

**High Speed Two is the Government's planned new, high speed railway. HS2 Ltd is the company responsible for designing and building the railway, and for making recommendations to the Government.**

This factsheet is to update you about how the HS2 network would be constructed.

### Construction of Phase 2b

We are extremely aware of the issues that building a new railway presents to those who live nearby. We take our responsibilities very seriously and are committed to reducing disruption for communities, businesses and the environment. The construction of HS2 would be very complex and would require considerable planning.

Once the Government announces the final proposed scheme following consultation, construction proposals would be developed, including the location of construction sites, construction activities, equipment types, routes for construction traffic and the expected duration of different work elements. No construction would start in your area unless Parliament approves it first.

### How long will it take?

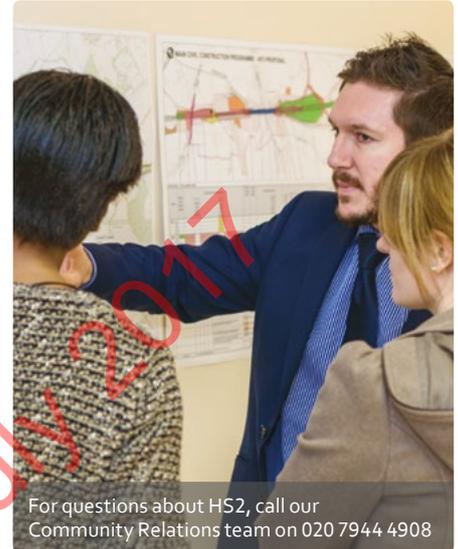
Construction is scheduled to begin in 2023 and the Phase 2b route is expected to open ten years later in 2033. In practice, in most places the duration of construction is likely to be much shorter. Further information on the key construction phases is given below.

### Code of Construction Practice (CoCP)

The CoCP describes the key principles that would be followed to avoid, reduce and mitigate associated construction impacts listed overleaf. HS2 Phase One is further developed and so it has a draft CoCP which covers everything from reducing site traffic and noise, to keeping residents informed of work plans, right down to keeping work sites tidy and litter-free.

Information papers on construction for Phase One can be found at: [www.gov.uk/government/publications/environmental-minimum-requirements](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environmental-minimum-requirements)

For more information regarding environmental impacts, please also refer to the Approach to Mitigation factsheet.



### Between July 2013 and January 2014

HS2 Ltd consulted the public on the proposed route and stations for Phase Two of HS2, from the West Midlands to Manchester, Leeds and beyond.

### In November 2015

The Government announced its intention to bring forward the delivery of the Phase Two route between the West Midlands and Crewe, known as Phase 2a.

### In November 2016

The Government announced proposals for the remainder of the Phase Two route, known as Phase 2b.

## Key stages of construction

- 1 Enabling works** – We would undertake advance works to allow for the construction of HS2, such as site investigation, various geotechnical and engineering surveys, utility and watercourse diversions, and modifications to existing road networks.
- 2 Site clearance** – During this stage, we would expect to acquire the necessary land, set up construction compounds and clear the site ready for construction.
- 3 Earthworks and civil engineering** – Once the site is prepared, we would commence earthworks and the building of structures. The earthworks would include excavating cuttings, building embankments and starting tunnel construction. Structures would include bridges that pass over or under the railway, viaducts, retaining walls and stations.
- 4 Railway installation** – We would install the railway, including tracks, signalling and power supply. This stage would also include fitting the final parts of station buildings.
- 5 Testing and commissioning** – Once a length of route is installed, we will test and refine procedures for its operation.

### Who are HS2 Ltd?

We are the company set up by the Government to deal with the design, engineering and technical requirements of building the railway.

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.

## Reducing the effects of construction

We recognise that people would be concerned about the effects of construction on their local area. We are committed to managing these impacts and reducing disruption to communities, businesses and the environment in ways that reflect the best practice used by the construction industry. As the scheme is developed, we would work with local authorities, communities and other stakeholders to develop the engineering design to address local effects of construction in a way which minimises potential impacts.

At the moment, we expect the potential main adverse impacts that would need to be avoided, reduced and mitigated during construction to be:

- noise from construction activity;
- views of construction sites, lighting and equipment;
- additional road traffic, particularly lorries;
- local road diversions;
- dust generated at construction sites and along the route;
- pollution of surface water and groundwater, and changes in flows; and
- temporary land-take for construction sites.

## Keeping you informed

We are committed to keeping you informed via various channels



### 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. You can read it by visiting:

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

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/hs2-residents-commissioner-report-1-may-2015](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hs2-residents-commissioner-report-1-may-2015)

You can contact the Commissioner at:

[residentscommissioner@hs2.org.uk](mailto:residentscommissioner@hs2.org.uk)

### Project updates

For more information about Phase Two, visit

[www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-phase-two-from-the-west-midlands-to-leeds-and-manchester](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-phase-two-from-the-west-midlands-to-leeds-and-manchester)

And for details of events in your area, visit

[www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-events](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-events)

#### Contact us

HS2 Helpdesk

Tel: 020 7944 4908

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

You can also 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)

### Jobs and skills

To see what jobs are available on HS2 at the moment, check our careers page:

<http://careers.hs2.org.uk>

If you're a student wondering what careers in STEM subjects are like, check out articles and have a look around our Plotr World:

[www.plotr.co.uk/careers/worlds/hs2](http://www.plotr.co.uk/careers/worlds/hs2)

And if you're a business wondering how to get involved with HS2, have a look at our guides and updates on:

[www.gov.uk/hs2](http://www.gov.uk/hs2) – search for *HS2 business*

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