



Embedding HS2 sustainability ambitions

In October the Design Panel attended two sessions focusing on how HS2's ambition to be 'the most sustainable high speed railway in the world' is being brought to life. Specific examples were discussed, including a viaduct in Area Central, and Curzon Street Station in Birmingham.

Overall, the panel welcomed the Curzon Street Station design team's positive attitude to meeting HS2 sustainability ambitions - making them fundamental to the emerging station design. As

this work continues, the panel encouraged further exploration of the potential for generating energy, re-use of materials, and adopting innovative technology to form the basis of a compelling narrative for a 'green' station.

While the panel felt the main works civils contractor was doing the 'basics' well in integrating HS2 sustainability requirements into the design of the viaduct, it is yet to be convinced that truly innovative solutions and approaches are being developed. If HS2 is to become the world's most sustainable high speed railway, it will need to push past the best of what the market already offers.

Design Panel activities October 2018

1

Workshop Session

- Lessons learned from Phase One for Phase Two - focusing on three topics: urban integration / place-based design; landscape led design / designing in context; and using procurement to help foster good design.

2

Mentoring sessions

- Old Oak Common Station - focusing on surface movement and connectivity strategy; the interface between the station and Old Oak Lane; and landscaping.
- Curzon Street Station integration with Curzon Street Viaducts

3

Full reviews

- Sustainability - Main Works Civils Contractors
- Sustainability - Curzon Street Station
- HS2 Station Customer Experience Concept

3

Governance meetings

- Design Panel monthly team meeting attended by the Design Panel chair, vice chair, secretariat and HS2 Ltd staff
- HS2 Independent Design Panel Design Awards
- Chair's Review meeting to discuss community engagement

Delivering a high quality station experience

In October the panel revisited the work of HS2 Ltd's Station Operations team as it continues to develop an HS2 station customer experience concept.

HS2 Ltd gave an overview of the previous discussions with the panel and the work done to date on exploring future passenger needs. This has led to the development of a series of high level principles and station sub-concepts to reinforce an understanding of station users. The session focused on two key areas: the working environments of station staff; and the experience of people as they go to and from stations.

Overall, the panel found much to applaud in the thinking developed so far. This work has the potential to help HS2 to truly change the sector, using its power and influence to enhance spaces beyond the railway, and delivering the wider public benefits promised.

The panel urged HS2 Ltd to engage with a broad range of stakeholders, including the Department for Transport, to help develop buy-in and support for the emerging ambitions. For example, partnership working with local planning authorities will be critical to developing a shared vision for the spaces around stations - integrating each station within its context.



People's stories

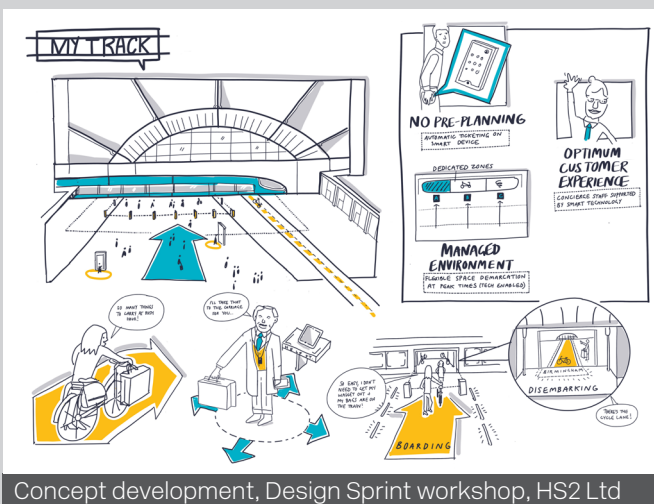
Johannah Randall leads all aspects of the customer proposition, operation and maintenance for HS2 and non-HS2 stations.

Johannah joined HS2 Ltd in June 2016 and much of her role has focused on the development of user needs for the specification of customer facilities and services to meet the requirements of the HS2 Customer Experience Vision. She has built a diverse team of station, operational and retail experts who are now developing the plan to bring the vision to life in readiness for 2026.

Johannah has worked in transport for 20 years covering a range of roles for airlines and rail operators, including leading the development of King's Cross Station for East Coast. Before HS2, she worked at the Department for Transport in rail franchising and policy development, leading in areas such as accessibility, innovation and sustainability.

Phase Two learning lessons

With Phase Two at a critical stage, the panel has continued to highlight the need for HS2 Ltd to reflect on the key lessons learned from design work on Phase One. In October the panel attended a 'lessons learned' workshop led by HS2 Ltd. The session focused on three topics: urban integration; landscape-led design; and procurement. A number of challenges and opportunities were identified, including the need to begin conversations with communities and stakeholders early on, to ensure HS2 delivers the ambitions set out in the HS2 Design Vision.



Frame Projects
Secretariat to the
HS2 Independent
Design Panel

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