



## Notice of archaeological excavations, Aston le Walls

March 2021 | [www.hs2.org.uk](http://www.hs2.org.uk)

High Speed Two (HS2) is the new high speed railway for Britain. In response to the Covid-19 virus we have worked hard to ensure that our working practices are fully aligned with the Site Operating Procedures produced by the Construction Leadership Council and in line with Government and Public Health England advice. We will be keeping our local website [www.hs2innorthants.co.uk](http://www.hs2innorthants.co.uk) up to date with information on our works, and the measures we have in place to maintain the safety

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](http://www.hs2innorthants.co.uk)

### What will we be doing?

We have already undertaken trial trench works on our Fields Farm site near Aston Le Walls. There are now 3 areas on this site which will require further excavation to document the significant archaeology in this area. These excavations will start mid-March and will continue until June 2021.

We will also be carrying out less intrusive archaeological test pitting surveys. These will be undertaken to confirm earlier investigations. This work will also begin early March 2021. All excavations will be reinstated once complete.

### Site compound and access

We shall set up a small temporary site compound to facilitate these works. The compound will contain track matting, lights, fencing and 24/7 security. Please see the enclosed map for site location details.

**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 early March and will continue until June 2021.

Normal working hours:

Monday to Friday 8am – 6pm. Saturday 8am – 1pm

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.

Site operated with 24hr security and temporary lighting.

Site storage and welfare vehicle.

### 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 mitigation

The mitigation / excavation works will include stripping topsoil with an excavator and hand digging finds across a section of the site.

This work does not involve frequent heavy good traffic to and from site. Heavy goods traffic will be limited to delivery of the excavator, welfare units, fencing and track matting. This will make up a small volume of traffic at the start and finish of the works period. Routine works traffic will include contractors visiting the site to carry out their duties.

The next page shows where these sites will be located.

## Archaeological test pitting and surveys

Test pitting work will be carried out to further investigate archaeological 'blank areas' in which our scanning equipment hasn't revealed significant archaeology. We shall initially carry out surveys followed by digging a series of 50cm by 50cm square test pits. The level of test pitting is determined by the results of the earlier surveys. The works will be undertaken by a small team using a mini excavator. The location of the site can be viewed on the map enclosed.

## 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 machinery will be restricted to running between the hours of 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday. If we require to work on a Saturday working hours will be between 8am and 1pm. There will be a quiet set up and close down hour either side of working hours.

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 a diagram of the site location and access points.

For further updates about these works and HS2 in general, please visit [www.hs2innorthants.co.uk](http://www.hs2innorthants.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 Fields Farm / Aston Le Walls mitigation (excavation) sites



# 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)**

**Please contact us if you'd like a free copy of this document in large print, Braille, audio or easy read. You can also contact us for help and information in a different language.**

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