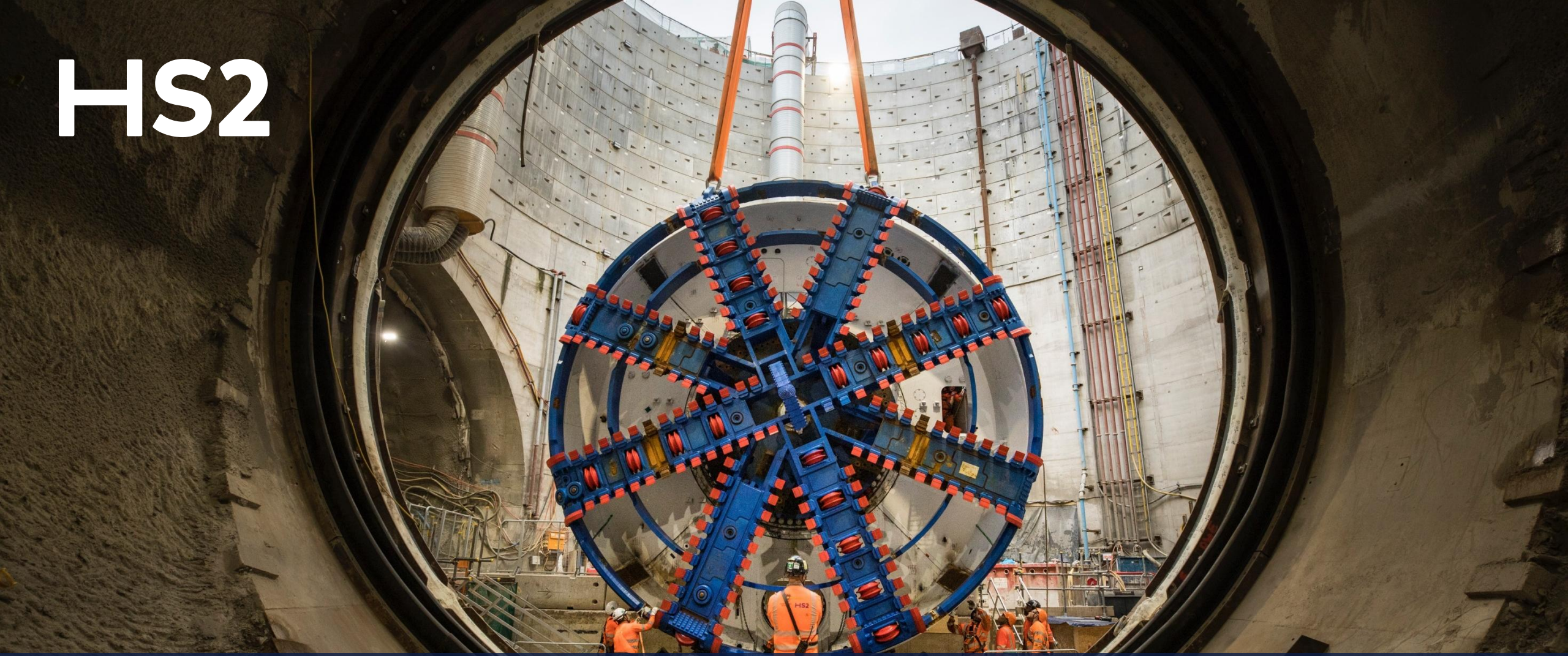
HS2



Phase One Heritage Sub-group

May 2025

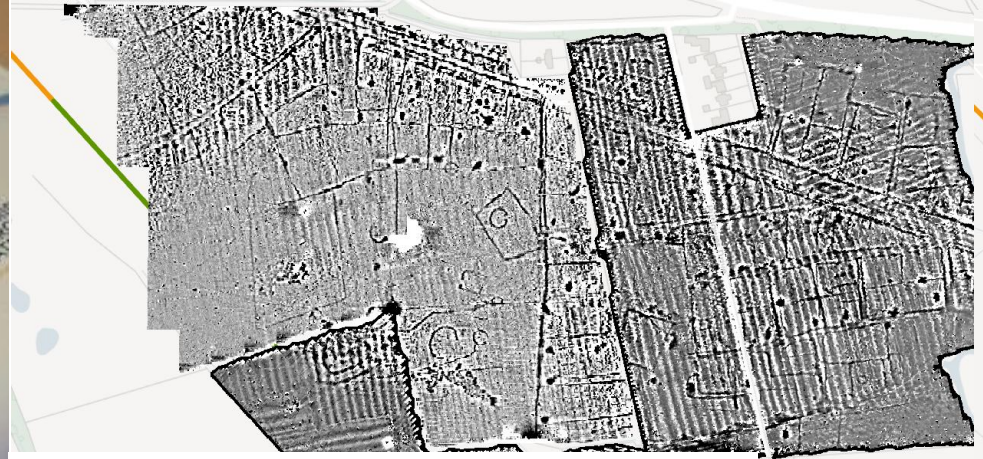
Agenda

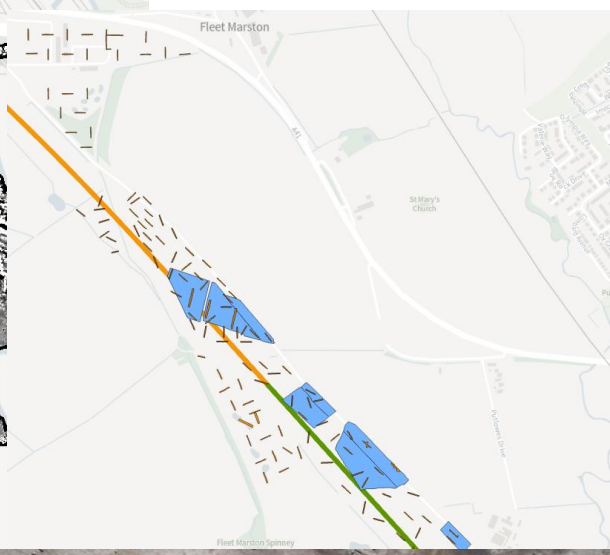
1. Welcome & introductions
2. Values moment
3. Post excavation: HS2 introduction
4. Post excavation: Access +
5. General HS2 Update
6. HS2 Hist Env team updates
7. Closing remarks/AOB

HS2

Post Excavation Services

The journey





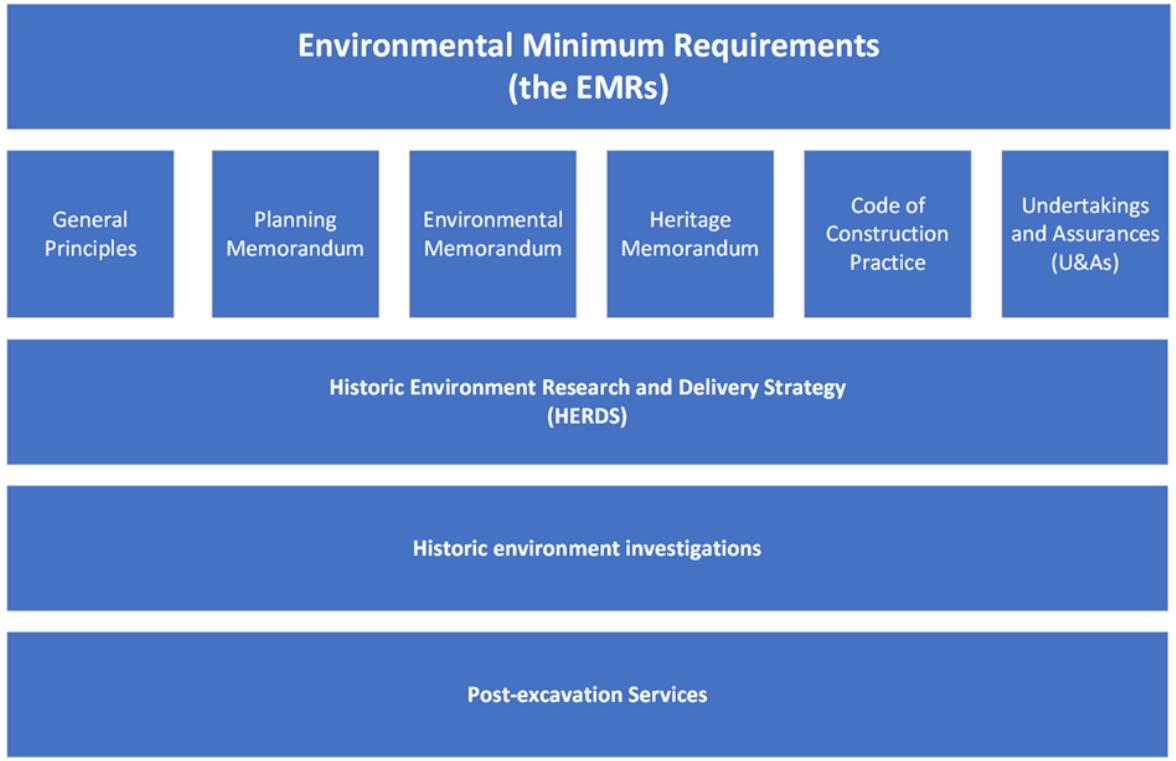
High Speed Rail (London - West Midlands) Act 2017

