

High Speed Two (HS2) is the planned high speed rail network connecting London with the West Midlands ('Phase One'), in 2026 and with Manchester and Leeds ('Phase Two') in 2033.

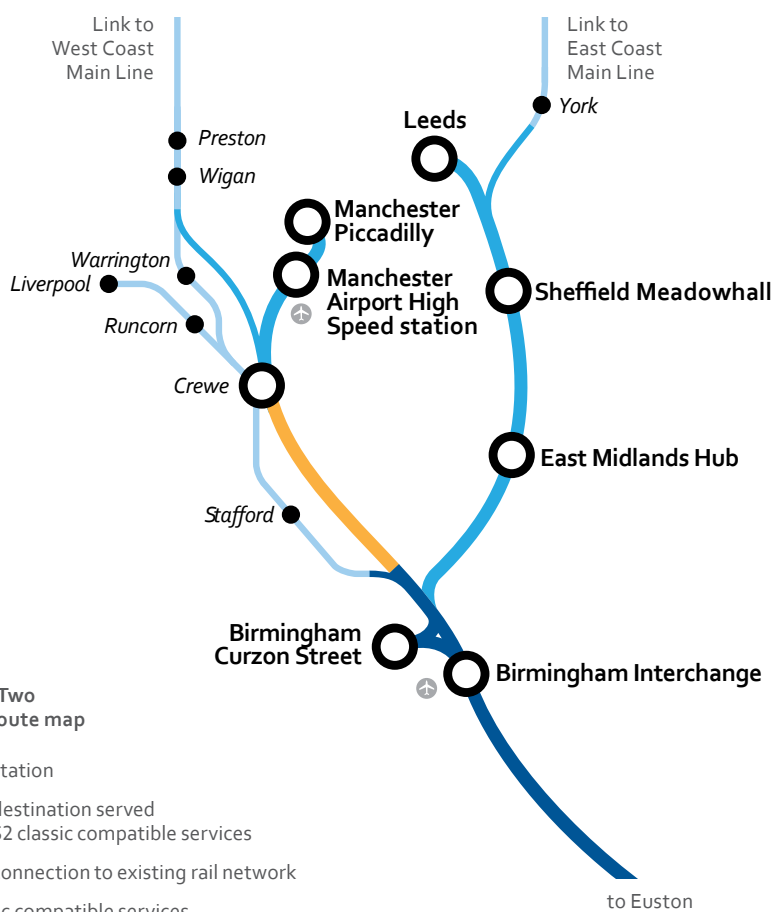
The Government has decided to speed up the delivery of the West Midlands to Crewe section of the Phase Two route to realise some of the benefits of Phase Two more quickly. This part of the route is now planned to open in 2027, six years ahead of schedule.

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

- what has happened so far;
- what the next steps are;
- how you can get involved; and
- how to get in touch with us.



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



High Speed Two Phase Two route map

- HS2 station
- HS2 destination served by HS2 classic compatible services
- HS2 connection to existing rail network
- Classic compatible services
- Phase One
- Phase Two – West Midlands to Crewe
- Phase Two

### THE STORY SO FAR

Between July 2013 and January 2014 we carried out a public consultation on the route and stations for Phase Two. We received thousands of responses to this consultation, and we have spent the time since early 2014 considering options and preparing advice to the Government.

Since the close of consultation we have made a number of changes to the route based on responses we received, and also on new design requirements. You can find full route details, maps and drawings at [www.gov.uk/hs2](http://www.gov.uk/hs2)

### NEXT STEPS

Following the Government's decision to bring forward the West Midlands to Crewe section of the route, we will start to prepare a hybrid Bill for Parliament. Once enacted, it will give us the powers to build the railway. We expect to complete our preparation of the Bill by Summer 2017.

## What is a hybrid Bill?

For HS2, a hybrid Bill is required to obtain the powers to buy the land and to give the necessary consents to build and operate the railway. A hybrid Bill affects particular individuals as well as the public generally, so it must go through the Parliamentary process for both public and private bills. For more information on HS2 and hybrid Bills, you can visit Parliament's website:

[www.parliament.uk/business/bills-and-legislation/current-bills/hybrid-bills/hybrid-bills-faqs](http://www.parliament.uk/business/bills-and-legislation/current-bills/hybrid-bills/hybrid-bills-faqs)

## HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

In deciding on the best route, we have given careful consideration to its effects on the environment and on communities. As part of developing a hybrid Bill, we will need to undertake an environmental impact assessment (EIA) to inform our Environmental Statement. This involves engagement with relevant stakeholders to further understand the likely significant effects of the preferred route and to consider the most appropriate environmental mitigation along the route.

## What is an environmental impact assessment and an Environmental Statement?

An environmental impact assessment is the process of identifying the environmental, social and economic impacts of a particular project – both positive and negative – and opportunities to mitigate or enhance them before building work begins. This process informs the development of an Environmental Statement; this describes the scheme, its significant environmental effects and the measures being taken to mitigate them.

For more information, visit [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) and search for 'HS2 Environmental Statement'

After the hybrid Bill has been deposited, there will be a public consultation on the Environmental Statement. There will also be a Select Committee process during which people and organisations who are affected will have the opportunity to submit petitions to Parliament for consideration by the Select Committee. There will be more information and opportunities for you to talk to us and learn about HS2 such as local community engagement events.

## What is a Select Committee?

Select Committees are made up of Members of Parliament, who check and report on the Government's work. Their members decide on the line of inquiry, gather written and oral evidence, and report on their findings.

For more information visit:

[www.parliament.uk/about/how/committees/select](http://www.parliament.uk/about/how/committees/select)



A series of community events accompany our environmental consultations

## 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](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)

For the latest documents including route plans and profile maps visit:  
[www.gov.uk/hs2](http://www.gov.uk/hs2)