



# Notice of early works from Finmere to Greatworth

September 2020 | [www.hs2.org.uk](http://www.hs2.org.uk)

High Speed Two (HS2) is the new high speed railway for Britain.

We are continually reviewing the works on our construction sites in line with Government and Public Health England (PHE) advice on dealing with COVID-19. The Government's current strategy makes it clear that construction activity can continue as long as it complies with this guidance. Please be assured that only sites that can operate within the guidelines are operational. All sites will remain under constant review. We have postponed all face-to-face engagement events and meetings and have put in place a number of channels to communicate with communities, such as letters and phone calls, as well as updates and alerts from each of the local community websites. You can sign up for regular updates in your local area at

[www.hs2inbucksandox.co.uk](http://www.hs2inbucksandox.co.uk)

[www.hs2innorthants.co.uk](http://www.hs2innorthants.co.uk)

## What are we doing?

We are undertaking early construction works to prepare the area for the HS2 route. This activity will include:

1. Ground Investigation (GI) works
2. Utility works including trial holes
3. Setting up of works compounds
4. Localised clearance of vegetation and fencing
5. Haul road, access roads and drainage activities
6. Excavation, movement and storage of earthworks

## When will these works take place?

We are looking to start these early works in October and continue until summer 2021. We will continue to keep you updated with further information as the works continue.

**If you have a question about HS2 or our works, please contact our HS2 Helpdesk team on 08081 434 434 or email [hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)**

## Duration of works

Works will start in October 2020 until summer 2021

Normal working hours:  
Monday to Friday  
8.00am – 6.00pm

Saturdays  
8.00am – 1.00pm

Our contractors may be on site for one hour's start-up and shutdown either side of these times.

## What to expect

Varied activities with both quiet and busier periods.

Traffic management on some local roads and some additional traffic.

Noise from equipment used for the works.

## What we will do

Manage any environmental impacts, such as traffic and noise.

Respond promptly to any complaints and take appropriate action.

Take care to respect the community.

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Notification



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## What does the work involve?

### Ground investigations

We will continue to carry out Ground Investigation surveys throughout 2020 and into summer 2021. These activities will give us more information about the type, strength and details of the land where the new railway will be built. To understand the ground conditions, we need to collect a variety of test samples from carefully selected areas of soil. In most cases, access will be from existing public rights of way or agreed with local landowners.

### Creation of haul roads and access roads

Throughout the latter part of 2020 and into summer 2021, we will begin creating a dedicated haul road and access roads along the line of the HS2 route. In order to construct these roads, we will need to carry out localised vegetation clearance, drainage work and fencing. Once built, these roads will help move materials along the line of the route, keeping lorries off the local road network as much as possible.

There will be specific points at which our HGVs are allowed to gain access to the haul road. Lorry routes have been set out in agreement with the local authority and localised traffic management and vegetation clearance may be required in order to carry out this work.

### Compound Set Up

A construction compound is a local hub for the construction works in the area. It provides:

- Office and welfare facilities
- Storage of materials and equipment to be distributed on sites in the area – this is plant machinery and aggregate
- Car parking for workers

All of the buildings on site will be temporary and the site will have safety fencing and 24hr security for the duration of the works.

