



Rail Minister Lord Peter Hendy signals the start of tunnelling towards Euston

## HS2 BEGINS TUNNELLING TO EUSTON

In January, HS2 began its journey into the heart of London as the first of two tunnel boring machines began work on the Euston Tunnel.

In a key moment for the high-speed rail project, the Rail Minister, Lord Peter Hendy, and Chief Secretary to the Prime Minister, Darren Jones, turned on the 1,624-tonne machine at HS2's Old Oak Common station in west London – beginning its 4.5-mile journey under the capital to Euston.

Following the tradition of naming tunnel boring machines after women, the first machine launched to build the Euston

Tunnel is named Madeleine after the former president of the Women's Engineering Society, Madeleine Nobbs.

The tunnel represents the next stage of the HS2 project which will eventually see high-speed trains run directly to a new station in Euston. Building the tunnel represents an important step in the wider regeneration of the Euston area, acting as a catalyst for investment, new homes and employment opportunities.

**Rail Minister, Lord Hendy of Richmond Hill**, said:

"It was brilliant to switch on the tunnel boring machine at Old Oak Common – not just because it's an engineering marvel – but because

it brings HS2's journey to Euston another step closer to reality.

"We're putting HS2 back on track, and taking the railway into central London is crucial to unlocking its full potential to deliver more jobs, more homes, and a long-term boost to the whole British economy."

A new Euston Delivery Company will lead the development of the HS2 station at Euston. Once established, the company will work to create an affordable and integrated transport hub – including the new HS2 station, the redevelopment of the existing station, and upgrades to the London Underground station – along with support for regeneration and commercial development across the Euston area.

For more information please visit [www.discovereuston.org.uk](http://www.discovereuston.org.uk). If you have a question about HS2 or their works, please contact the HS2 Helpdesk team on 08081 434 434 or email [HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk).

# BEHIND THE HOARDINGS



## WORK UPDATES: STATION WORK SITES

Mace Dragados Joint Venture (MDJV) is continuing with critical preparatory work to enable the delivery of the future Euston station. This work includes utility diversions and site preparation. For more updates, search 'HS2 in Camden' online.

### 1. Utility works – Eversholt Street and Euston Road

In spring 2026, MDJV will be carrying out utility diversion works on Eversholt Street and Euston Road, as well as continuing surveys in the area.

Works will take place in phases and if you are affected, MDJV will write to you before the start date to confirm the timings and traffic arrangements for each phase.

### 2. Maria Fidelis Old School works

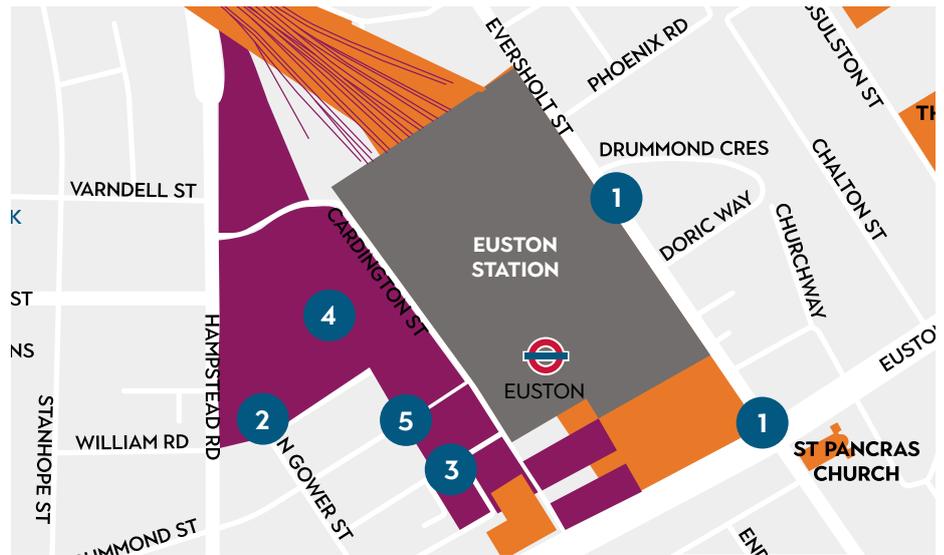
The refurbishment of the Maria Fidelis Old School building on North Gower Street is continuing. MDJV has successfully completed the ground floor, which has become the Euston Community Hub.

