

High Speed Two is the Government’s planned new, high speed railway. We (HS2 Ltd) are responsible for designing and building the railway, and for making recommendations to the Government.

Between July 2013 and January 2014, we consulted the public on the proposed route and stations for Phase Two of HS2, from the West Midlands to Manchester, Leeds and beyond. The Government wants part of Phase Two – the route between the West Midlands and Crewe – to open in 2027, six years ahead of the rest of Phase Two, so that the North and Scotland will realise more benefits from HS2 as soon as possible.

This factsheet is to update you about the route between the West Midlands and Crewe. It explains:

- where the route goes and how it has changed since the consultation;
- how to find more information about property or construction issues;
- how to get in touch with us.



For questions about HS2, call our Community Relations team on 020 7944 4908

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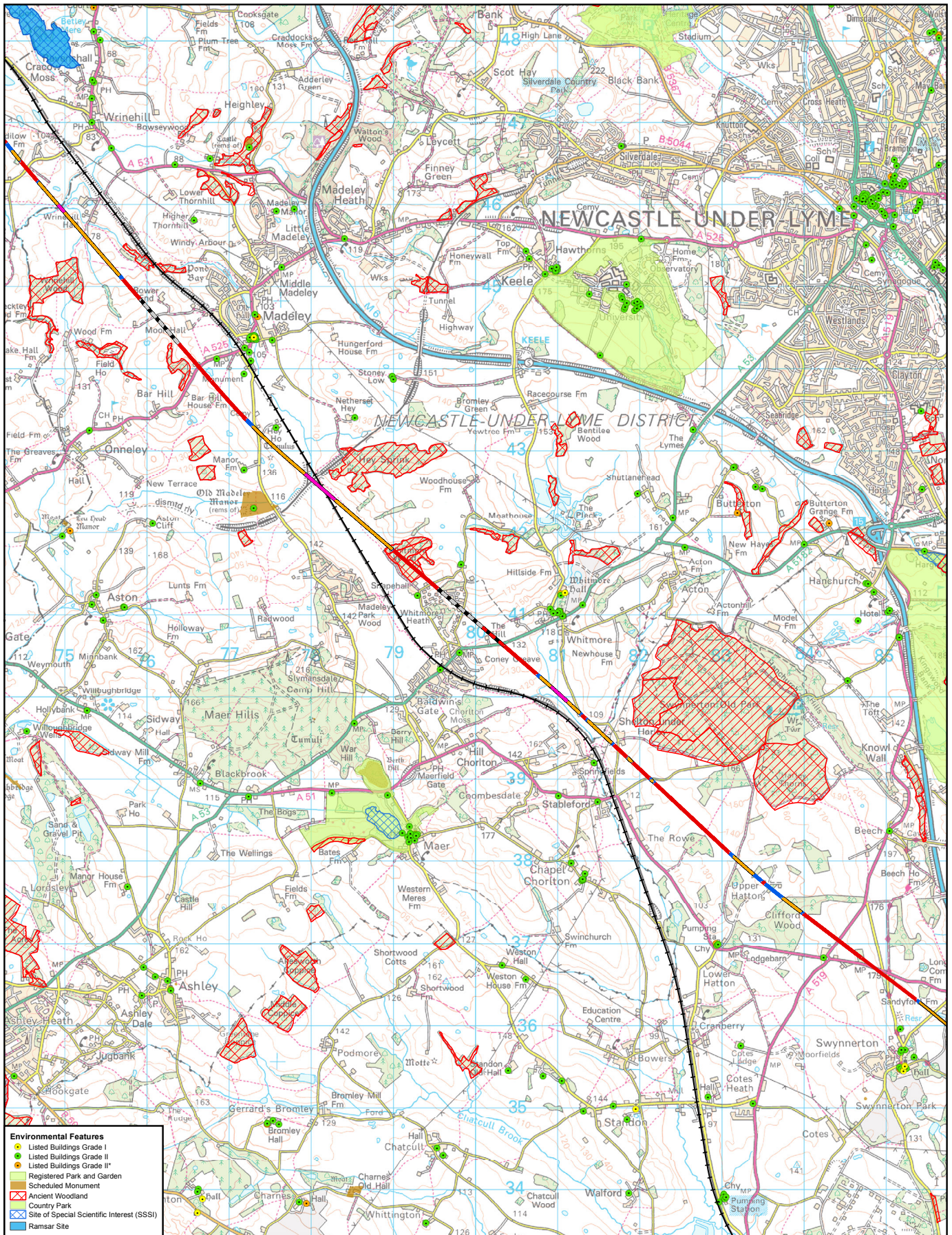
The route from the West Midlands to Crewe

