HS2

August 2026

Air Quality and Dust Monitoring Monthly Report – August 2026

Cherwell District Council

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Department for Transport

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A report prepared by EWCs and MWCCs on behalf of HS2 Ltd.

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Monthly Summary

1.1.1 This Summary Report is published in fulfilment of commitments detailed in the High Speed Rail (London-West Midlands) Environmental Minimum Requirements, Annex 1: Code of Construction Practice, for the nominated undertaker to present the results of dust monitoring undertaken in the Cherwell District Council (CDC) during August 2026.

1.1.2 Figure 1 in Appendix A presents the current worksites together with the dust monitoring locations for August 2026.

1.1.3 This summary should be read in conjunction with the overview monitoring report available from www.gov.uk/government/collections/monitoring-the-environmental-effects-of-hs2, which highlights: the applicable standards and guidance, as well as the air quality and dust monitoring methodologies to be implemented by nominated undertakers throughout construction.

1.1.4 The current worksites, as presented in Appendix A, Figure 1, include:

A4421 Overbridge

- Removal of A421 and Warren Farm plug
- Warren Farm access track works
- Utilities tie-ins

A421 Overbridge worksite

- Excavate and replace in the cutting
- Newton Purcell downstream channel works

1.1.5 Two (2) dust monitors are installed around these worksites, where works are underway. These sites returned a medium dust risk rating.

1.1.6 Dust monitoring locations and results are presented in Appendix B, Table 1, together with line charts of monthly data from each dust monitor presented in Figure 2. All continuous dust monitoring is undertaken using indicative monitors. Despite being Environment Agency (MCERTS) certified, indicative monitors carry a higher level of uncertainty than reference monitors, and therefore cannot be strictly compared with Air Quality Standards for human health and the environment. The purpose of the monitoring undertaken is to ensure the effectiveness of the on-site mitigation.

1.1.7 The trigger level for PM_{10} concentrations of 190 µg/m^3, over a 1-hour period, in accordance with the updated guidance document '*Guidance on Monitoring in the Vicinity of Demolition and Construction Sites – (October 2018)*' has been applied.