In March, MDJV will start landscaping works which will mostly take place within existing sites. To prepare for this, MDJV will be demolishing the small wall which is located on Starcross Street. These works are expected to take up to four weeks to complete.

### 3. Traction Substation

MDJV is continuing activities to bring the new Traction Substation (TSS) into use, including preparing documents to allow London Underground to take it over.

Once this process is finished, MDJV will safely decommission the old TSS and prepare for it to be demolished. The permanent façade and tiles for the new TSS are scheduled to be installed in 2027.



### 4. Main site works

Work on the main site is progressing well. MDJV has completed the retaining wall and removed the sheet pile. The site is being cleared to prepare for the transport of some materials off the site by rail, reducing the number of lorries on local roads. MDJV is also continuing exhumations, ensuring that remains are recorded before being removed with dignity, care and respect.

### Construction haul road

From April, MDJV will begin building a new construction haul road within the site to support the safe movement of heavy equipment and materials.

Because of space constraints, this will be completed in phases:

**Phase 1:** Hampstead Road to Starcross Street

**Phase 2:** Starcross Street to Melton Street

All works will take place behind MDJV hoardings.

### 5. Utilities

Essential utility works are continuing behind the hoarding on Cobourg Street. The next phase of works will include:

- Installing a gas connection
- Excavating, backfilling and resurfacing UKPN power ducting
- Continuing to realign hoardings and pedestrian walkways as works progress

### Site deliveries

Occasional overnight deliveries will take place between 7pm and 7am. This is necessary for vehicles that cannot operate on London roads during daytime hours.

### Engagement

MDJV is continuing to host monthly online one-to-one drop-in sessions where you can find out more about HS2 works taking place in Euston.

You can find and join a session online at: [www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1980470674099](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1980470674099)

## WORK UPDATES: EUSTON APPROACHES

The Skanska Costain STRABAG Joint Venture (SCSJV) will continue its programme of utility diversion works on Hampstead Road and Lidlington Place in preparation for the Hampstead Road bridge extension works. SCSJV will also carry out further utility works in and around Parkway and preparatory works in the Camden Cutting area, Euston Throat area and on Hampstead Road.

### 1. Parkway

SCSJV needs to protect and divert utility services beneath Parkway junction and in the surrounding area before the tunnel boring machines pass under Parkway. Between February and August 2026, utility works will be carried out on the sewers, water mains and power cables on Parkway, Albert Street and Delancey Street. In autumn 2026, SCSJV will return to Parkway to complete protective works to the Cadent Gas main.

### 2. Euston Cavern and Camden Cutting

Ahead of major excavations beginning in 2027 in the Camden Cutting area of SCSJV's site, works are ongoing to reinforce and protect the Network Rail retaining wall. These works will continue until winter 2026. SCSJV will also restart works at track level to build the foundations and other support structures for the Euston Scissor Box. SCSJV will notify you of any impactful works nearer the time.

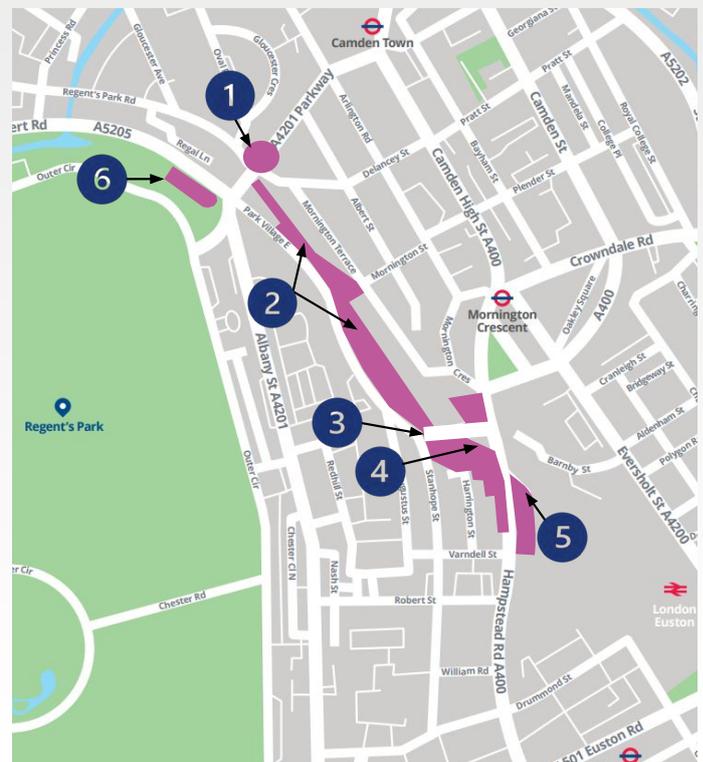
### 3. Granby Terrace Bridge

SCSJV is continuing works to redirect utilities from Hampstead Road and onto Granby Terrace Bridge. For safety reasons, some of this work must be done during weekend nights when the tracks below are not in use.