The route from the West Midlands to Crewe forms the southern 37 miles (60 km) of the Manchester leg on the Phase Two network. The route begins 1.6 miles (2.5 km) north of Lichfield, near Fradley Wood, continuing on from the Phase One route. It finishes at a junction with the existing West Coast Main Line (WCML) to the south of Crewe.

In your area

To the east of Swynnerton and south-west of Newcastle-under-Lyme, the route passes under the A51 and A519, continuing in a north westerly direction. It would cross the Meece Brook Valley on a 270 metre long viaduct with a maximum height of 10 metres and pass under the A53 in a cut and cover tunnel before entering a 710 metre long twin-bore tunnel through the hillside and under Whitmore Heath. On emerging from the tunnel, the route would pass through Whitmore Wood and continue north-west, crossing the WCML and River Lea floodplain on a viaduct 490 metres long with a maximum height of 16 metres before descending in height on approach to a twin-bore tunnel to the west of Madeley.





- Environmental Features**
- Listed Buildings Grade I
 - Listed Buildings Grade II
 - Listed Buildings Grade II*
 - Registered Park and Garden
 - Scheduled Monument
 - Ancient Woodland
 - Country Park
 - Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
 - Ramsar Site

Engineering Features

Phase 2A Route

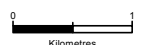
- A1 Grade
- Bored Tunnel
- Cut And Cover Tunnel
- Cutting
- Embankment
- Viaduct
- West Coast Main Line

High Speed Two
Phase 2A
Swynnerton to Madeley

Proposed Route 2015
Key Environmental Features



Scale at A3: 1:40,000



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Changes to the route since consultation

Since the close of consultation we have made a number of changes to the route. These are due to:

- feedback from the public consultation; and
- updated design requirements from the development of Phase One.

WHITMORE TUNNEL AND WHITMORE WOOD ANCIENT WOODLAND

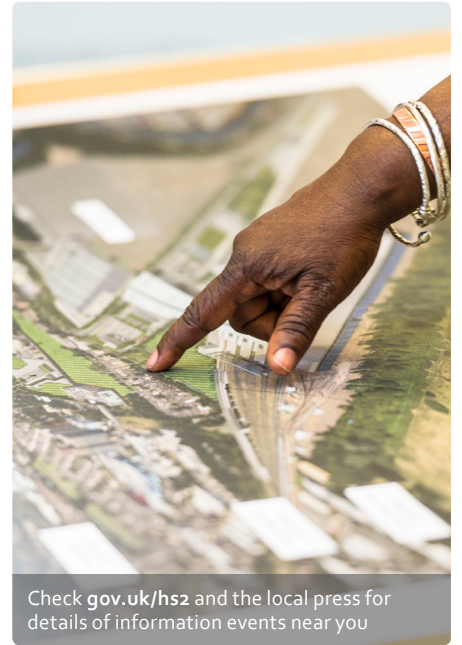
In response to concerns raised at consultation regarding the impacts of the route near Whitmore Heath and the viaduct over the Meece Brook floodplain, we have lengthened the proposed tunnel under Whitmore Heath so that it now extends to the south of the A53. We have also made improvements to the proposed cutting through Whitmore Wood ancient woodland. We now propose to construct a retaining wall on the north-east side of the cutting which would reduce the land required for the railway through the woodland.

