The Residents' Commissioner can be contacted on: [residentscommissioner@hs2.org.uk](mailto: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 at: [complaints@hs2-cc.org.uk](mailto:complaints@hs2-cc.org.uk)

## Property and compensation

You can find out all about HS2 and properties along the line of route by visiting: [www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-property](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-property)

Find out if you're eligible for compensation at: [www.gov.uk/claim-compensation-if-affected-by-hs2](http://www.gov.uk/claim-compensation-if-affected-by-hs2)

## Holding us to account

If you are unhappy for any reason, you can make a complaint by contacting our HS2 Helpdesk team. For more details on our complaints process, please visit our website: [www.hs2.org.uk/how-to-complain](http://www.hs2.org.uk/how-to-complain)

## Contact us

Our HS2 Helpdesk team are available all day, every day. You can contact them via:

 Freephone **08081 434 434**

 Minicom **08081 456 472**

 Email **[hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)**

Write to

**FREEPOST**  
**HS2 Community Engagement**

Website **[www.hs2.org.uk](http://www.hs2.org.uk)**

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**[www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk](http://www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk)**

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