Post-excavation Services (HGC14)

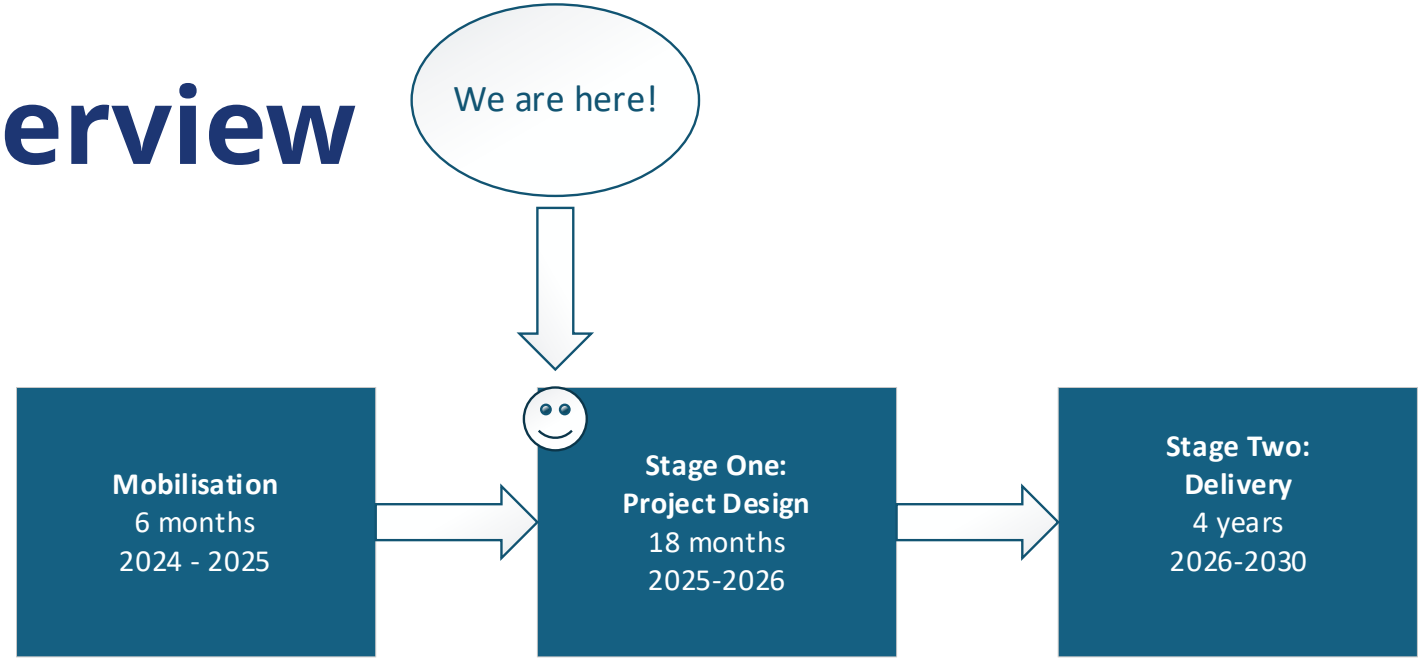
The **EMRs** require HS2 to undertake a programme of investigation and recording [mostly done] to advance understanding of the past, including a post-excavation programme of historic environment assessment [mostly done], analysis, dissemination, publication and archiving [to do].

Post-excavation Services will deliver the final stage of historic environment obligations under the EMRs.

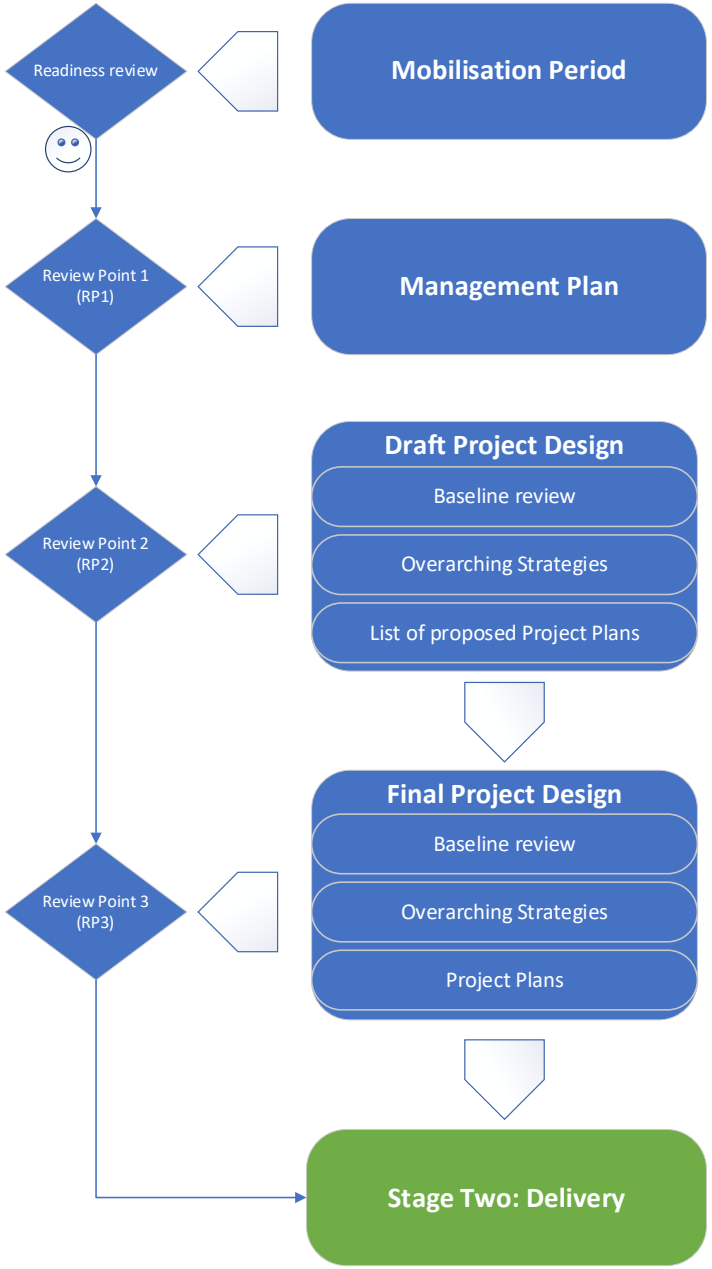
Continuation of the HERDS process to focus the post-excavation phase on delivering valuable outcomes, notably knowledge creation, engagement with people and a lasting archival and skills legacy.



