

HIGH SPEED RAIL IN EUSTON

On behalf of all the team at HS2 Ltd, welcome to this update, which we hope is the start of renewed conversations with everyone along the route of our new national railway.

Not everyone needs an introduction to HS2, so we've split this update into three sections. On this page, we explain what HS2 means for the country as we get ready for construction. Inside, you can read about HS2 activity in your area. On the back page are links to information we hope you find useful, including how to contact us.

We'd welcome your feedback on this update, so please do get in touch.

What is HS2?

HS2 is a new railway that will connect the whole country like never before. When it's complete, this new high speed spine will seamlessly connect to the existing network and support fast, frequent, reliable connections for over 100 cities and towns, including eight of our largest cities.

Why are we building it?

Over the last 20 years, the number of people travelling by train has doubled, and it's growing each year. This puts more and more pressure on the existing rail network and if we don't act, thousands of people will have to endure increasingly overcrowded journeys. And in the Midlands and the North, economic growth has been held back because we haven't invested enough in new, high-quality transport connections.

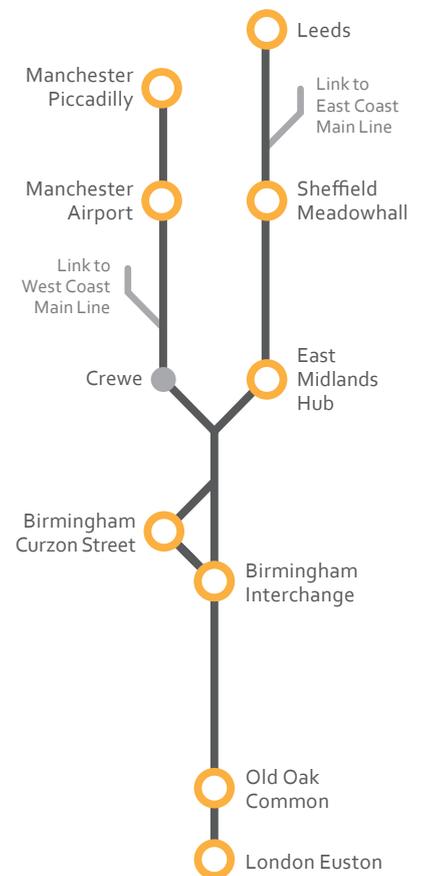
HS2 is designed to solve these issues. It'll ease congestion on important commuter lines, provide extra space for local and regional services, and reduce road traffic. It is a crucial project – and you can expect to feel the benefit even if you never board an HS2 train.

What does it mean for me?

We're extremely aware of the issues that building a new railway presents to those who live nearby, and we take our responsibility to you very seriously. Ultimately, we want to make HS2 mean something positive to everyone, whether it stands for fairness and clarity, better training for current and future engineers, a catalyst for jobs and investment in your area, a world-class railway or simply a new and exciting way to travel.



The proposed HS2 station at London Euston





“We are committed to working in a fair, respectful and transparent way with people who are affected. Living up to this aspiration is critical to the success of the project.”

Sir David Higgins, Chairman, HS2 Ltd

DELIVERING HS2

HS2 Ltd was set up by the Government to deal with the design, engineering and technical requirements of building the railway. But we also have an important role in making sure that if you're affected by the Government's plans, you understand what to expect (and when), and how we can help. These pages explain the work we're doing, and what's going on in your area.

HS2 will be built in two phases. It will connect London to Birmingham ('Phase One') from 2026 and then, following a Y-shaped route, to Manchester in the west and Leeds in the east ('Phase Two') from 2033.

Phase One (London-West Midlands)

If you're in a region that's on the Phase One line of route, then the legislation for your part of the project is currently being considered by Parliament – this is how the Government gets permission to build the railway, and ensures everyone's comments are heard. We're expecting formal planning permission, known as Royal Assent, at the end of 2016, but you may see us carrying out surveys or preparing things before then.

Phase Two (Birmingham-Leeds, Manchester and beyond)

We held a public consultation on the Phase Two line of route in 2013. We're still working on the plans, and the Government intends to announce the way forward later in 2015. The plans will follow a similar parliamentary process to Phase One.

EUSTON

Euston station

Euston has been at the heart of our transport system since the station first opened in 1837. As passenger demand has grown, the station has had to change accordingly, most significantly in 1968 when the original building was replaced by the current station.

Today, Euston caters for over 42 million passengers a year, more than twice the number that the current station was designed to serve. As passenger numbers continue to rise, the operation of the station and its Underground services is a struggle. So, once again, it is time for Euston to change, not just to fulfil its historic role as a gateway between London and the rest of the country, but also to become much more a part of the community in which it sits.

HS2 redevelopment and a catalyst for growth

Euston will be the station where HS2 trains begin and terminate in London. When finished, it will include platforms for both high speed and traditional rail, with more trains making journeys easier for everyone, whether they're getting on HS2 or not. Upgrades to the interchange with the Underground and the rest of the station will also transform passengers' experience, hugely reducing congestion.

The new plans dramatically improve the station from a transport perspective, but extra investment in the area could totally transform Euston for residents, local businesses and visitors.

Amendments to the initial HS2 scheme

Following discussions with stakeholders we are proposing amendments to the initial proposals submitted to Parliament. These amendments are known as an 'Additional Provision' and on 16 September we formally published Additional Provision 3 (AP3).

Under the new plans, the redevelopment of Euston station will be delivered in three stages:

- construction of six new platforms and concourse to the west of the station to support the opening of Phase One high speed services (between the Midlands and London) in 2026;
- construction of five more high speed platforms and concourse to support the opening of Phase Two (Leeds/Manchester to Birmingham) in 2033; and
- redevelopment of the existing station platforms and concourses, subject to future funding and permissions.

To view the route in more detail, please take a look at our interactive map at www.gov.uk/hs2



King's Cross St Pancras is an example of how redevelopment can transform an area

Find out more

We recently held information events in Euston on 19 and 22 September.

If you missed these and would like a copy of the information that was available on the day, please get in touch with us.

For information about future events please visit our website and watch out for advertising in the local press.

You can read more about AP3 and how it affects Euston on our website: www.gov.uk/hs2

USEFUL LINKS



The best place to see what the railway looks like is to watch a video of part of the Phase One route, which you can find by going to:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/hs2-phase-one-fly-through



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

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. The first of the Residents' Commissioner's reports is published at:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/hs2-residents-commissioner-report-1-may-2015

You can contact the Commissioner at: residentscommissioner@hs2.org.uk

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Email: hszenquiries@hs2.org.uk
www.gov.uk/hs2
Please send us feedback on this update at:
www.surveymonkey.com/r/HS2_update



Updates on the project can be found at:

PHASE ONE

www.gov.uk/government/collections/high-speed-rail-london-west-midlands-bill

PHASE TWO

www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-phase-two-from-the-west-midlands-to-leeds-and-manchester

The Select Committee is the group of MPs who are independently considering objections to the Phase One proposals. The Parliament website publishes information about their work here:

www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/high-speed-rail-london-west-midlands-bill-select-committee-commons



You can find out all about HS2 and properties along the line of route by visiting:

www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-property

You can also find out if you're eligible for compensation at:

www.gov.uk/claim-compensation-if-affected-by-hs2

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