

High Speed Two is the Government's planned new, high speed railway. HS2 Ltd is the company responsible for designing and building the railway, and for making recommendations to the Government.

This factsheet explains the work that we have undertaken to develop the railway, and what happens next.

Station and route selection process 2010 to 2013

For each of the elements of the proposed Phase Two scheme, we developed options for route, stations and infrastructure around four main criteria:

- engineering and construction feasibility;
- sustainability;
- demand considerations, including journey times; and
- cost.

Route options were sifted according to these main issues, using progressively more detailed analysis and specialist knowledge within each category as the options were narrowed down. To support and challenge our approach, external stakeholders and advisors were involved wherever appropriate.

Station options

Stakeholders were regularly involved in the development and assessment of station options. When considering a possible station, we considered:

- how difficult it would be to build the station and how much it would cost;
- how many people would use it and how easily they would be able to reach their final destination; and
- how the station would affect the local area and environment.

A shortlist of the best possible locations was developed for further investigation, and a recommended station was identified, along with possible alternatives. These were then presented to the Government for their consideration, and led to the development of the scheme presented for consultation in 2013.

For more information about the options we considered, please see the report **Options for Phase Two of the High Speed Network**, available at www.gov.uk/hs2.



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

Consultation and route refinement 2013 to 2016

We held a consultation on the proposals for the Phase Two route and stations from July 2013 to January 2014. We received around ten thousand responses to this consultation. The feedback we received included:

- concern about the impacts of the route on people and the environment;
- proposals for alternative station locations and route alignments; and
- advice about local risks and issues.

The responses we received also included feedback from people supportive of the scheme and of our station choices. The findings are presented in a report from Ipsos Mori, available at www.gov.uk/hs2

This feedback informed a process of route refinement where we reviewed the Phase Two route, and developed new options to understand whether there were any better alternatives to our proposed route. We used a similar process to that described above to sift the route options and understand the best solution in each location.

In addition, we took the opportunity to consider how lessons learned from the development of the Phase One design could be applied to the Phase Two route. This means that we can have greater confidence in the design and footprint of the Phase Two route at this stage of design.

Finally, we undertook a number of strategic reviews to ensure that the proposed Phase Two route was the right solution for improving capacity and connectivity on the UK's rail network, that it delivered good value for money, and that it would link with the wider UK rail network. This work was set out in a number of public reports by the chairman of HS2 Ltd, David Higgins.

This led us to make a number of further proposals to:

- amend the route in a number of locations in response to consultation and design development.
- change the way in which South Yorkshire is served, with a new proposed route through South and West Yorkshire.
- accelerate the delivery of the Phase Two route between the West Midlands and Crewe.

In some locations where we have made substantial changes to the route, we are undertaking further consultation before the Secretary of State makes his decision about how to proceed. Seven areas of the route are subject to consultation on route refinements. Please review the consultation and 'in your area' factsheets for more information about changes to the route.

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.

Contact us at HS2

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

T: 020 7944 4908

E: hszenquiries@hs2.org.uk

For the latest documents including route plans and profile maps visit:

www.gov.uk/hs2

Hybrid Bill development 2016 to 2019

In order to get the powers to construct the railway, the Government needs to deposit a hybrid Bill in Parliament. Presenting a Bill to Parliament is how the Government gets permission to build the railway, and ensures that everyone's comments are heard. No construction can begin without Parliament's approval.

HS2 Ltd is responsible for supporting the development of this Bill. As part of this work, we will undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment to understand how the project would affect the environment and local communities, and what we can do about it. We also need to develop proposals for how we would construct the railway, and how we would realign roads, railways and utilities such as overhead lines. In turn, this will help us to understand what land we will require to construct and operate the railway.

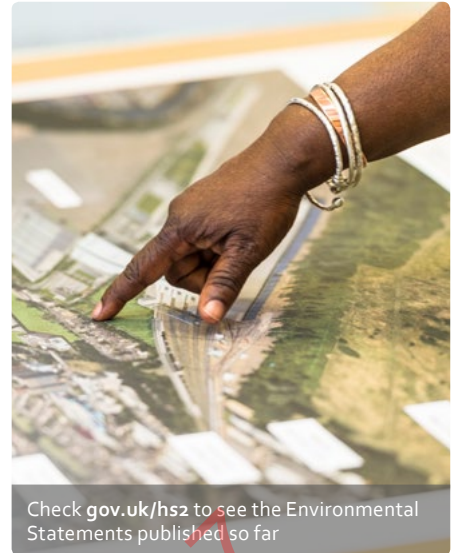
We will engage with local communities and stakeholders throughout this process, with the aim of reflecting local concerns and priorities in the design. For example, we will work with local communities to understand the best options for maintaining access across the railway or for managing the highway network during construction. This will include consultation on the developing design and on a working draft EIA Report, during the course of 2018.

Our aim is to deposit a hybrid Bill for Phase 2b in Parliament by the end of 2019.

The Parliamentary process

Once the hybrid Bill is submitted to Parliament, it will be considered by a Select Committee made up of MPs. Parliament will consult on the EIA Report (including information on alternatives). People who are directly affected by the HS2 proposals will be able to petition this committee for changes to the scheme. This can lead to further changes to the design of the scheme or our proposals for how the railway will be constructed and operated.