Overview



Supplier	Access+ Lead organisation: Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd
Mobilisation	16th September 2024 – 15th March 2025 (6 months)
Contract Duration	6 (+2 option)
Project Design Stage	2 years – ends September 2026
Delivery Stage	September 2026 – September 2030

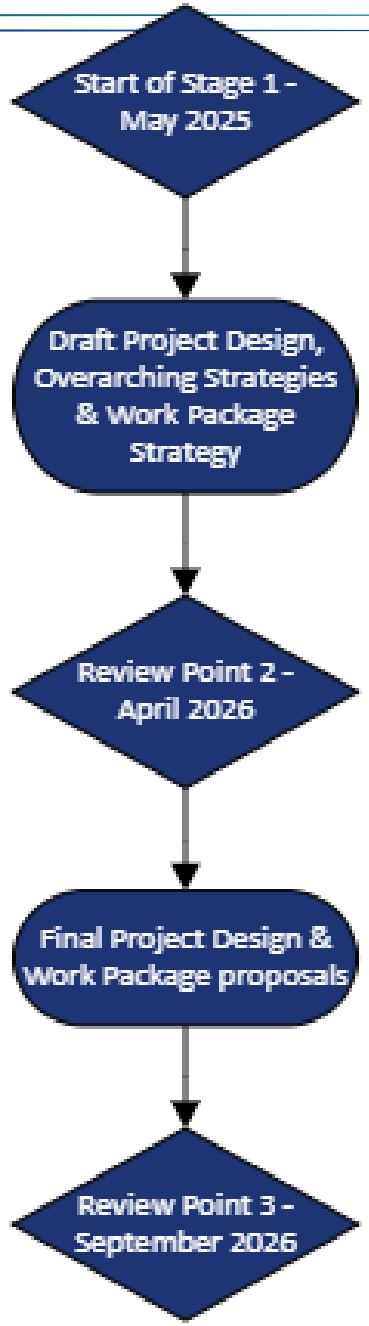


Access+

Our Goals

- The HS2 Post-Excavation Services Contract presents an unprecedented opportunity to explore the country's past. The goal of the project is to enhance knowledge by:
    - Contributing to key questions about prehistory and history
    - Testing interpretative concepts and methodological techniques
    - Challenging the way that we investigate and interpret the past
- We are responsible for delivering HS2 commitments, focusing on clear benefits for communities along the route, stakeholders and the wider public, and on reaching the widest possible audience
- We shall agree jointly with HS2 which are the highly valuable outputs that will form the foundation of the project scope

Key Dates


Start of Stage 1 - May 2025
Draft Project Design, Overarching Strategies & Work Package Strategy
Review Point 2 - April 2026
Final Project Design & Work Package proposals
Review Point 3 - September 2026

High Speed Rail (London-West Midlands) Environmental Minimum Requirements Annex 3: Heritage Memorandum

2.1.2 the nominated undertaker will deliver a programme of heritage mitigation, including but not limited to investigation, recording, **analysis, reporting and archiving**.

3.2.1 A Heritage Sub-group to the Planning Forum has been set up and this group will meet throughout the design and construction period.

The purpose of the Heritage Subgroup is to provide the framework for effective engagement and information-sharing on high-level technical heritage matters.

Post-excavation Services key stakeholders

Phase One heritage subgroup to the Planning Forum comprises:

Historic England representatives, Local Planning Authority archaeological officers and conservation officers …….along the line of route

The purpose

- To provide the framework for effective engagement and information-sharing on high-level technical heritage matters

The objectives

- To enable engagement on high-level technical heritage matters between the nominated undertaker, Historic England and local authorities

- To discuss and agree route-wide heritage principles and practices to be applied, as appropriate, at the project level

LPA archaeological officers and conservation officers

The Consultant holds discussions with local authority archaeological and/or conservation officers in the development of Project Plans (**Part B**, Section 12).

The results of those discussions are fed back to the Employer and incorporated into the Project Plans, where appropriate.

Historic England

- **The Employer** has a route-wide Third-Party Service Level Agreement (TPSLA) with Historic England to ensure the implementation of effective research, investigation and mitigation of the historic environment.

- **The Consultant** works collaboratively with HE in the development of Project Plans and throughout the delivery of Work Packages.

- **The Consultant** collaborates with HE on feeding back results of the analyses to the Regional Research Frameworks database.

Approach to consultation Stage 1

The post excavation project design scope will include: Consultation on draft project design

Overarching strategies:	The Overarching Strategies sit above Project Plans (Section 12) to ensure a coherent and consistent Project Design for both Phase One and Phase 2a that addresses the Headline and Specific Objectives set out in the HERDS. The Overarching Strategies govern the delivery of all Project Plans within the Consultant's Project Design.
Draft Project Design:	The draft Project Design includes a list of proposed Project Plans, descriptions, outputs, how they interrelate, links to the Overarching Strategies and how they contribute to the Headline and Specific Objectives in the HERDS
Final Project Design:	The Consultant prepares final Project Plans to be submitted as part of the final Project Design. The final Project Plans are submitted for the Employer's acceptance at RP3

Approach to consultation Stage 1

The post excavation project design scope will include:

Overarching strategies:

The Overarching Strategies sit above Project Plans (Section 12) to ensure a coherent and consistent Project Design for both Phase One and Phase 2a that addresses the Headline and Specific Objectives set out in the HERDS.
The Overarching Strategies govern the delivery of all Project Plans within the Consultant's Project Design.

Draft Project Design:

The draft Project Design includes a list of proposed Project Plans, descriptions, outputs, how they interrelate, links to the Overarching Strategies and how they contribute to the Headline and Specific Objectives in the HERDS

Due to the wide-ranging nature of components in the Project Design documentation… we would like to propose that members of the heritage subgroup elect to be consulted on strategies and project plans by individually signing up for consultation….

A list of strategies and project plan titles (with review dates) shall be shared and a poll taken with group members in Autumn 2025

This will allow subgroup members to manage their availability to review and comment on proposals

Time frames for consultations will be driven by the overall programme, and we shall need to adhere to agreed response periods to ensure the project is delivered on time…

Approach to consultation Stage 2

The delivery stage of the post excavation project will include:

Outputs for dissemination: A peer review panel will be established for key outputs for publication arising from project plans

Events and engagement: HERDS events, exhibitions and other outputs

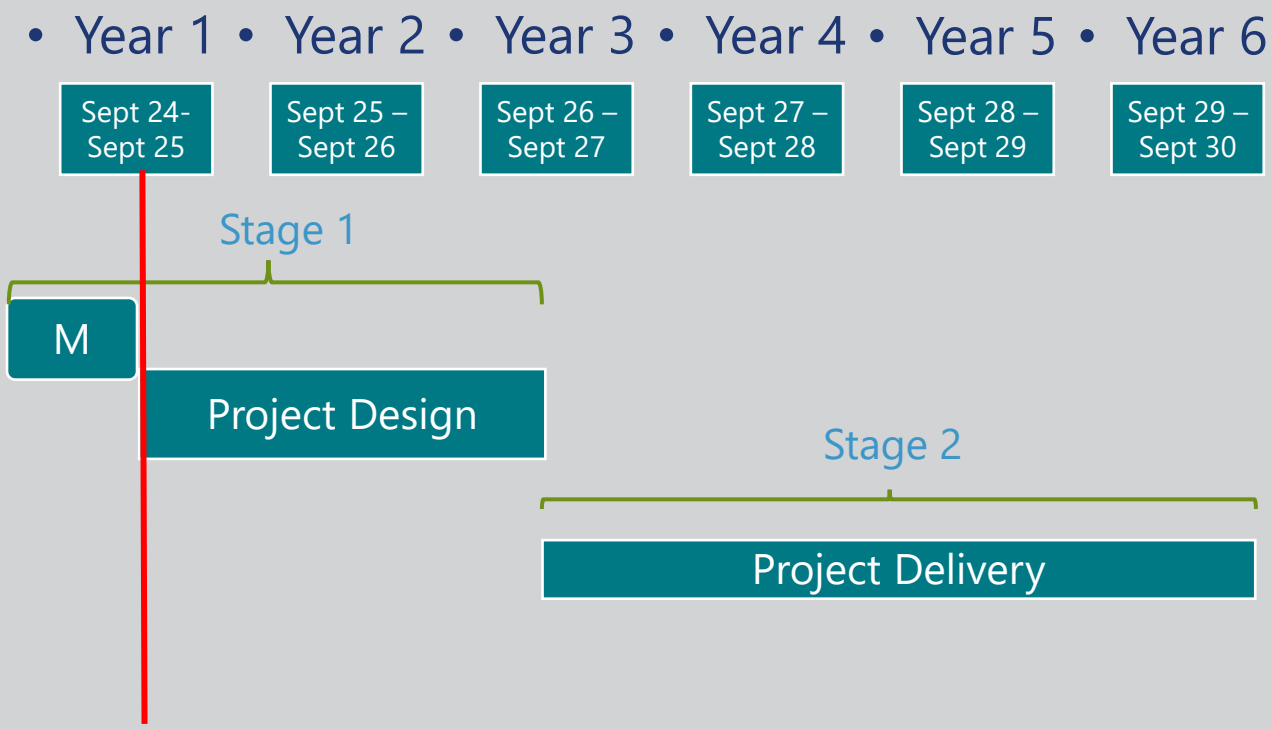
As set out for **Stage 1**, sub-group members shall be invited to elect to take part in peer review and engagement activities as suits their special interest and available resources….