1.1.8 No (0) dust trigger alerts were recorded during the monitoring period (August 2026).

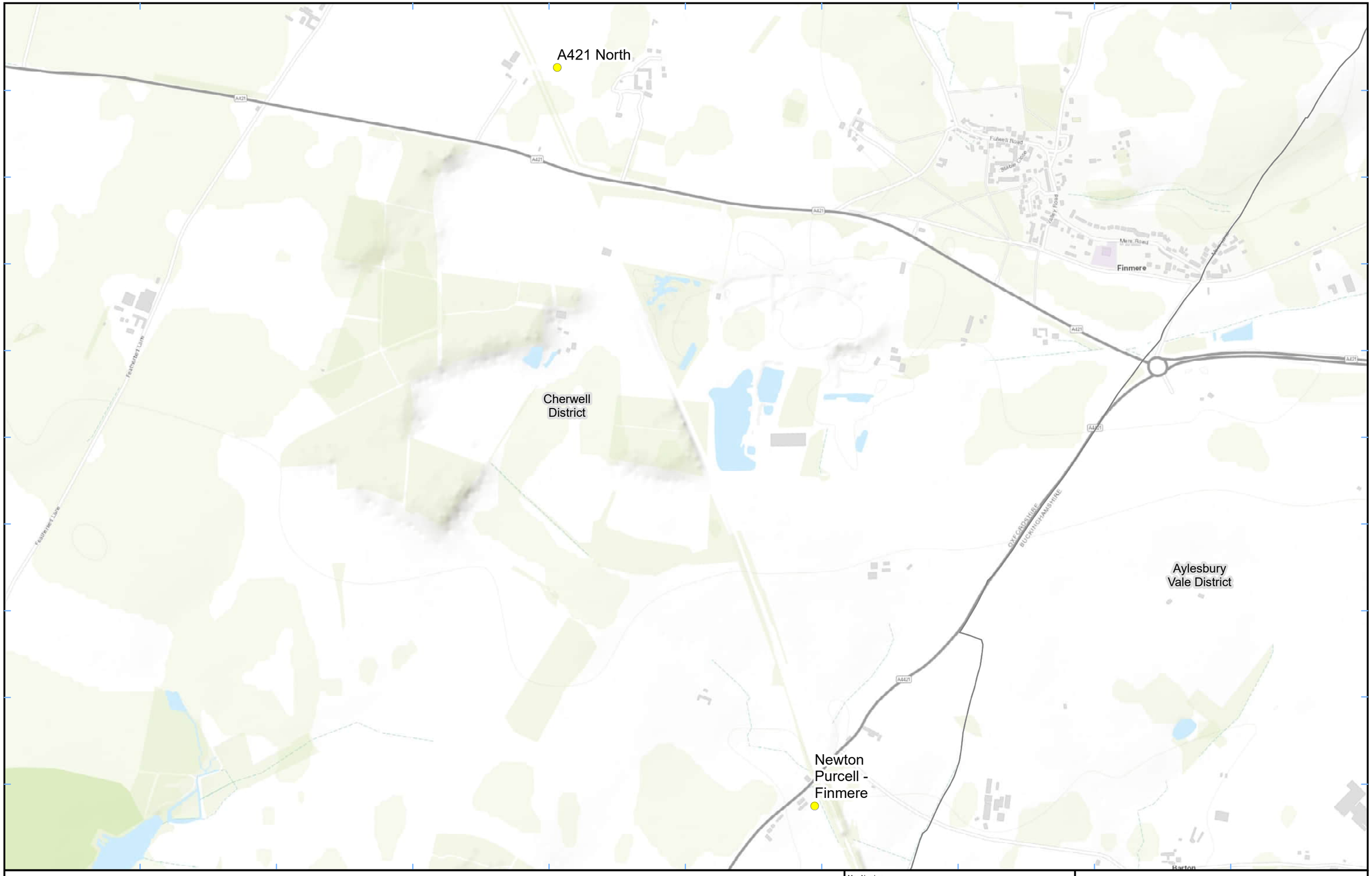
1.1.9 Table 1 provides a summary of the complaint information relating to dust or air quality received during the reporting period, together with the findings of any related investigations.

Table 1: Summary of complaints received during August 2026

Complaint Reference No.	Worksite Reference	Description of complaint	Results of investigation
HS2-26-47742-C	N/A	Lots of dust in the area.	Resident has been assured that during the current dry spell that dust suppression is a priority, and our Environmental and Delivery Teams are working together to ensure mitigation measures are in place and monitoring systems are fully operational. No Exceedances have been recorded.

Appendix A – Worksites and Monitoring Locations

Figure 1: Worksite and Monitoring locations within CDC



Legend

- Dust Monitor
- District Borough Unitary Boundaries

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Map Number

Map Name

Monitoring Locations
In T2G, Cherwell DC (Sheet 1)

Cherwell District Council

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Scale at A3: 1:10,000

0 100 200 300 400
Metres

Doc Number:

Date: 06/07/23

Appendix B – Dust Monitoring Results

Table 1: Dust Monitoring Locations and Results

Monitoring site ID	Coordinates (X,Y)	Location description	Dust risk rating for site	Monitoring site active during period	Change to site since previous period report	Mean 1-hour PM_{10} concentration ($\mu g/m^3$)	Minimum 1-hour PM_{10} concentration ($\mu g/m^3$)	Maximum 1-hour PM_{10} concentration ($\mu g/m^3$)	Number of 1-hour periods exceeding trigger level of 190 $\mu g/m^3$	1-hour data capture (%)
Newton Purcell - Finmere	462904, 231144	Site boundary adjacent property on A4421	M	Yes	Y	7.4	1.0	45.0	0	99.7
A421 North	462156, 233290	A421	M	Yes	Y	6.4	1.0	52.0	0	100.0

Figure 2: Continuous dust 1-hour mean indicative PM_{10} concentration for all monitors

