



Notice of enabling works update – Radstone area

February 2021 | 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.hs2innorthants.co.uk

What will be doing?

As part of our continuing works ahead of the construction of the railway we need to undertake some further works in your area.

- Fencing
- Archaeological trial trenching
- Planting

Fencing

We shall begin installing a 2nd tranche of boundary fencing to demarcate newly possessed land in mid-February 2021. We shall start installing fencing near the A43 and will be moving northwards to Radstone by mid/late March 2021. The fencing will consist of largely post and rail fencing similar to that already installed across the Radstone area. The fencing will require us to work out of site compounds used previously, more information in this notification. Fence lines to be installed and compound locations can be viewed on the map enclosed.

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

Duration of works

Work starts mid-February 2021 and continue until August 2021.

Normal working hours:

Monday to Friday 8am – 6pm and Saturday 8am to 1pm (if required)

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

What to expect

Some additional traffic on local roads.

Site operated with 24hr security and temporary flood lighting.

Site storage and welfare compound.

What we will do

Manage any impacts, such as traffic and noise with the aim of reducing or removing them.

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Archaeological trial trenching

We have a total of three trial trenches which need to be dug over two sites. The most northerly site lies just south of Halse Copse and includes two trenches. The second site, where one trench will be dug, lies just south of Fox Covert. These trenches will be dug by an excavator and will be dug approximately 2m by 25m in area. This work will start 15 February and will take a team of three a maximum of two days per site. Once the work is completed, the excavated areas will be backfilled.

Archaeological excavation/mitigation

This work is taking place off the Brackley Road near the Whitfield Junction opposite Radstone. Please see enclosed map for location details.

The mitigation/excavation works will include stripping topsoil with an excavator. Archaeological features will then be hand dug across an area of 0.78 hectares or roughly one football pitch. It will take up to 23 archaeologists to carry out this work at peak times.

The features will be recorded, and the excavation will be backfilled once the work is complete.

This work is due to start 1 March 2021 and will carry on until late April 2021.

The access track to the works compound will cross the Public Right of Way but will be fenced and gated to separate walkers and heavy machinery. A marshal will also be present to ensure the machinery can cross the path safely.

Mitigation planting update

The mitigation planting area, once complete, will help us to achieve a net no biodiversity loss across the line of the route. The area will contain just under 2900 trees along with grassland, hedgerow and woodland species mixes covering an area of 1.26 hectares or 1.7 football pitches. The species mix has recently been re-reviewed, and the updated planting mix includes:

- Hazel
- English Oak
- Wych Elm
- Hawthorn
- Dog Rose
- Goat Willow
- White Birch

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Mitigation planting (continued)

These species have been chosen as they are native species to the area. The size of the individual trees planted will be between 60-80cm in height. Planting at this height and in this season gives the plants the best chance of prospering in their new habitat. This planting is scheduled to start 22 February 2021 and will be completed over early spring.

Compounds

Work will be carried out from two compounds in the area, all sites have been used for previous works.

Whitfield Road compound will be set up on the southern side of the hedgerow sitting further away from Radstone than the current compound in the area. This will be used for the archaeology and fencing works in the area. This site will be accessed from....

Fox covert compound is currently in place and will be used to facilitate fencing, planting and trial trenching works. This site will be accessed from....

All compounds will contain track matting, Heras fencing, welfare cabins, temporary lighting and 24/7 security.

How may this affect you?

We will be working hard to ensure any impacts on residents are kept to a minimum during these and all our future works. You may notice a little extra traffic on the road immediately around the sites with workers and delivery vehicles moving to and from the site. There may be some noise from the machinery.

Our normal working hours are between 8:00am and 6:00pm Monday – Friday and 8:00am – 1:00pm Saturdays. The site will be open an hour either side of these times for the workforce to start up and shut down.

You may notice some lighting from our site compounds at night. This is required to ensure the security of our site. The light levels will be monitored, and the impact of this light will be mitigated where possible.

For this stage of works we will not be closing any Public Rights of Way.

For further updates about these works and HS2 in general, please visit www.hs2innorthants.co.uk where you can sign up to news alerts.