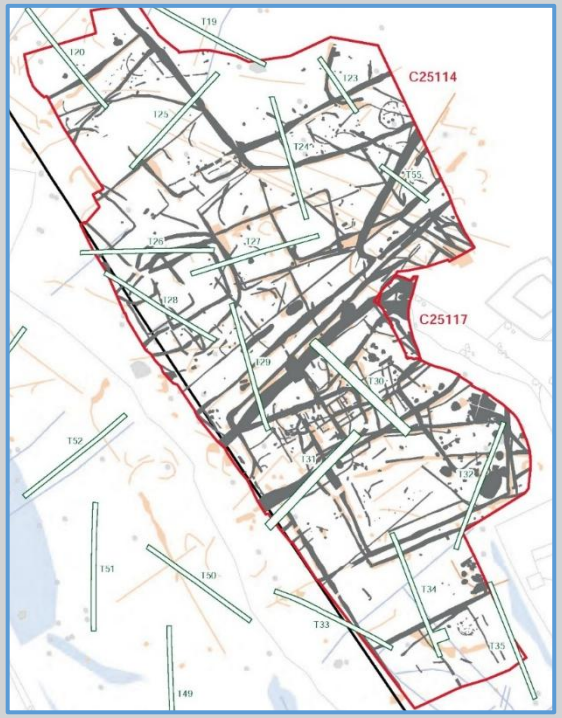
Stage Two Progress Reporting

Implement Project Plans (October 2026 – September 2030) – quarterly updates provided to Heritage subgroup

HS2 Post-excavation outline programme

- Contract Period
- Mobilisation
- Project Design
- Project Delivery





Work to date (October 24–April 25)

Archive Consolidation

Access+ Working on behalf of HS2

HGC14 Archive Plan - Mobilisation Phase

Document no: HGC14-HAU-EV-PLN-000-000004

Revision	Author	Reviewed by	Approved by	Date approved	Reason for revision
C01	Charlotte Self Laura James	Alex Smith Emma West	Jay Carver	12.02.2025	Fit for Acceptance

Security classification: OFFICIAL

Handling Instructions: None

HS2 Ltd - Code 1 - Accepted

Access+ Working on behalf of HS2

HGC14 Logistics Plan

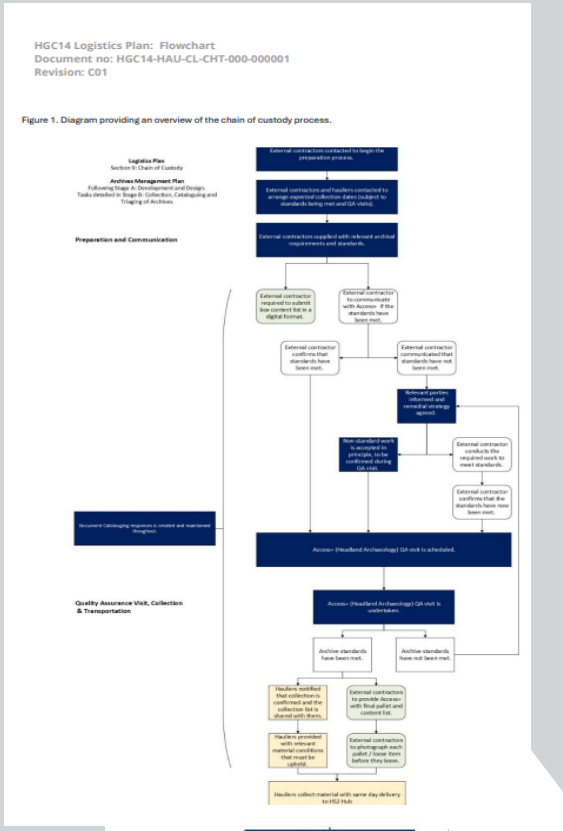
Document no: HGC14-HAU-CL-PLN-000-000001

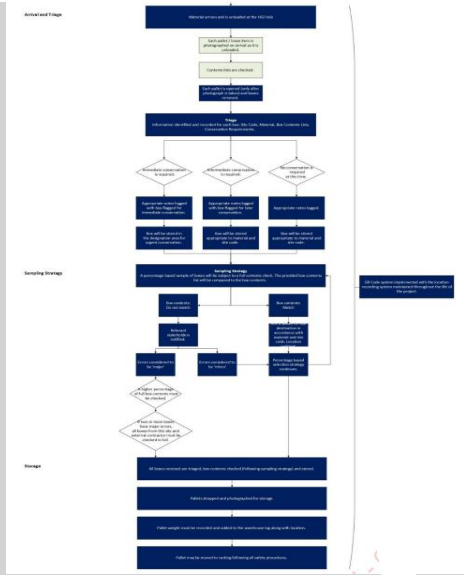
Revision	Author	Reviewed by	Approved by	Date approved	Reason for revision
C01	Charlotte Self Laura James	Alex Smith Emma West Jay Carver	Michael Court	07.02.2025	Fit for acceptance

Security classification: OFFICIAL

Handling Instructions: None

HS2 Ltd - Code 1 - Accepted





Access+

Work to date (October 24 – April 25)

Baseline Review

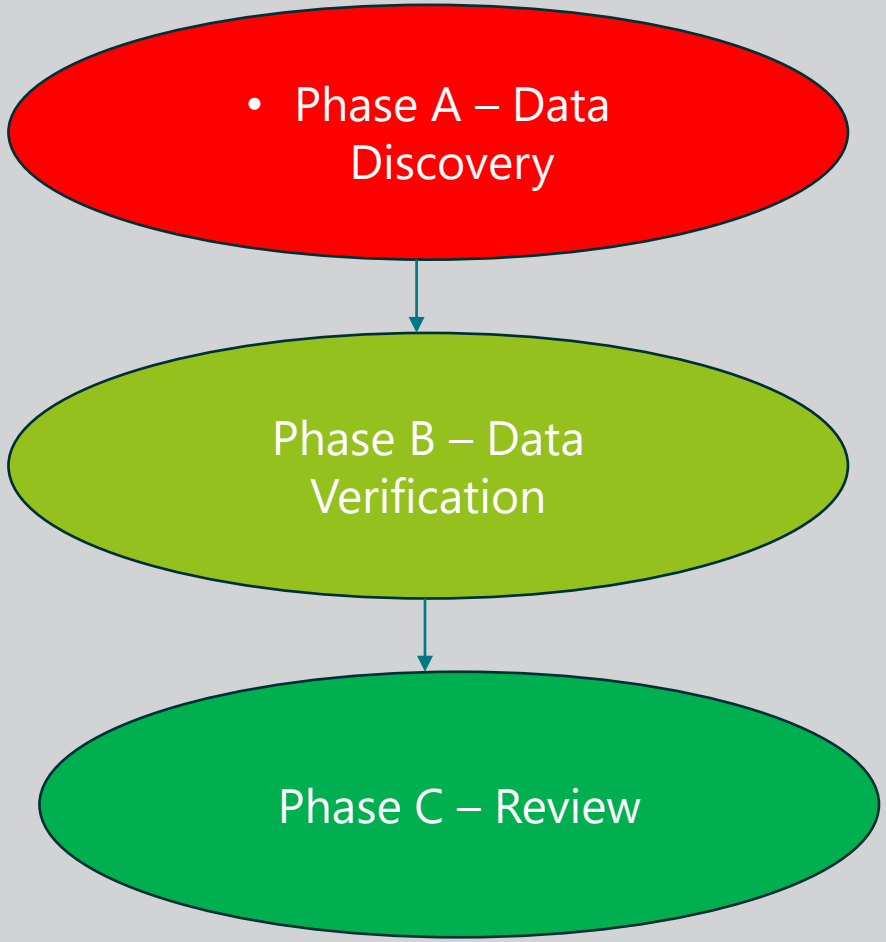
Purpose of Baseline Review

1) Establish exactly what was done and what was found across all HS2 Phase 1 works

2) Collate and review all recommendations made for future (analysis) work, including how they feed into HERDS objectives

- The main aim:
  - having the information required to formulate overarching project plans and project designs for the analysis phase

How do we do this?