Both the House of Commons and the House of Lords will vote on the Bill. If Parliament approves the scheme it will receive 'Royal Assent' and HS2 Ltd will be able to proceed with construction.

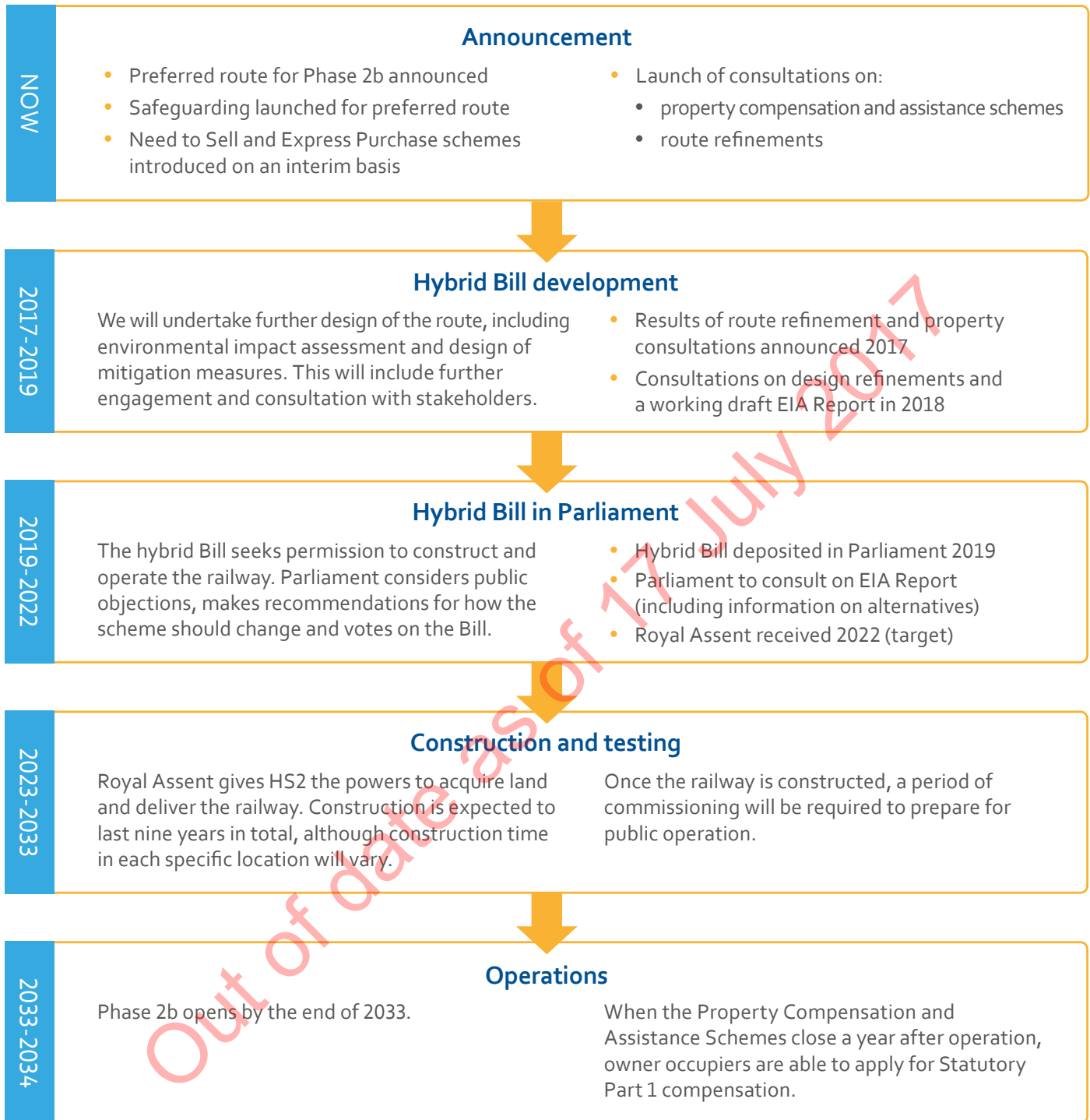


Check [gov.uk/hs2](https://www.gov.uk/hs2) to see the Environmental Statements published so far

Out of date as of 17 July 2017

Next steps

This graphic shows what would happen between now and when trains start running on Phase Two.



For more information on hybrid Bills, please see the 'Government hybrid Bills' factsheet.

Keeping you informed

We are committed to keeping you informed via various channels



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. 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

Project updates

For more information about Phase Two, visit

www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-phase-two-from-the-west-midlands-to-leeds-and-manchester

And for details of events in your area, visit

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

Contact us

HS2 Helpdesk

Tel: 020 7944 4908

Email: hs2enquiries@hs2.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

You can also find out if you're eligible for compensation at:

www.gov.uk/claim-compensation-if-affected-by-hs2

Jobs and skills

To see what jobs are available on HS2 at the moment, check our careers page:

<http://careers.hs2.org.uk>

If you're a student wondering what careers in STEM subjects are like, check out articles and have a look around our Plotr World:

www.plotr.co.uk/careers/worlds/hs2

And if you're a business wondering how to get involved with HS2, have a look at our guides and updates on:

www.gov.uk/hs2 – search for *HS2 business*

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