



HS2 E Update

January 2021

What has Buckinghamshire Council HS2 Team been working on recently?

We wrote to both HS2 Ltd and EWR regarding the complaints made about mud on roads. A response was received from HS2 Ltd dated 7 January 2021 saying they 'take reports on mud on roads very seriously'. They say they deploy a Compliance Team to carry out random checks and have contractual obligations in place. Mud on roads is also covered by their Code of Construction Practice (CoCP).

We met with Sir Mark Worthington, the Independent Construction Commissioner, along with Great Missenden Parish Council.

We wrote to Department for Transport to ask for a relaxation of the rules around the £1m that has been allocated to 4 parish councils in north Bucks. We received a response dated 8 January 2021 and will be following up with a meeting.

We wrote to The Transport Select Committee following the evidence given to them by the Chairman of Calvert Green Parish Council to ask for clarification of the proposal put forward to have independent oversight of HS2 in local areas in the shape of 'sheriff' style appointments.

HS2 Winter 3 Month Construction Look Ahead

<https://s3-eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/commonplace-customer-assets/hs2inbucksandoxfordshire/Winter%202020-21%20Construction%20look%20ahead%20Bucks%20Oxon.pdf>

Independent Construction Commissioner Report

The Independent Construction Commissioner, Sir Mark Worthington, has published his 15th report, covering Quarter 3, 2020.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/942918/HS2_Independent_Commissioner_Report_-_Q3_2020.pdf

HS2 ongoing work

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

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

HS2 Rights of Way Closures and Diversions

<https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/environment/public-rights-of-way/changes-to-public-rights-of-way/hs2-construction-closures-and-diversions/>

Defra Environment watchdog online complaint system goes live

A new system for registering complaints against public bodies suspected of failing to meet environmental law has gone live.

Ahead of the establishment of the new Office for Environmental Protection, an interim service is now in place to receive complaints about alleged failures of public authorities to comply with environmental law.

Complaints can be submitted here: www.iegs.org.uk

An Interim Environmental Governance Secretariat within Defra will operate on a temporary basis and will conduct initial assessments of any complaints.

This will be under the guidance and leadership of both the newly appointed Office for Environmental Protection Chair-designate, Dame Glenys Stacey, and the other Board members, once they have been appointed, to ensure an effective transition to the permanent body.

Members of the public will be able to make complaints about failures by public authorities to comply with legal requirements in areas, such as, the protection of air or water quality, nature conservation, or the management of waste.

<https://deframedia.blog.gov.uk/2021/01/04/environment-watchdog-online-complaint-system-goes-live/>

Works in Buckinghamshire

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

Works	Duration
Colne Valley, south portal, compound works and access road	Nov 2020-Mar 2021
Colne Valley, tree planting works	Nov 2020-Apr 2021
Chalfont St Peter vent shaft 3 rd storey to compound	Ongoing
Amersham, Gore Hill roundabout improvement works	Nov-Spring 2021
Little Missenden vent shaft enabling works	Oct 2020-Mar 2021
The Lee, Leather Lane archaeology works	Oct 2020-Jan 2021
The Lee, Bowood Lane works	Oct 2020-Feb 2021
Chilterns area utility trial holes	Dec 2020-Jan 2021
Wendover Ellesborough Road South Field works	Oct 2020-Mar 2021
Aylesbury utility trial holes	Oct 2020-Mar 2021
Aylesbury Golf Course works	Dec 2020-Jan 2021
Calvert early works	Oct 2020-Summer 2021
Chetwode compound	Jan-Jun 2021
Quainton construction activities	Sep-Spring 2021
Waddesdon works	Jul 2020-Spring 2021
Steeple Claydon utility works	Jul 2020-Aug 2021
Twyford - Newton Purcell early works	Oct 2020-Summer 2021

HS2 Forthcoming Works Packages submission

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

Schedule 17 package	Location	Target submission date
Aylesbury South Cutting and Embankment /Footpath SMA/16 overbridge Bridleway SBH/19 and SBH/27 overbridges / Footpath SBH/34 and SBH/32 overbridges / A418 Oxford Road overbridge	South West Aylesbury (AVDC Package 06)	Jan 2021
Aylesbury North Cutting Oxford Road Embankment Whaddon Hill Cutting Bridleway SBH/32 overbridge Bridleway SBH/2 overbridge	Hartwell (AVDC Package 07)	Jan 2021

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

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