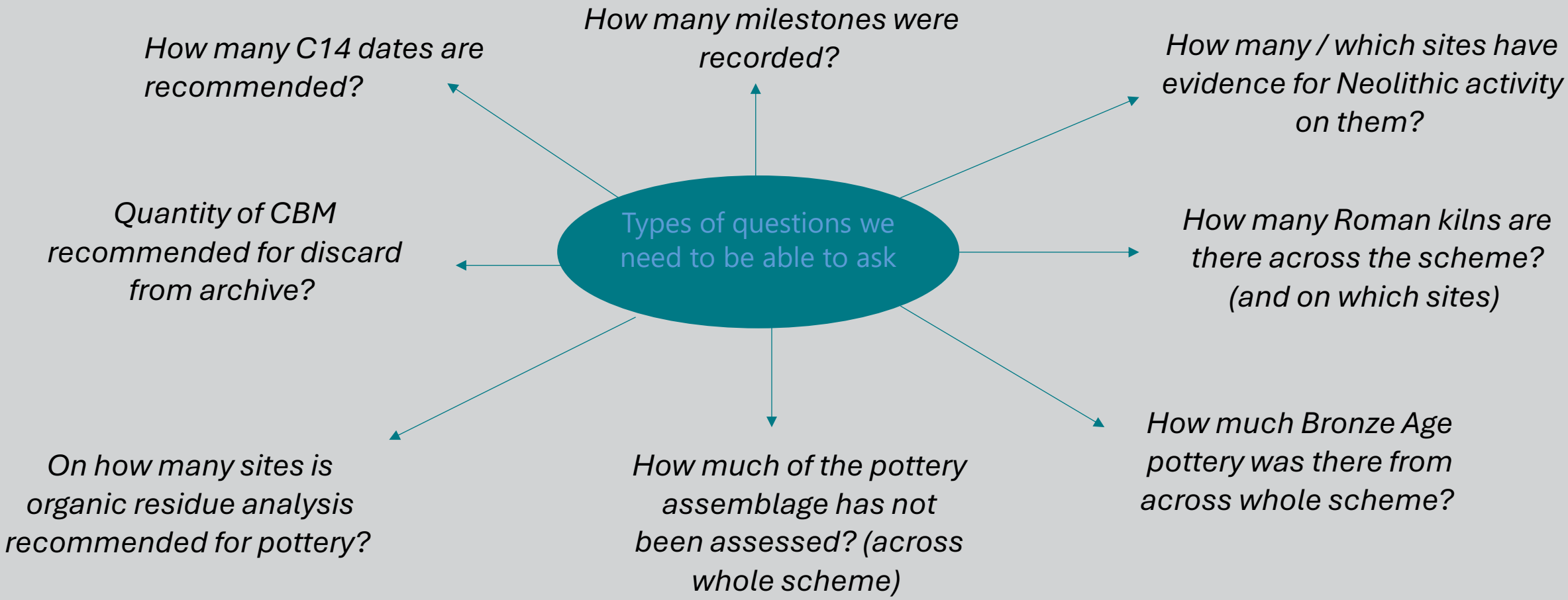


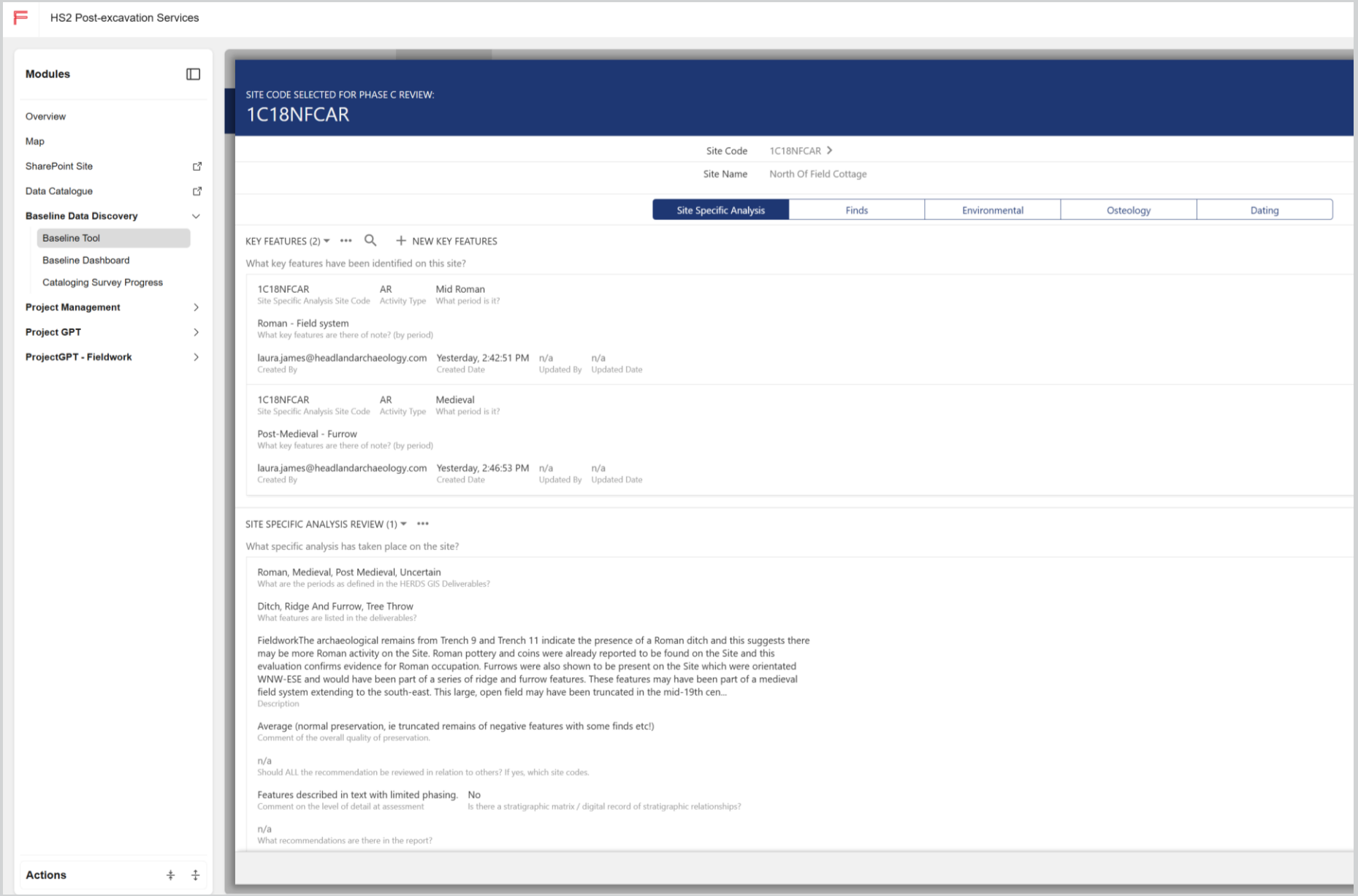
PHASE A – Data Discovery

OVERALL STATUS OF BASELINE REVIEW DISCOVERY

Activity code	Total sites	No of sites 'complete' Discovery	% of sites 'complete' Discovery
TT	141	49	34.75
AM	27	5	18.52
AR	74	43	58.11
CI	47	7	14.89
EX	5	1	20.00
BS	66	38	57.58
HL	21	11	52.38
AP	1	0	0.00
BO	6	4	66.67
DA	49	38	77.55
DP	2	0	0.00
FW	4	0	0.00
GC	1	0	0.00
GT	6	0	0.00
LD	1	0	0.00
MD	4	1	25.00
MG	77	33	42.86
PR	13	0	0.00
TO	1	1	100.00
TP	5	1	20.00
HR	2	0	0.00
TOTAL	**553**	**232**	**41.95**