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

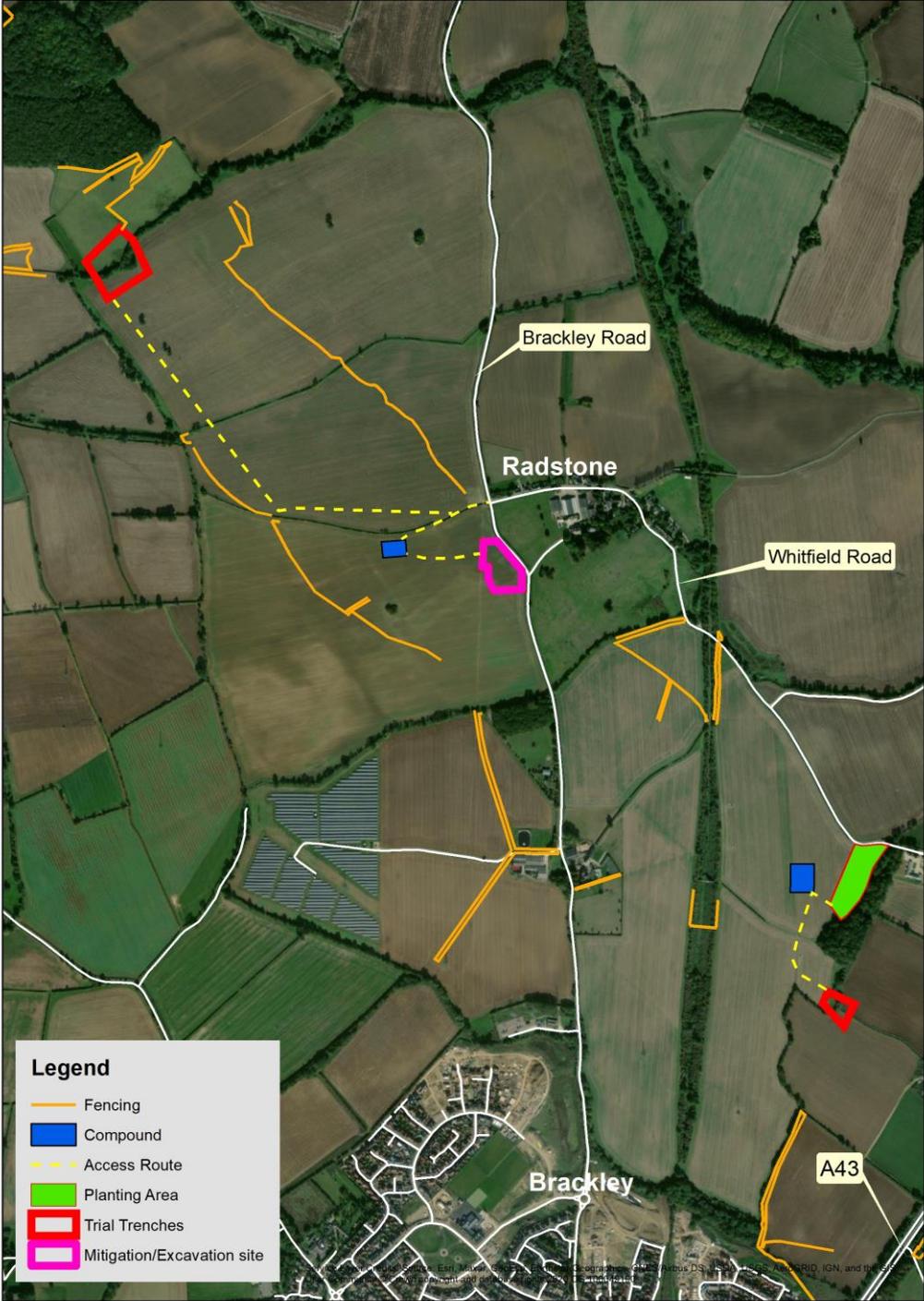
Notice of archaeology & fencing works, Radstone

Notification



www.hs2.org.uk

Location of archaeological trial trenching and excavation sites as well as fencing and planting areas



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

What else is happening in your area?

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

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.

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

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

You can contact the Commissioner at: 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

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
Find out if you're eligible for compensation at: 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

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**

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