

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

This factsheet is to update you about the proposal for Leeds station. It explains:

- where we are proposing to locate the station, and how this has changed since the consultation in 2013;
- what the benefits of this station location would be, and where you would be able to travel to from this station;
- how to find more information about the route and the project; and
- how to get in touch with us.



■ Artist's impression of the proposed integrated station from the South Bank, Leeds

Image: Leeds City Council

Between July 2013 and January 2014

HS2 Ltd consulted the public on the proposed route and stations for Phase Two of HS2, from the West Midlands to Manchester, Leeds and beyond.

In November 2015

The Government announced its intention to bring forward the delivery of the Phase Two route between the West Midlands and Crewe, known as Phase 2a.

In November 2016

The Government announced proposals for the remainder of the Phase Two route, known as Phase 2b.

The route towards Leeds and the North East

The Phase 2b eastern leg would form approximately 123 miles (198km) of new railway and would begin north-east of Birmingham at the Phase One junction near Marston. The eastern leg would include the proposed East Midlands Hub station at Toton and would terminate at an integrated station in Leeds city centre. It would also provide a connection to the existing network at Clay Cross to allow trains to serve Chesterfield and Sheffield, as well as a connection to the East Coast Main Line via the existing rail network at Church Fenton, south of York.

An integrated station

The Government's preference for serving Leeds City Region is to construct new HS2 platforms south of the existing Leeds National Rail station, which extend over the River Aire into the South Bank area of Leeds. The five new HS2 platforms will be connected to the existing station, creating a common concourse within a fully integrated station.

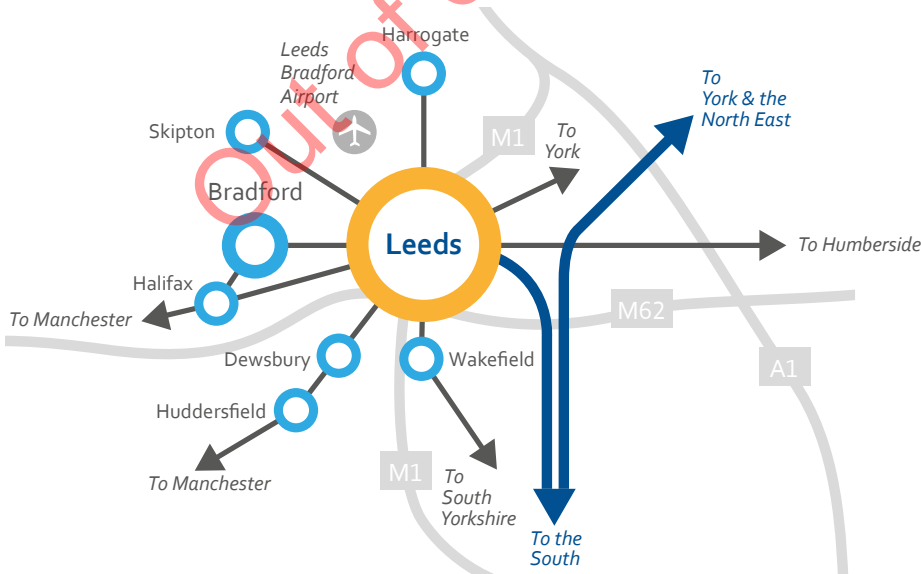
The platforms would be on a viaduct to allow access beneath; however, changes would be required to the local road network, including Neville Street and Great Wilson Street. Connectivity to public transport and key pedestrian and cycling routes across the city would be provided, as well as car parking. During the process to select the platform location, HS2 Ltd engaged with relevant local authorities, including Leeds City Council, West Yorkshire Combined Authority and Network Rail. We are continuing to work with regional stakeholders to integrate the HS2 proposals with other development plans and ensure that the benefits of extending the existing station are maximised, while looking at ways of reducing any adverse impacts on the local area.

Our plans for Leeds station will also consider proposals being developed by Transport for the North, such as a Northern Powerhouse Rail, to improve connectivity across the north of England. Leeds will be a true hub for transport with local, regional and national connections.

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.



■ Visualisation showing the connectivity of the proposed Leeds station

Changes to the station since 2013

The station location has changed as a result of the responses to the 2013 public consultation held by HS2 Ltd. Previously, the HS2 station was separate from the existing station and was located south of the River Aire. HS2 Ltd listened to the views of the regional stakeholders, who preferred a design that shared a common concourse with the existing station in order to maximise connectivity by reducing walking times between HS2, National Rail and other forms of public transport. HS2 Ltd has responded to these views and has adopted a preferred solution whereby the HS2 platforms reach across the River Aire straight to the existing station.

For more information about changes to the Phase 2b route since 2013, please review the [Summary of Route Refinements](#).