PHASE B + C – Verification and Review




HS2 Post-excavation Services
Modules
Overview
Map
SharePoint Site
Data Catalogue
Baseline Data Discovery
Baseline Tool
Baseline Dashboard
Cataloging Survey Progress
Project Management
Project GPT
ProjectGPT - Fieldwork
Actions
SITE CODE SELECTED FOR PHASE C REVIEW:
1C18NFCAR
Site Code 1C18NFCAR
Site Name North Of Field Cottage
Site Specific Analysis
Finds
Environmental
Osteology
Dating
KEY FEATURES (2)
NEW KEY FEATURES
What key features have been identified on this site?
1C18NFCAR
Site Specific Analysis Site Code
AR
Activity Type
Mid Roman
What period is it?
Roman - Field system
What key features are there of note? (by period)
laura.james@headlandarchaeology.com
Created By
Yesterday, 2:42:51 PM
Created Date
n/a
Updated By
n/a
Updated Date
1C18NFCAR
Site Specific Analysis Site Code
AR
Activity Type
Medieval
What period is it?
Post-Medieval - Furrow
What key features are there of note? (by period)
laura.james@headlandarchaeology.com
Created By
Yesterday, 2:46:53 PM
Created Date
n/a
Updated By
n/a
Updated Date
SITE SPECIFIC ANALYSIS REVIEW (1)
What specific analysis has taken place on the site?
Roman, Medieval, Post Medieval, Uncertain
What are the periods as defined in the HERDS GIS Deliverables?
Ditch, Ridge And Furrow, Tree Throw
What features are listed in the deliverables?
FieldworkThe archaeological remains from Trench 9 and Trench 11 indicate the presence of a Roman ditch and this suggests there may be more Roman activity on the Site. Roman pottery and coins were already reported to be found on the Site and this evaluation confirms evidence for Roman occupation. Furrows were also shown to be present on the Site which were orientated WNW-ESE and would have been part of a series of ridge and furrow features. These features may have been part of a medieval field system extending to the south-east. This large, open field may have been truncated in the mid-19th cen...
Description
Average (normal preservation, ie truncated remains of negative features with some finds etc!)
Comment of the overall quality of preservation.
n/a
Should ALL the recommendation be reviewed in relation to others? If yes, which site codes.
Features described in text with limited phasing.
Comment on the level of detail at assessment
No
Is there a stratigraphic matrix / digital record of stratigraphic relationships?
n/a
What recommendations are there in the report?

• Outputs of baseline review?

Full understanding of what has been done and what needs to be done in analysis

Information needed for project overviews and plans

Consistent and coherent set of information that can be referred to and cross-referenced easily

Work to date (October 24 – April 25)

- HS2 Academic Panel
- Third party research/requests
- Conferences (CIFA, AEA)
- Scoping Data Management System (DMS) for Stage 2
- Outline structure of Project Design
- Building and consolidating the team

HS2 Key Milestones for remainder of Stage 1

- Research
- Data Management
- Community Engagement
- SEE & EDI
- Scientific dating & chronology
- Publication & dissemination
- Archiving, museums and landowner engagement
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Stratigraphic analysis
- Historic Buildings and places
- Osteology
- Environmental
- Finds

HS2 Key Milestones for remainder of Stage 1

- Principal Site Archives
- Key Site Publications
- Methodological assessments
- Period syntheses
- Cross-period themed plans
- Public engagement plans
- And others…

HS2

HS2 Update

Area North Update

Mercote	Trenching at Mercote to test a LiDAR feature
Mainline North	Scoping the impacts of programme changes to MLN, including at Dunton Barn
Old Curzon St Station	Engaging with the design team on emerging plans
Coleshill Relocation	Reconvening the working group
Auditing Built Heritage	Ongoing management commitments
Press Stories	OCSS was featured on ‘Great Railway Journeys’ on BBC

Area Central

Grims Ditch

Excavations complete

Re-profiling of preserved ends ongoing

Online ‘Storymap’ imminent

Hunts Green Farm- Preservation in situ underway

Area Central

Versions Farm

Series of Roman Burials (x11)-linear

Burnt Mound and palaeochannel

Hartwell House Wall

Wall recorded and taken down, future reinstatement

Looking Forward

Wellwick Farm Wells CIR

Fleet Marston Putlowes Drive and footpath re-alignments

Reporting programme ongoing

Versions Farm

Area South Update

Robert Stephenson statue	Robert Stephenson statue goes on display at the Locomotion Museum, marking 200 years of the British passenger railway
Camden	Camden Incline Winding Engine House; Park Village East; Euston Square railings
Cardington Street works (St James's Gardens)	Finalising project plans for the works following stakeholder feedback
Kensal Green Cemetery	Heritage Agreement Method Statement
West Ruislip	Trial trenching

HS2

Schedule 20 update

Schedule 20

Ongoing enquiries relating to burial grounds / remains - predominantly the x3 major post-medieval ones.

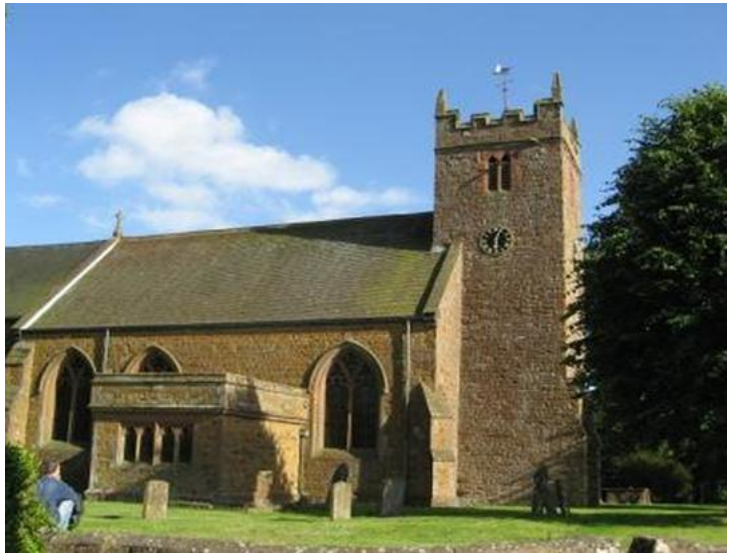
Liaison with the representative of the Archbishops' Council – ledgers and Capt Flinders

Schedule 20 requirements as relate to Post-excavation work

Reburial workstream

Ledger from St James Gardens

From a St James Gardens burial



Priors Hardwick – reburial plot reserved adjacent to the Church for Lower Radbourne medieval population

Brookwood Cemetery – existing memorial monument for reburial of St James's Gardens post-medieval population

HS2

Data Management update

HS2 Historic Environment GIS Data Transfer

- Phase 1 **Route wide** Historic Environment GIS data deposition with **ADS**- **Every 6 months** via an eB transmittal
- Phase 1 **Route wide** Historic Environment GIS data deposition with the **contractors** including (Post-ex contractor)- **Every 3 months** via an eB transmittal
- Bespoke/ad hoc/agile data transmittal to HS2's other departments/contractors/Historic England
- Phase 1 Historic Environment GIS data deposition with **HERs** within their **LA boundary plus 1km buffer** - **Every 6 months** via an eB transmittal

HS2 Historic Environment GIS Data Deposition with HERs

Areas of Interest (AoI)

- Phase 1 Historic Environment GIS data deposition with **HERs** for within their **LA boundary plus 1km buffer** - **Every 6 months** via an eB transmittal