SCSJV cannot safely open the bridge to vehicles or pedestrians while carrying out major construction works in this area, therefore the bridge will remain closed to the public until construction works in the Euston Approaches are complete.

### 4. Euston Throat

SCSJV is continuing works to remove the Network Rail wall in the Euston Throat area. SCSJV will work overnight as required to reduce the height of the scaffold. Due to the close proximity to the rail tracks, these works can only be done when the tracks are not in use. In April 2026, SCSJV will begin sheet piling, including 24-hour working over the April Easter bank holiday weekend. SCSJV will minimise noise impacts wherever possible and continually monitor noise levels to ensure works are within the approved limits.



### 5. Preparatory works in Zone 5 on Hampstead Road

SCSJV needs to extend Hampstead Road bridge to pass over the newly excavated and extended railway cutting. SCSJV will build a temporary road to the east of Hampstead Road, over the area known as Zone 5, to maintain uninterrupted traffic flows on Hampstead Road while works are completed. Piles will be installed throughout Zone 5 to support the temporary road and will remain in place for approximately two years.

From 1 April, SCSJV will set up the site and install a site office and welfare building with connections to mains power. The area will be prepared for piling by removing a section of the polymer plant within the existing site, compacting the area and moving out hoarding on Hampstead Road. To facilitate this hoarding move, bus stop W on Hampstead Road will be moved approximately 80 metres north, closer to Amphill Estate.



## WORK UPDATES CONTINUED:

During the construction of the temporary road and the extension of the bridge, SCSJV will need to fully close Hampstead Road on three occasions, with each closure lasting approximately four weeks. The first closure is currently planned for January 2027. SCSJV will engage with businesses, local residents and the wider community well in advance of these closures.

## 6. Vehicle Holding Area (VHA)

The vehicle holding area will be in operation until major construction works are complete. This avoids lorries queueing in streets near worksites.

## EUSTON APPROACHES EVENT INFORMATION

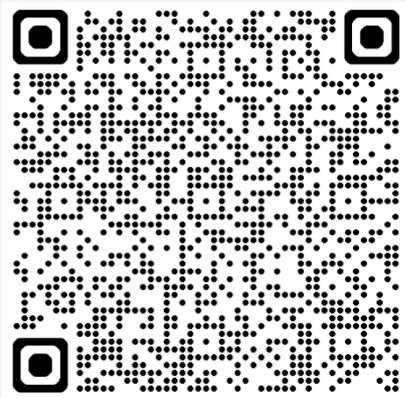
SCSJV is hosting Construction Update online events on **24 and 26 March 2026** for local residents to learn more about upcoming works in the Euston Approaches. To book a place, please register using the QR code below.

SCSJV is also hosting a rooftop guided tour at the Euston Approaches worksite on **Wednesday 1 April 2026**, between 5.30pm and 6.30pm. This event will provide you with the opportunity to:

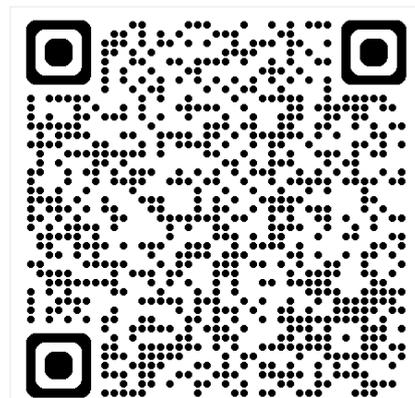
- Join the team for a bird's eye view of HS2 works in the Euston Approaches
- See what SCSJV is building
- Ask questions about the works

To apply for a place, please register using the QR code below. Please note, spaces are limited, and priority will be given to local residents.