■ Artist's impression of the proposed integrated station

Image: Leeds City Council

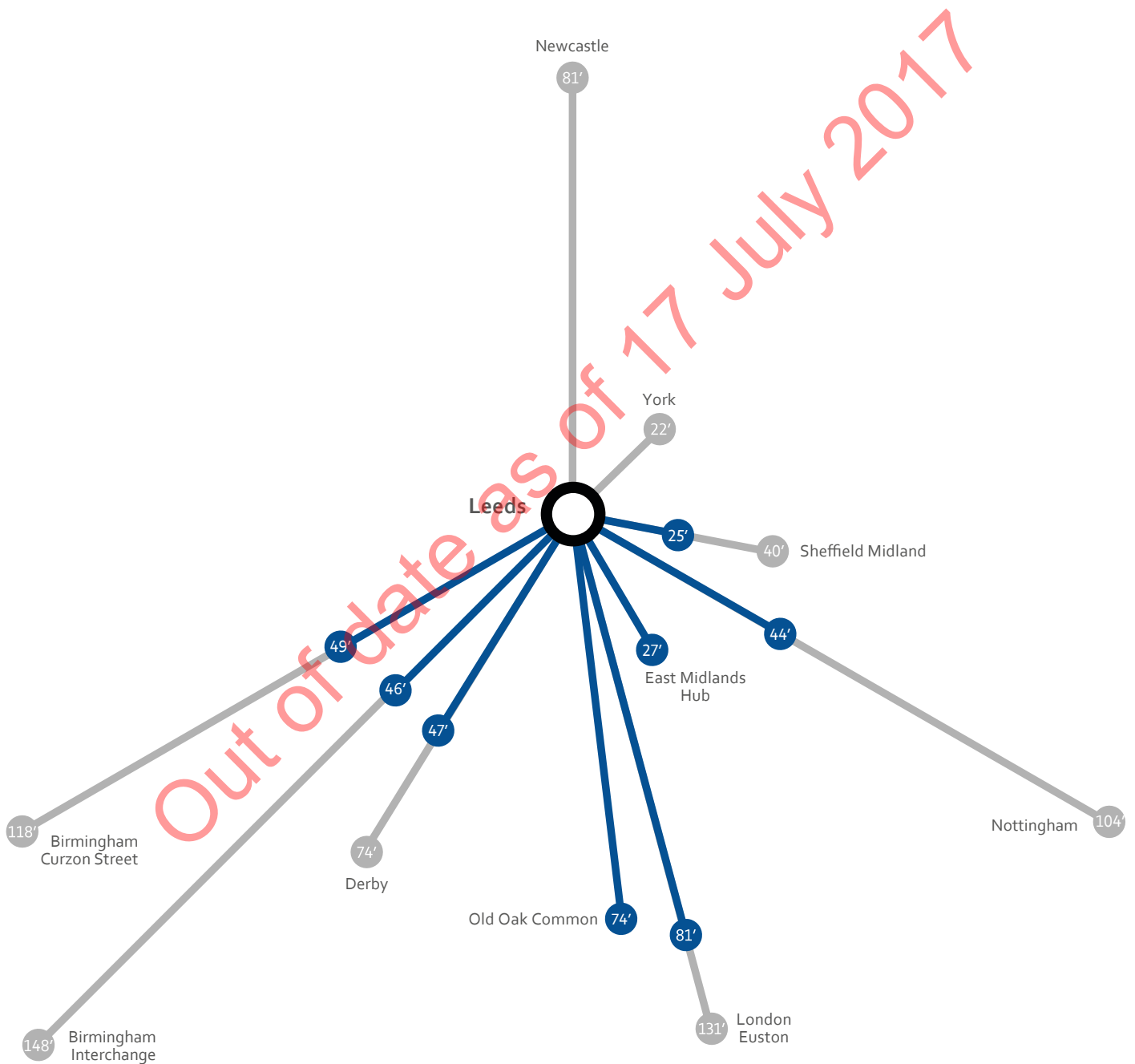
Key impacts of the station

This section highlights the key impacts from the preferred route. For further information about these impacts, please review the [Sustainability Statement](#).

For Leeds City Council and other delivery partners in Leeds, it is important to consider how extending the station for HS2 can complement the city's development aspirations. The station would fit within the city's South Bank Regeneration Framework and would be a key element of the future plans for the area. We will continue to work with Leeds City Council, Historic England and the Environment Agency to reduce the effects on the areas surrounding the proposed extended station. For example, the new platforms would cross the River Aire, with a span of approximately 60m on a viaduct 10m above the existing street level. We are working alongside the Environment Agency and Leeds City Council to ensure that impacts to the river and floodplain are managed and mitigated. The extended platform crossing would have an impact on the historic Canal Wharf Conservation Area, altering its riverfront views. The new station would also affect the settings of the 18th century Grade II* listed river lock and retaining walls, and the former Leeds and Liverpool Canal Company Warehouse. The setting of the Grade II listed Victoria Bridge would be affected by the new HS2 platforms.