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Notification

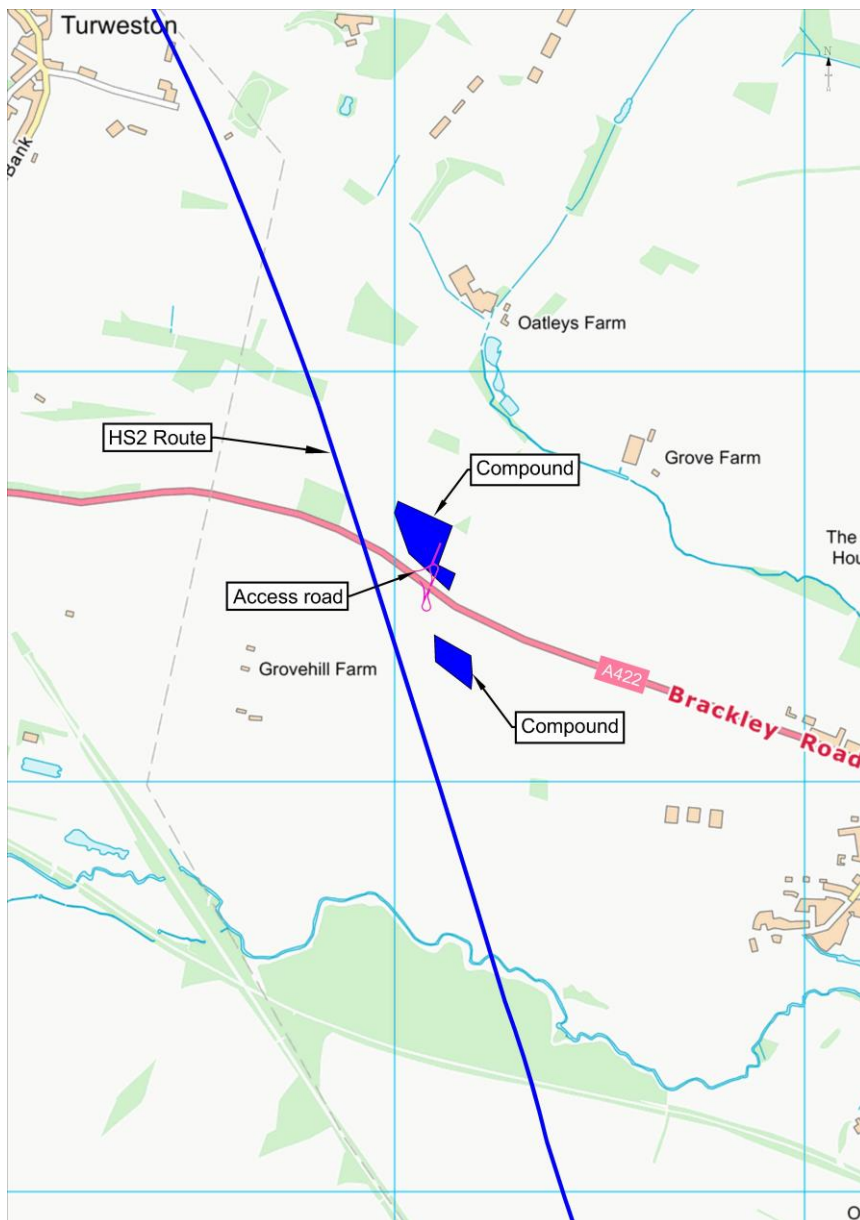


[www.hs2.org.uk](http://www.hs2.org.uk)

As part of the early works in this area, we will be setting up works compound off the A422 Brackley Road. This compound will manage the works for the surrounding areas, including road diversions. These works will involve local vegetation clearance, fencing, utility works and forming access off the A422 Brackley Road. There will be traffic management in place for these works to help manage the flow of traffic on the road network.

## Where will the works take place?

The map below indicates the areas in which the work will be taking place along the HS2 route shown below and the location of the A422 Brackley Road Compound



Contact our HS2 Helpdesk team on **08081 434 434**

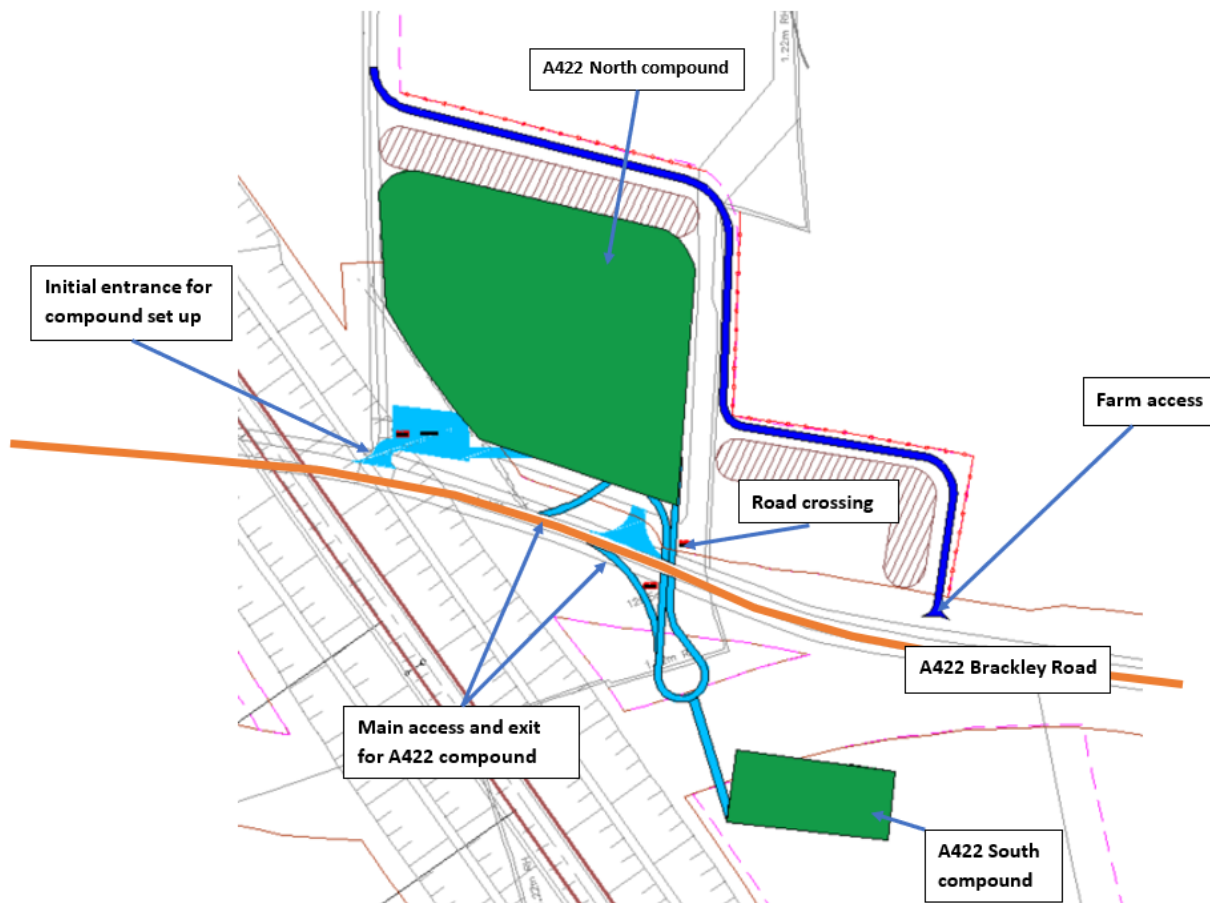
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Notification