To register for 24 or 26 March 2026 events:



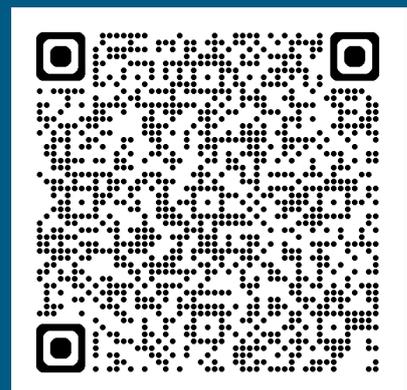
To register for 1 April 2026 event:



## Euston Approaches text messaging service

SCSJV is launching a new SMS messaging service to share information on planned works, changes or delays to works, and extended working outside of core working hours. Each text message will contain a short summary of the key information and a link to the full update on the HS2 website.

Should you wish to receive SMS updates please complete a short online form which can be found using the QR code (right), by providing your name, contact number and street name. You will be able to unsubscribe at any time by following the link provided in each SMS.



## LONDON EUSTON STATION IS UNDERGOING A REFRESH THIS SPRING

Network Rail is delivering a series of upgrades designed to improve facilities, accessibility, and the overall passenger experience.

Having already installed clearer signage helping customers navigate the station more easily, the next improvements include:

- Upgrading the Assisted Travel Lounge to create a more comfortable, accessible space with better information for those needing extra support
- Beginning work on a new customer service hub on the concourse, bringing station customer service teams together in one central, highly visible location
- Adding additional seating on the mezzanine level, and refurbishing the quiet lounge, providing a calmer space away from the busy concourse



## RAIL IMPROVEMENT WORK IS TAKING PLACE THIS EASTER

Network Rail will be carrying out six days of upgrades to modernise, increase the reliability and support the future growth of the West Coast Main Line.

If you're travelling between Euston and Milton Keynes over Easter, expect some changes. From 3–8 April, engineers will be out in force on the West Coast Main Line to deliver a large programme of improvements.

The team will be renewing track at Willesden, waterproofing a bridge near Ledburn, upgrading signalling, improving overhead lines around Wembley, boosting power supply work at Bushey and sprucing up Harrow & Wealdstone station. It's all part of a major investment to keep journeys running smoothly for years to come.

Because of the scale of the work, no main line trains will run between Euston and Milton Keynes for six days, and rail replacement buses will help keep everyone moving. Trains north of the closure will still run but may be busier than usual.

**Gary Walsh Network Rail's West Coast South route director**, said:

"There is a large amount of work taking place over the Easter bank holiday and until 8 April to improve the reliability of the West Coast Main Line for the millions of passengers and freight operators who rely on this route."

Network Rail and train operators are advising passengers to check their journey on National Rail Enquiries and allow extra time.

**NetworkRail**

**Travelling to or from London Euston, or between Preston and Carlisle this April?**

Planned service changes: 3 to 20 April

We're making improvements to the railway. There will be no trains between Euston and Milton Keynes from 3 to 8 April, and we're improving the line between Preston and Carlisle from 3 to 20 April.

Plan ahead and **Check before you travel**  
[nationalrail.co.uk/spring](https://nationalrail.co.uk/spring)

**National Rail**

## COMMUNITY IFTAR BRINGS NEIGHBOURS TOGETHER AT EUSTON COMMUNITY HUB

More than 140 Euston residents came together on Thursday 5 March for an evening of shared food and friendship at the Euston Community Hub.

Iftar is the evening meal that breaks the daily fast during Ramadan, often beginning with dates and water before the main meal.

The community iftar was planned and delivered by Regent's Park Young Guardians, as part of Fitzrovia Youth in Action's Community Champions Programme, working in partnership with Camden Council's Detached Youth Service and Old Diorama Arts Centre. The event also received funding from the GLA's Loved and Wanted Community Fund, a programme designed to support community integration, social cohesion and participation across London. London Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard, joined the celebrations at the Hub.

The aim of the community iftar was simple: to celebrate the diversity of Euston, offer a warm welcome to neighbours of all beliefs and none, and give people the chance to share a meal while learning more about Ramadan.

By placing young residents at the centre of planning and hosting, the evening brought people together, sparked conversations and strengthened the sense of community in Euston.

Commenting on the community event, **Ellie Rudd, Regent's Park Community Champions Manager** said:

"Our Young Guardians wanted to create an event that celebrates everyone who is part of our community and provide a chance for people to come together and focus on the things that connect us rather than divide us.

"They worked with partners, selected the catering, the decorations, designed the poster and information about shared prophets across several faiths – young people led every aspect of the event. People ate, talked and learned a little more about Ramadan and about each other. It was a great community feeling."



