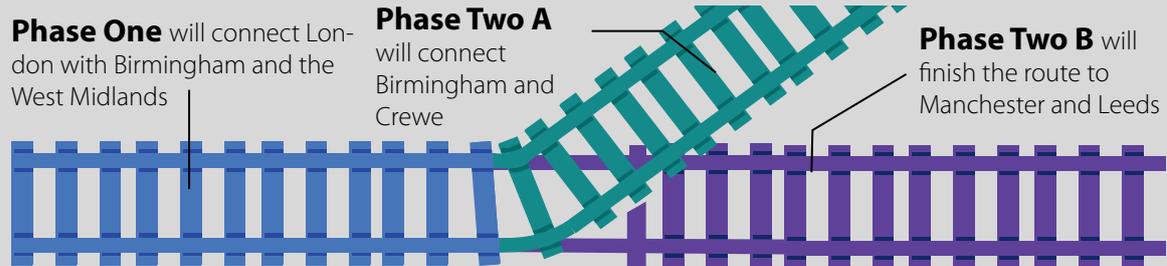


HS2 Bulletin

Autumn 2016

High Speed Two (HS2) is the Government's proposal for a high speed north-south railway. The proposal is being taken forward by HS2 Ltd in two phases:



The focus of Warwickshire County Council's role on HS2 is to scrutinise the implications of the scheme and develop protection and mitigation for communities around planning, highways, traffic and transport, public rights of way, historic environment, and ecology.

Phase 2b route announcement

Transport Secretary Chris Grayling MP has given the go ahead to the extension of HS2 from Birmingham to Leeds, known as Phase 2b.

The HS2 eastern leg to Leeds is proposed to run through North Warwickshire, affecting communities at Bodymoor Heath, Kingsbury, Birchmoor, Polesworth, Warton and Austrey. The route will cut through the middle of two Warwickshire country parks, Kingsbury Water Park and Pooley Country Park, and the M42 Junction 10 where it meets the A5.

The latest timetable is for construction to start on Phase 2b by 2026 and the railway to be operational in 2033. To enable the line to be built, hybrid bill legislation is due to be deposited to Parliament, scheduled in 2019.

More information is contained in the document links:

Route overview

WCC reaction

Route Refinement consultation

Parliamentary speech:

Decision document

HS2 awards £900 million contracts

HS2 Ltd has appointed contractors for the Enabling Works that cover the whole of Phase One, from London to Birmingham, with work due to begin in the spring. The joint venture contractors will deliver works on archaeology, site clearance and establishing site compounds including utility diversions, ecology surveys, demolition, ground remediation, watercourse activities, highways realignments, monitoring and instrumentation, structural reinforcements and drainage work.

The following joint ventures are:

- **Area South** - CS JV (Costain Group Plc, Skanska Construction UK Limited)
- **Area Central** – Fusion JV (Morgan Sindall Construction & Infrastructure Ltd, BAM Nuttall Limited, Ferrovial Agroman (UK) Limited)
- **Area North** - LM JV (Laing O'Rourke Construction Limited, J. Murphy & Sons Limited)

HS2 Ltd. helpline: 020 7944 4908

The HS2 Engagement Team

A team of HS2 dedicated community engagement specialists have been appointed to understand and respond to the views of communities living along Phase One of the route. For Warwickshire, the majority of the HS2 route falls within the responsibility of the Area North Engagement team, with the part of the section south of Long Itchington Tunnel, including Southam, Ladbroke, Wormleighton and Priors Hardwick, falling into the Area Central team.



The Area North team is led by Senior Engagement Manager Jonathan Lord and supported by Susan Bridges, Rachel Johnson, Tahir Ahmed, Joan Gooden and Rachna Shah. Lydia Smith from Area Central will be looking after the Ladbroke and Southam section of the route. The Engagement Team's primary role will be to ensure that HS2 is listening to all of those who are affected by the project in their areas and help HS2 to better recognise the unique needs of each community as the project moves towards construction. This will include responsibility for the running of local information events and ongoing dialogue with communities.

If you would like more information or for HS2 to attend a local community event please get in touch with the HS2 helpdesk on **0207 944 4908**.

HS2 Construction Commissioner appointed

Gareth Epps has been appointed as the independent HS2 Construction Commissioner



Gareth says *"From the start of construction residents will be able to refer unresolved HS2 construction complaints to my office for fair, independent resolution. I am here to help ensure any HS2 complaint you have is dealt with as effectively as possible, even if it is not a matter I can get involved in directly.*

I will also be able to review unresolved claims under HS2's Small Claims scheme. I will also help to hold HS2 Ltd accountable for complaints handling and comment on feedback from the communities along the route.

My background is in construction and communities; I devised and implemented community relations on the Crossrail project and have served as a local councillor.

While my office is set up you can contact me by email at complaints@hs2-cc.org.uk or via my website www.hs2-cc.org.uk
I look forward to hearing from you."

Government confirms commitment to HS2

Transport Secretary Chris Grayling MP confirmed (October 12), that the new Government is committed to completing the HS2 project.

He said HS2 would prevent a capacity crisis on the rail network as well as boosting jobs and regeneration along the line route and across the country.

The full announcement is available here

Chris Grayling pledges £70 million funding to support local communities and road safety

Mr. Grayling has announced Government plans to make a £70 million fund available to support local communities and road safety along the planned HS2 route between London and the West Midlands.