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

A422 Brackley Road Compound indicative layout



## Early works at Turweston

As part of early construction activities, we will be carrying out excavation of sections of cutting at several points near Turweston. This involves digging an open excavation with large earth moving equipment. This will involve several months of work to excavate materials, including topsoil and subsoil, which will be stored in piles known as 'bunds'. Excavated material will remain on site and stored. Once this excavation has been completed, specialist instrumentation will monitor the ground and record the data.

## Bridge Inspections on the A4421

In October 2020, we will be carrying out bridge inspections at Finmere bridge on the A4421. These activities will help to inform our construction activities in the area, which will include the installation of a temporary bridge over the A4421. The surveys will take place both during the day and night, Monday to Friday for a period of 2 weeks. Temporary traffic management including lane closures will be required for the duration of the work as well as some localised vegetation clearance from the structure.

Contact our HS2 Helpdesk team on **08081 434 434**

# What else is happening in your area?

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

## Contact our new HS2 Helpdesk team

Our new Helpdesk team is based in our Head Office in Birmingham. This is so that we can provide you with the best service possible. Our team is here to listen and respond to your enquiry, complaint or feedback to help us be a good neighbour.

You can contact our Helpdesk team all day, every day of the year on:

Freephone: **08081 434 434**

Minicom: **08081 456 472**

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

## Keep up-to-date with your local community website

To find out more about what's happening in your area and receive regular email updates, you can sign up to our local community websites at: [www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk](http://www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk).

## About our Community and Business Funds

We are offering two funds that are available to local communities and businesses between the West Midlands and London, to help with the disruption caused by our construction work. These are the Community and Environment Fund (CEF) and the Business and Local Economy Fund (BLEF).

The CEF is designed to give communities the opportunity to share in the benefits of HS2. It is an allocated fund that communities are able to apply for, to help to support local projects that aim to improve their local area.

The BLEF is designed to support local economies that may be disrupted by the construction of HS2. BLEF grants are for local business support organisations and local authorities to help maintain business activity in local communities.

For more information about each of these funds, including how to apply, please visit: <https://www.groundwork.org.uk/hs2funds>



# Keeping you informed

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' Charter and Commissioner

The Residents' Charter is our promise to communicate as clearly as we possibly can with people who live along or near the HS2 route.

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/hs2-residents-charter](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hs2-residents-charter)

We also have an independent Residents' Commissioner whose job is to make sure we keep to the promises we make in the Charter and to keep it under constant review. Find reports at:

[www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-ltd-residents-commissioner](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-ltd-residents-commissioner)

You can contact the Commissioner at: [residentscommissioner@hs2.org.uk](mailto:residentscommissioner@hs2.org.uk)

## Construction Commissioner

The Construction Commissioner's role is to mediate and monitor the way in which HS2 Ltd manages and responds to construction complaints. You can contact the Construction Commissioner by emailing:

[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

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

Write to:

**FREEPOST**

**HS2 Community Engagement**

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

To keep up to date with what is happening in your local area, visit:

**[www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk](http://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. You can also contact us for help and information in a different language.**

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<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/high-speed-two-ltd-privacy-notice>

**Reference number: HS2-EW-EK-Ph1-Ar-So-S2-Site-08-08/09/2020**

High Speed Two (HS2) Limited, registered in England and Wales.

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