

HS2 Look Ahead

Interchange Station
Spring 2018

EWC NORTH



Two Snowhill, Snow Hill Queensway, Birmingham B4 6GA
Helpline: 08081 434 434 | Minicom: 08081 456 472
Email: HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk | Website: www.gov.uk/hs2



Welcome

Welcome to the first HS2 Look Ahead for the Interchange Station in Solihull.

In early 2018, we began works in and around the new HS2 Interchange Station site which is located within the A452, A45 and M42 triangle (see map on page two). This newsletter will bring you all you need to know about what works are taking place to deliver the station, including the road upgrades in the surrounding area.

The purpose of this quarterly newsletter is to:

- Update you about the works taking place in your area;
- Inform you of our engagement with local communities and businesses; and
- Engage you on the development of the designs for the new station.

Inside this edition

This first edition will provide you with:

- An overview of where we are now and the journey ahead;
- A high-level construction programme;
- Information about the early works starting in your area;
- Details of the upgrades to roads and junctions starting later in 2018;
- Information on our community and business engagement; and
- A chance to apply for funding for your local community projects.

The journey starts here

The Interchange Station will be a catalyst for growth in an already thriving economic area of the West Midlands. Its location in Solihull, opposite the M42, will provide a gateway to Birmingham Airport, the NEC and Birmingham International Station, which it will be seamlessly connected to via a people mover.

The station will provide access to and from London and Manchester in under 40 minutes, making it one of the most well connected areas in the country.

As part of HS2 Phase One, which runs from London Euston to Birmingham Curzon Street and up to Handsacre in Staffordshire, the Interchange Station will be open in 2026.

Between now and 2026 there is a lot of work to do to get the station open and the trains rolling, and we want to make sure we take you on that journey with us.



In February this year, HS2 appointed Arup as its Station Design Consultant for the Interchange Station. Arup will be working in conjunction with a team of architectural, planning and construction consultants including RLB, CBRE and Churchman Landscape Architects, supported by Glenn Howells, Wilkinson Eyre Architects, Costain and GWP. This followed the appointment of the Main Work Civils Contractor, Balfour Beatty Vinci (BBV) in summer 2017 and Laing O'Rourke and J. Murphy & Sons Joint Venture (LM) as the Enabling Works Contractor in 2016.

Building HS2: The journey to 2026

The image below sets out the construction journey for the Interchange Station and the associated works required to deliver it.



Preparing the route

The first phase of HS2 works, known as the Enabling Works, is being carried out by the Laing O'Rourke and J. Murphy & Sons Joint Venture (LM). The work will involve preparing the Interchange site for construction, diverting utilities, and upgrading roads and junctions around the triangle.

The early enabling works are underway and you will likely see HS2 contractors across the area carrying out survey works. These include:

- Topographical surveys which will help us identify and map the existing features on the land required for the Interchange Station. The majority of these works will take place during normal working hours and will have limited impact on your daily activities;
- Ground investigations on the land and on highways, which involve digging trial pits and boreholes to assess the ground and road conditions. The majority of these works will be carried out during both normal and night-time hours. Some night works may involve temporary lane closures. We will ensure that these works are communicated to you before they begin; and
- Ground investigations, which will also inform land contamination reports and allow LM to develop a land remediation strategy for the station site.

In the coming weeks, there will be multiple engineering surveys in and around the Interchange Station site. These works will commence on Wednesday 21st March 2018.

Further surveys will start in April. Traffic management will be required to facilitate some of these surveys and this will involve temporary lane closures on the roads listed below. The temporary lane closures will be required for a number of nights during the following dates:

- **A452/A446/B4438 Roundabout:** 3rd April – 21st April 2018
- **A452 Northbound & A452 Southbound:** 9th April – 12th May 2018
- **Stonebridge Island (A45 Eastbound & A45 Westbound):** 30th April – 19th May 2018

Further communications will be issued once more detail on the specific dates and times of these lane closures is scheduled.

Further works around the M42 will be communicated in due course. Also in the next few months, we will be setting up our construction compounds. Initial work will involve removing existing vegetation from the sites and levelling the ground. LM will be occupying the compounds from July 2018.

Road upgrades and utility diversions

Starting in summer 2018, works will begin to divert a number of utilities that cross the Interchange Triangle. These include overhead electricity power lines and underground utility mains.

Starting autumn 2018, LM will begin works to upgrade roads and junctions in three areas across the site.

The three main area of works will be:

- Upgrades to the existing A452 and B4438 roundabouts, close to the NEC and Birmingham Business Park;
- Construction of new A452/A446 roundabout as an entrance and exit to the Interchange Station; and
- Widening the A452 Chester Road north of Stonebridge Island.

Designs for each of these upgrades are currently being developed in dialogue with key stakeholders. The next edition of this newsletter will feature full details of these works.

HS2, communities and businesses



HS2 and its contractors are committed to engaging with our stakeholders throughout the duration of the works.

We will be setting up regular drop-in events for communities and business over the next few years.

These events provide us with a useful opportunity to understand what matters most to our stakeholders and how we can support the local area during the works.

HS2 support for communities

Following Royal Assent, HS2 has established two community investment funds worth £40 million in total. The funds are now open for applications and are administered by the charity Groundwork. For more information please go to www.groundwork.org.uk/hs2funds

HS2 Commonplace

HS2 has introduced a new digital engagement platform where you can receive updates on the HS2 project and find out what's happening in your area. To register, visit <https://hs2insolihull.commonplace.is/>

If you have any questions or if you would like to find out more, you can get in touch:

✉ Write to: HS2 Helpdesk, Two Snowhill, Snow Hill Queensway, Birmingham, B4 6GA

✉ Email: hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk

☎ Telephone: 08081 434 434 (Freephone 24/7)
Minicom: 08081 456 472

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