Benefits

The Leeds City Region constitutes the single largest market for HS2 on the eastern leg of the network: around 25 million passengers use Leeds station every year. HS2 services at Leeds station would enable passengers to benefit from faster, more frequent services to South Yorkshire, the East Midlands, Birmingham and London. The integrated station design could also facilitate the introduction of Northern Powerhouse Rail. HS2 could support a significant amount of additional development in South Bank Leeds, which could in turn give rise to between 12,400 and 19,800 jobs and between 3,000 and 4,600 housing units. There are numerous vacant and underused brownfield sites within the station's catchment area that are available for development to the south, east and west.



■ Leeds Station journey times (Fastest journey times based on assumptions and analysis as at Summer 2016). Source: HS2 Ltd

— Current journey time (mins)
— HS2 Phase 2b journey time (mins)

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, businesses and the environment.

As part of the hybrid Bill process, a number of mechanisms will be introduced to control the environmental impacts of Phase 2b. For example on Phase One, Environmental Minimum Requirements are a key element of the Government's overall strategy for ensuring that impacts which have been assessed in the Phase One Environmental Statement are not exceeded unless under certain circumstances.

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

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

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

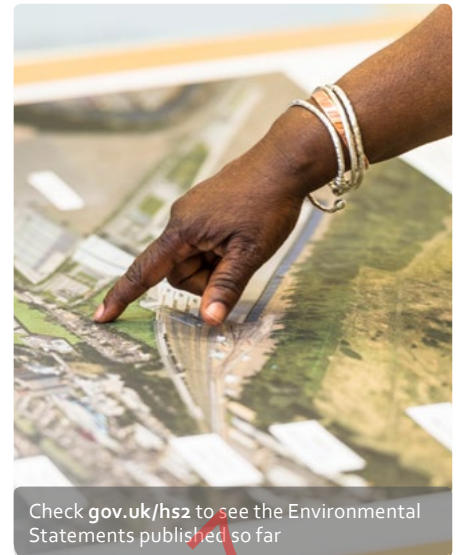
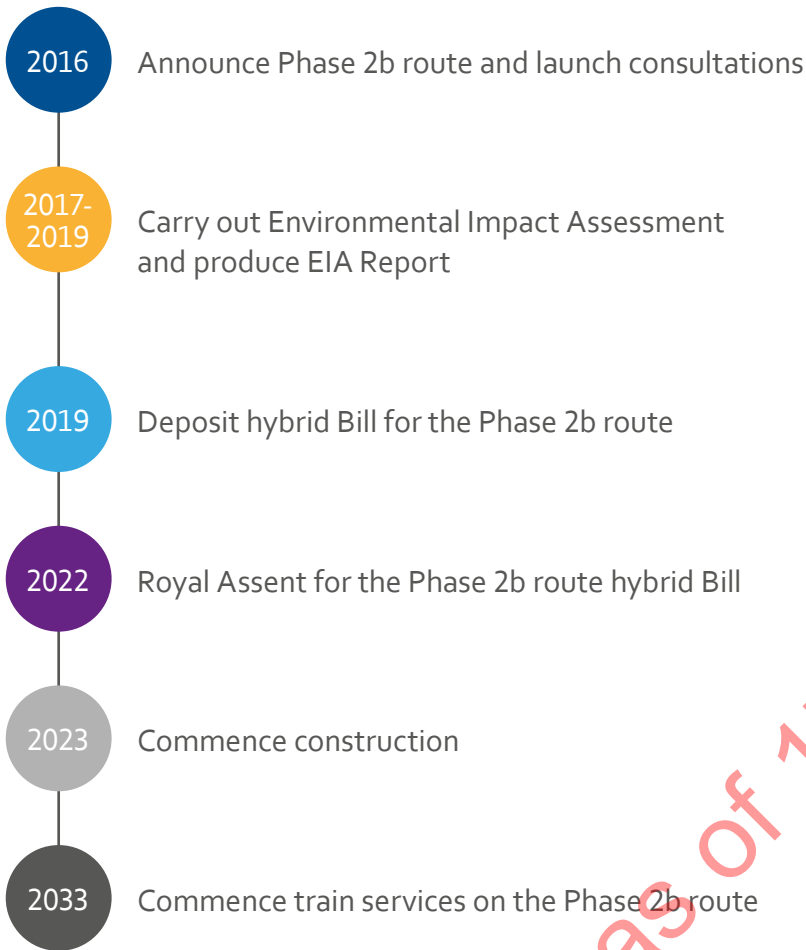
For the latest documents including route plans and profile maps visit:

www.gov.uk/hs2

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.



Presenting a hybrid Bill to Parliament is how the Government gets permission to build the railway, and provides the opportunity for everyone's comments to be heard. Construction can only begin with Parliament's approval.

We will also carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) 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.

To find out more about the documents mentioned in this factsheet, visit www.gov.uk/hs2

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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