The £70 million Government commitment is made of three separate funds: The HS2 Community and Environment Fund (CEF) and The Business and Local Economy Fund (BLEF). The CEF has been created to help enhance community facilities, improve access to the countryside and conserve the natural environment along the Phase One route of HS2, while BLEF will be used to support local economies in areas where businesses may experience disruption from the construction of HS2. £15 million has been allocated to the central area including Staffordshire, Warwickshire and Buckinghamshire.

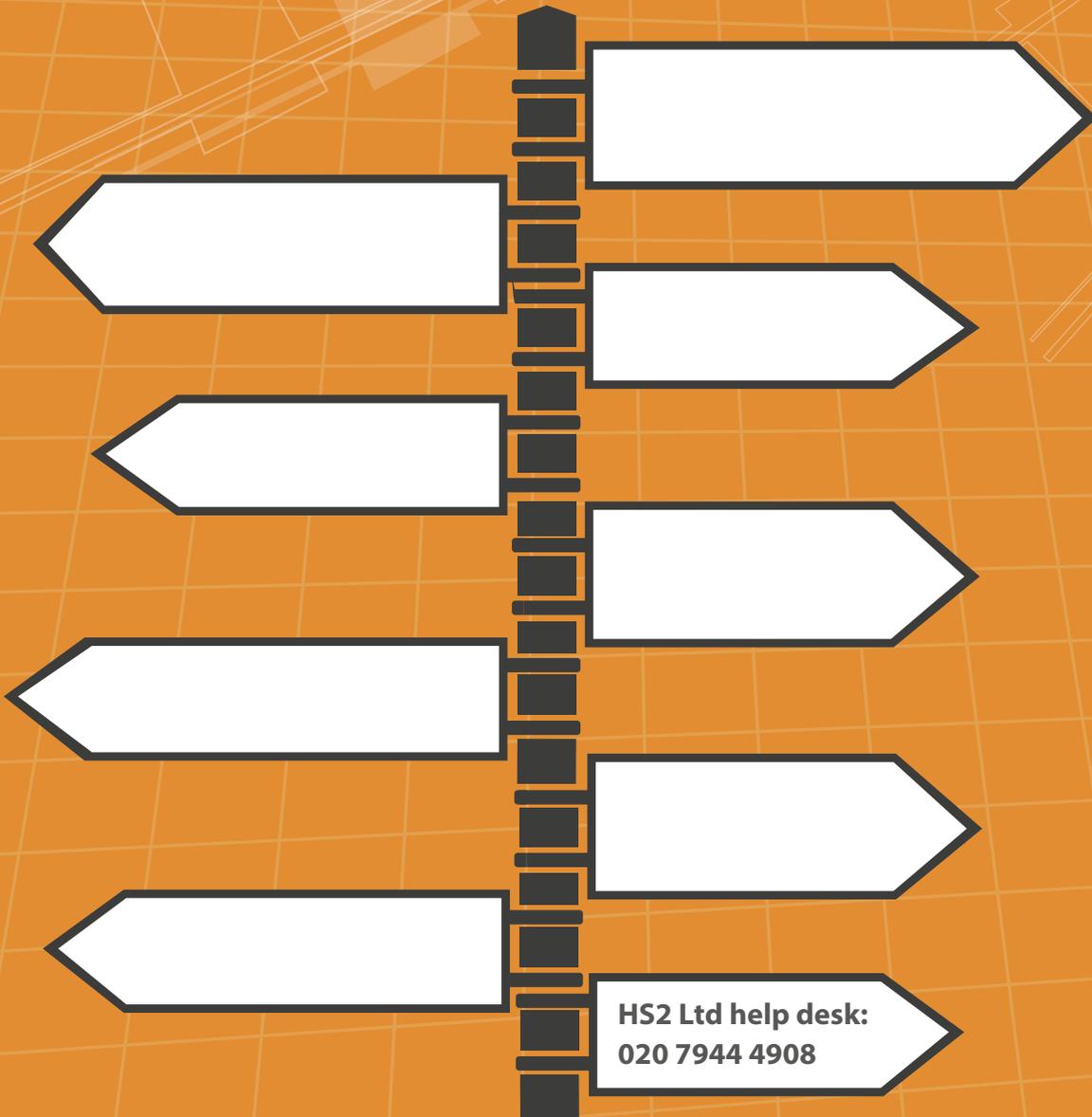
These funds are expected to be made available when construction begins in 2017 and will be awarded until the end of HS2's first year of operation in 2026. Community groups, charities, non-governmental organisations and business support specialists will be able to bid for grants from the CEF and BLEF fund.

The full announcement is available here:

Current HS2 timeline

Autumn 2016	Phase 2B route confirmation
Dec 2016/Jan 2017	Target date for Royal Assent (Phase One) to become legislation
2017	Start of Phase One construction
2017	Phase 2B route consultation and decision
2017/2018	Preparation of Phase 2A hybrid bill
2019	Deposit of Phase 2A hybrid bill
2021	Construction on Phase 2a starts
mid-2020s	Target date for Royal Assent (Phase 2B) to become legislation
2026	Start of Phase 2B construction
2026	Phase One opening
2033	Phase 2B opening

Signposts – for further information



Warwickshire County Council's HS2 Project Team

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