The list of Local Authorities along the phase 1 route

1	Greater London
2	Buckinghamshire
3	Hertfordshire
4	Oxfordshire
5	Northamptonshire
6	Warwickshire and Solihull*
7	Birmingham
8	Staffordshire
9	Coventry

**Warwickshire HER oversees the HER in Solihull, therefore a single data package was created*

HS2 Historic Environment GIS Data Deposition with HERs

Data transmittal history

- Phase 1 Historic Environment GIS data deposition with **HERs** for within their **LA boundary plus 1km buffer** - **Every 6 months** via an eB transmittal

Revision	Date
P01	Sep 2020
P02	Mar 2021
P03	Oct 2021
P04	April 2022
P05	Oct 2022
P06	Dec 2023
P07	Nov 2024
P08	To be sent May 2025

HS2
Historic Environment GIS Schemas

❑ HERDS GIS schema

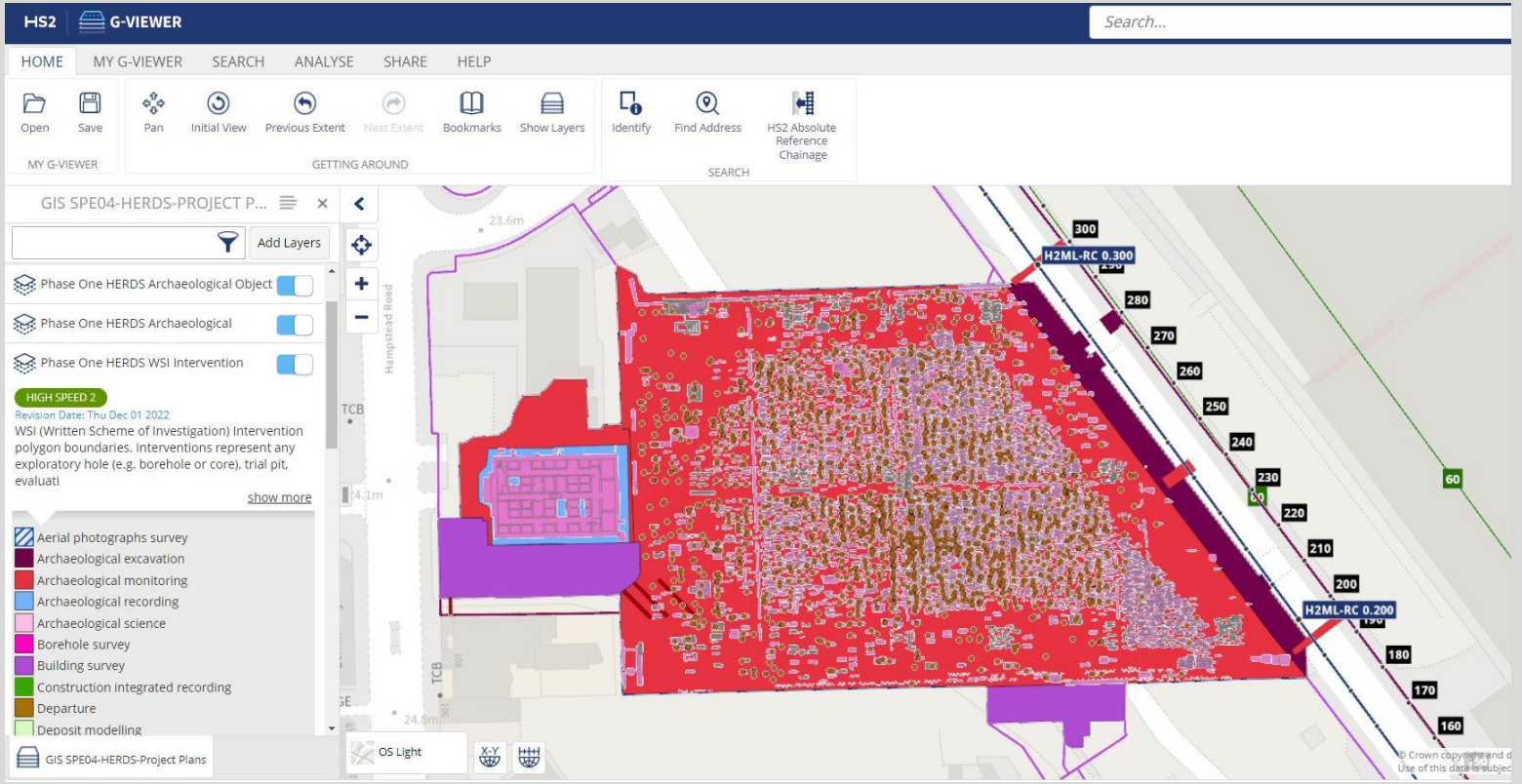
(HS2-HS2-GI-SPE-000-000004)

Vector data

- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_HERDS_ArchaeologicalObject_Pt
- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_HERDS_Feature_Ply
- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_HERDS_ProjectPlan_Ply
- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_HERDS_WSIIntervention_Ply
- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_HERDS_LSWSI_Ply

Tables

- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_HERDS_Documents_Tbl
- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_HERDS_DocumentsLink_Tbl
- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_HERDS_ObjectivesLink_Tbl
- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_HERDS_ObjectivesLookup_Tbl



HS2
Historic Environment GIS Schemas

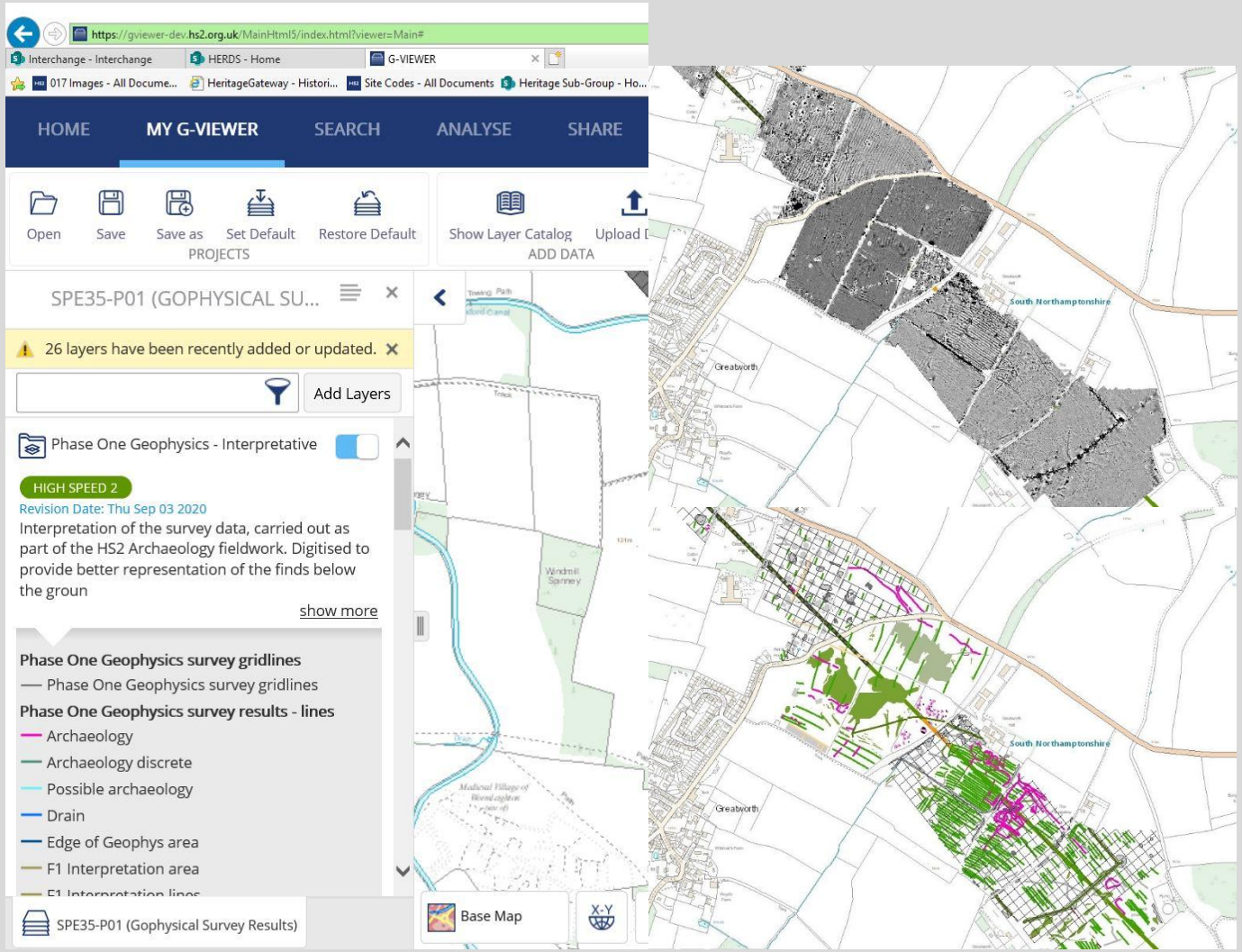
❑ Geophysical Survey Results (HS2-HS2-GI-SPE-000-000035