CROSSING OVER THE WEST COAST MAINLINE (WCML)

We have raised the height of the railway over the WCML and the River Lea floodplain to the south of Madeley, by approximately five metres, to 16 metres, in order to increase the clearance. This is a result of the evolving design of Phase One informing the design of Phase Two, and will help reduce the impact of HS2 on the existing railway. These adjustments will increase the landscape and visual impact over the River Lea floodplain due to the higher viaducts.



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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.

Next steps

The graphic alongside shows what will happen between now and the first train services starting in your area.

Presenting a Bill to Parliament is how the Government gets permission to build the railway, and ensures everyone's comments are heard. No construction can begin without Parliament's approval.

We will also carry out an environmental impact assessment to understand how the project would affect the environment and local communities, and what we can do about it. Further work will be done to mitigate the impact of the railway as the design develops.

- 1 Announce West Midlands to Crewe route
- 2 Carry out environmental impact assessment and produce Environmental Statement
- 3 Deposit hybrid Bill for the West Midlands to Crewe route
- 4 Royal Assent for West Midlands to Crewe route hybrid Bill
- 5 Commence construction
- 6 Commence train services on the West Midlands to Crewe route

Visuals

Our verifiable photomontages provide an illustration of how the proposed scheme may look. The proposed scheme reflects the current Phase Two level of design and may be subject to change in response to consultation. The railway displayed does not include local mitigation measures. These will be defined and developed as part of the next stages of design and environmental impact assessment.

Construction

We are extremely aware of the issues that building a new railway presents to those who live nearby. We take our responsibilities very seriously. We are committed to reducing disruption to communities, business and the environment.

Phase One is at a later stage of development and so it has a draft Code of Construction Practice 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.

No construction will start in your area unless Parliament approves it first.

Information papers on construction for Phase One can be found at the following link:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/hs2-information-papers-construction

Property

Find the latest information about property by visiting:

www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-property

If your property is affected by the plans, we will write to you to let you know and to help you understand your options.

Residents' Charter

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:

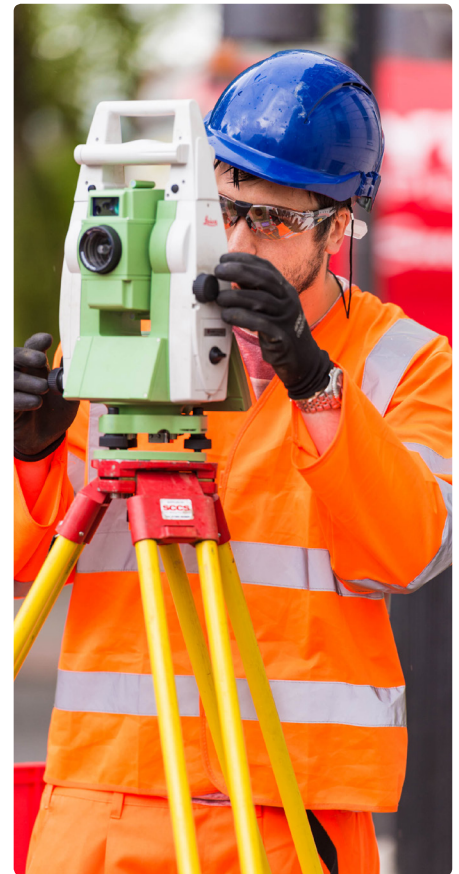
www.gov.uk/government/publications/hs2-residents-charter

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

You can contact the commissioner at:

residentscommissioner@hs2.org.uk



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CONTACT US AT HS2

If you have any questions about this leaflet, please get in touch. You can contact our community relations helpdesk on

Tel:
020 7944 4908

Email:
hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk

For the latest documents including route plans and profile maps visit:
www.gov.uk/hs2