

# Notice of archaeological test pit evaluation

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

## Notification



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)

### What will we be doing?

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

We will be carrying out archaeological investigations across four sites as per the map enclosed. The purpose of this work is to further investigate archaeological 'blank areas' in which our non-intrusive scanning equipment has not revealed significant archaeology.

We will be digging a series of 1 metre by 50 centimetre square test pits. These will be excavated through the use of a small excavator and hand digging. The land will be reinstated afterwards.

**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

The works will start at the beginning of December 2020 and continue until the end of January 2021.

Normal working hours:

Monday to Friday 8am – 6pm.

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.

Some noise from the equipment used for the works.

### What we will do

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

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## What will we be doing? Continued

These works are planned to start at the beginning of December 2020 and will be completed by the end of January 2021. The investigations will be undertaken by two teams, each team requiring five archaeologists assisted by a mechanical excavator. There will be a small number of supervision staff visiting the site to ensure the work is progressing to plan and is being carried out safely.

## 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 moving to and from the site, and occasional delivery vehicles.

There may be some noise from the machinery, all of which will be restricted to running between the hours of 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday.

No public rights of way will be closed in association with these works.

All vehicles joining the highway will be cleaned to avoid mud being transferred to the road surface

To establish access to the site, existing temporary verge signage will be used. Please see the map enclosed for the site locations.

There will be a mobile welfare unit, situated on the existing hard standing area located within the field entrance.

For further updates about these works and HS2 in general, please visit [www.hs2inbucksandox.co.uk](http://www.hs2inbucksandox.co.uk) where you can sign up to news alerts.

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

Location of test pit evaluation works



# 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)

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