Raster Catalogs

- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_GeophysSurveyResults
- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_GeophysSurveyResultsMP
- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_GPRSurveyResults
- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_GPRSurveyResultsMP

Vector data

- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_GeophysSurveyResults_Ply
- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_GeophysSurveyResults_Ln
- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_GeophysSurveyResults_Pt
- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_SurveyGrid_Ln
- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_SurveyGrid_Pt
- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_SurveyArea_Ply



HS2
Historic Environment GIS Schemas

❑ Cultural Heritage Settings (HS2-HS2-GI-SPE-000-000036)

Vector data

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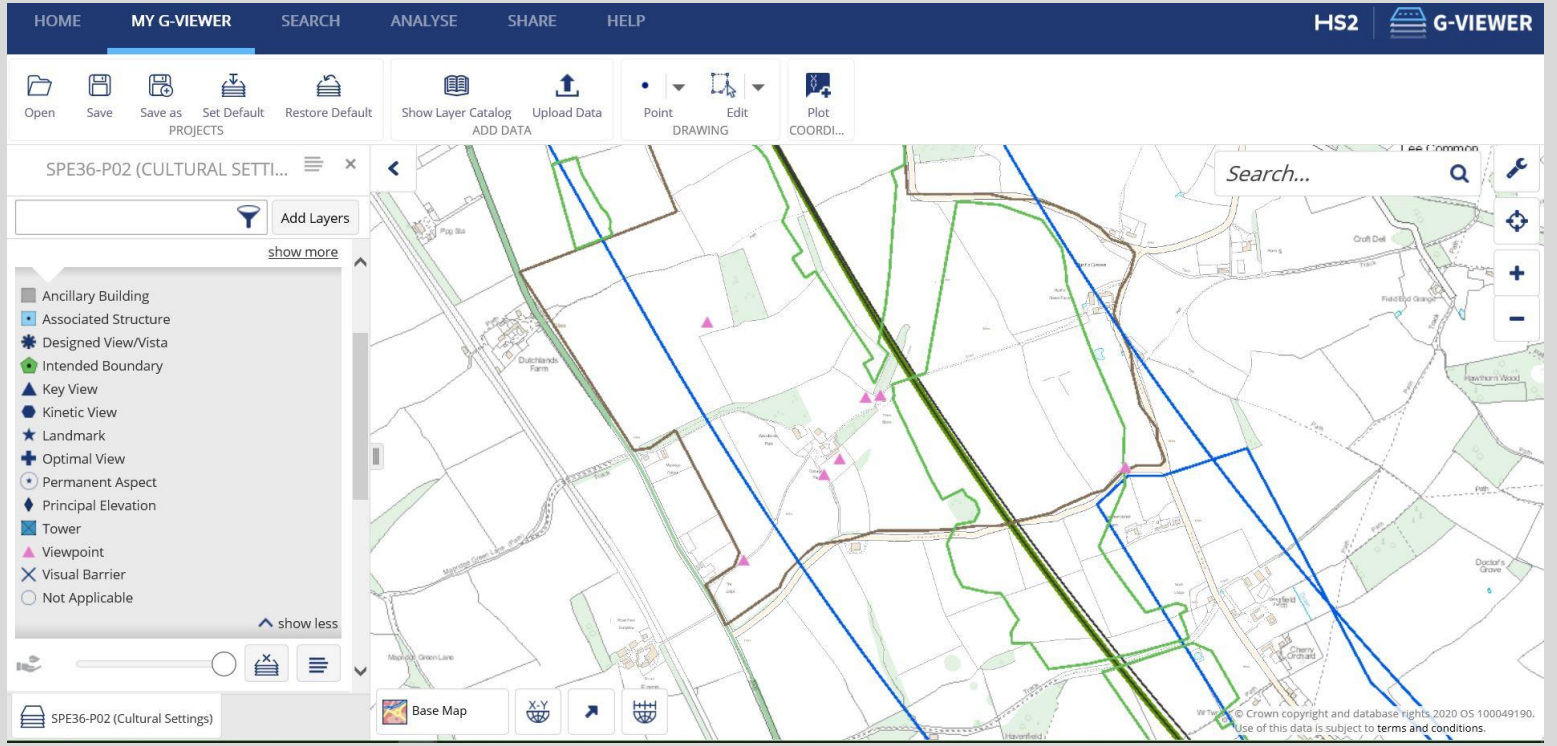
- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_Settings_Ply
- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_Settings_Pt



HS2
Historic Environment GIS Schemas

❑ Surface Collection (HS2-HS2-GI-SPE-000-000069)

Vector data

- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_SurfaceCollectionSurveyResults_Pt
- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_SurveyArea_Ply
- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_SurveyGrid_Ln

❑ Remote Sensing (HS2-HS2-GI-SPE-000-000070)

Vector data

- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_RemoteSensingSurveyResults_Ln
- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_RemoteSensingSurveyResults_Ply
- HIS_ORI_CXXXX_CH_SurveyArea_Ply

Using a metal detector at Blackgrounds.
Photograph: Dan Burn-Forti/The Observer

https://www.earthdatascience.org/courses/earth-analytics/multispectral-remote-sensing-data/introduction-multispectral-imagery-r/

HS2 Historic Environment GIS Data with HERs

Data Format

- **Format of the GIS data sent to ADS and HERs:** Each data package includes three folders:

✓ First, GIS data in ESRI ArcGIS GDB format (including vector data and tables in gdb format and raster data in Raster Catalog format);

✓ Second, GIS data in open format (including Vector data in Shapefile format, tables in csv format, and raster data as TIFF format), just in case any HER might not be equipped with ESRI GIS products, and they might use other platforms of spatial data analysis such as QGIS or MapInfo, etc. ;

✓ Third, Guidance Documents, including data licence (a Read Me text file), some documents and instruction about how different GIS layers are related together, and a bit of their domains and fields tables in html format;

HS2

Reset and Bridge Year

Reset and Bridge Year

The Challenge

- The cost of building HS2 has gone up significantly while construction has fallen behind.
- Work has dropped out of sequence along the 140-mile route.
- Intervention is necessary because the schedule can't be achieved under the existing railway scope and delivery strategy.

Causes

- The situation has been caused by a combination of factors, for example, commencement of main works construction too early in 2020 when the scheme's designs were still at an immature stage and cost estimates were too optimistic.
- External factors including inflation and government-directed scope changes, like the cancellation of Phase Two, have added to the drip-feed of cost rises and schedule disruption.

Reset and Bridge Year

A thorough review of the HS2 programme, our commercial relationship with suppliers and our company HS2 Ltd:

- Produce a new baseline for cost and schedule and put the programme into the correct in sequence for construction, rail systems and testing;
- Agree a new deal with our contractors to break the cycle of cost increases and delays;
- Make sure HS2 Ltd has the structure, skills and resources to manage the programme.

The reset will take place throughout 2025/26 - the Bridge Year - and deliver a new baseline in spring 2026.

Not all planned works can be delivered in FY 2025/26: some areas are being deferred prioritising design works

HS2

AOB