Photo credit: Alice Horsley

Breaking the fast at the Euston Community Hub

## INTRODUCING THE EUSTON HOUSING PACT

A first of its kind for the area, the Euston Housing Pact captures what residents want to see from future housing development in Euston and sets a benchmark for how communities can help shape housing development in their neighbourhood.

Camden Council, the Euston Housing Delivery Group and the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government have been working together to explore how thousands of new homes, including affordable and social housing, could be delivered around Euston in the coming years. At the core of this is an ambition to ensure that housing development reflects the needs and priorities of the community.

The Pact is a product of months of community research, led by Old Diorama Arts Centre in collaboration with Fitzrovia Youth in Action, Hopscotch Women's Centre and Somers Town Community Association, alongside wider community organisations. This was followed by three meetings of the Euston Housing Community Forum, where a representative group of local residents worked with an independent facilitator to discuss and develop the Pact.

The Pact sets out a series of commitments on how the Council and wider partners should work in partnership with local communities to deliver housing, reflecting the lived experience and insights of the people who know Euston best.

You can read the Euston Housing Pact here: [www.camden.gov.uk/euston-area-regeneration](http://www.camden.gov.uk/euston-area-regeneration)

## FULL STEAM AHEAD AT THE HUB

The Euston Community Hub has teamed up with local arts charity, Old Diorama Arts Centre (ODAC), to launch an afterschool club learning programme, offering academic support with a creative twist for Euston's 7-16-year-olds.

Building on the success of their Remix Dance pilot homework club, ODAC has launched a new out of hours learning project in response to the growing need for accessible homework and study support for young people in Euston. Full Steam Ahead offers academic support with a creative twist, inspired by the STEAM educational approach. By putting the "A" of arts in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths, the programme helps children and young people approach homework, communication and self-expression in imaginative, engaging ways.

Sessions blend structured homework with arts-based activities, movement, public speaking and creative problem-solving, making learning more motivating, confidence-building and fun.

Commenting on the launch of Full Steam Ahead, **Programme Coordinator, Mariam Hassan** said:

"We support children and young people aged 7-16 to build stronger study habits. Some use the time to complete homework, others revise for exams. Some prefer to study independently, while others get support from our tutors and staff team.

"Many make use of the laptops available and really value having a large, calm space to focus, as well as the chance to let off some steam in the sports hall, whether that's dance, circuit training or badminton.

"It has been a pretty special, busy and amazing first month, delivering a programme that so many have been asking for for such a long time."



Photo credit: Alice Horsley

Afterschool club at the Euston Community Hub

## LENLEASE MOVES UK HEADQUARTERS TO EUSTON

Lendlease, the UK government's master development partner for Euston, has relocated its UK headquarters to 1 Eversholt Street, bringing its team into the heart of Euston.

The move places Lendlease at the centre of the 60-acre regeneration area, alongside other project partners based nearby.

By basing its team in Euston, Lendlease is working day-to-day with local residents, businesses and community organisations. Being on site allows the team to shape the masterplan from within Euston itself, working with partners to keep local communities at the heart of the area's growth and ensure benefits are felt across the area.



## HS2 RESIDENTS' AND CONSTRUCTION COMMISSIONER

The independent Residents' and Construction Commissioner oversees and monitors HS2 Ltd's community engagement strategy, making sure the organisation fulfils its commitments to you.

The Commissioner monitors the way HS2 Ltd manages and responds to complaints about construction, and advises members of the public how to make complaints. The Commissioner also helps settle disputes involving individuals and organisations that they can't resolve.

To contact the Residents' and Construction Commissioner, email [HS2Commissioner@dft.gov.uk](mailto:HS2Commissioner@dft.gov.uk)

## HS2 RESET

HS2 is undergoing a comprehensive reset to ensure it is delivered safely and at the lowest reasonable cost.

HS2 Ltd will provide you with updates on the reset and what this means for plans to build in your area. All information in this newsletter was accurate and up to date at the time of printing and distribution.



Please contact us if you'd like a free copy of this document in large print, Braille, audio or easy read. You can also contact us for information in a different language.

This document is available as an accessible pdf online at [www.discovereuston.org.uk](http://www.discovereuston.org.uk)

For more information, visit [www.discovereuston.org.uk](http://www.discovereuston.org.uk)

**The Euston Partnership:** 9th Floor, 1 Eversholt Street, London NW1 2DN

**Euston Community Hub:** Old Maria Fidelis School, North Gower Street, London NW1 2LY

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