
Spring flow chamber update- Frequently Asked Questions

High Speed Two (HS2) is the new high speed railway for Britain. We have produced this document to answer the most commonly asked questions we have had from members of the community about our proposed works in Wendover.

From this April, we will be constructing a spring flow chamber in the farmland northwest of Wendover. It forms a vital part of the groundwater management strategy for the Wendover green tunnel and Wendover north cutting, and is required under consent from the Environment Agency to help maintain groundwater levels and flows in nearby watercourses.

What is a spring flow chamber?

A spring flow chamber is an underground chamber approximately 4m x 3m. This picks up the water from naturally occurring springs and releases it in a controlled manner into the watercourses to balance flows and is similar in size to a large manhole. The chamber will be accompanied by a smaller flow monitoring chamber which will be approximately 1m x 1m.

When are you planning to start the work?

We will be commencing construction of the chamber in April 2026, subject to weather conditions and hibernation season ending. The works are expected to take between 10 – 12 weeks. The initial planning application for the spring flow chamber was submitted in 2025 and reviewed by Buckinghamshire Council's Strategic Sites Planning Committee. The application was refused on the grounds of visual impact within an area of outstanding natural beauty. A revised planning application using an access route to the farmland via Nash Lee End gained approval in December 2025.

What about Environment Agency consent?

The original consent required the Spring Chamber to be operational by July 2025. We have worked with the Environment Agency to secure an extension to August 2026, which allowed us time to develop and gain approval for the revised access plan.

How will this affect us as a community?

The revised access route means construction traffic will no longer use Dobbins Lane and South Street. However, future maintenance of the chamber may require occasional access via Dobbins Lane, likely limited to light vehicles and infrequent visits—potentially once a year.

Will there be any impact on public rights of way (PRoW)?

Yes, the revised access route via Nash Lee End will temporarily affect a public right of way. Measures will be put in place to manage this disruption safely and minimise inconvenience to users.

What temporary measures can we expect to see?

The updated construction plan includes temporary track matting, health and safety measures, and plant movement across the site. It will also involve temporary interference with a public right of way and the removal of some hedgerow. However, by removing the need for a permanent access track, this option significantly reduces long-term visual impact and addresses the concerns raised during the initial refusal.

Will there be noise or disruption during construction?

Some noise and disruption are expected during the construction phase, particularly due to plant movement and temporary structures. However, this will be managed carefully, and mitigation measures will be considered where appropriate.

Is the spring flow chamber essential for HS2?

Yes. The chamber is a requirement under Environment Agency consent and is necessary to manage groundwater levels and protect downstream water bodies such as the Wendover and Stoke brooks.

Map showing new access via Nash Lee End:



Keeping you informed

We are committed to keeping you informed about work on HS2. This includes ensuring you know what to expect and when to expect it, as well as how we can help.

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. 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. Find reports at: www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-ltd-residents-commissioner

You can contact the Commissioner at: residentscommissioner@hs2.org.uk

Construction Commissioner

The Construction Commissioner's role is to mediate and monitor the way in which HS2 Ltd manages and responds to construction complaints. You can contact the Construction Commissioner by emailing:

complaints@hs2-cc.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

Find out if you're eligible for compensation at:

www.gov.uk/claim-compensation-if-affected-by-hs2

Holding us to account


If you are unhappy for any reason you can make a complaint by contacting our HS2 Helpdesk team. For more details on our complaints process, please visit our website:

www.hs2.org.uk/how-to-complain

Contact Us

Contact our HS2 Helpdesk team all day, every day of the year on:

 Freephone **08081 434 434**

 Minicom **08081 456 472**

 Email hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk

Write to:

FREEPOST

HS2 Community Engagement

Website www.hs2.org.uk

To keep up to date with what is happening in your local area, visit:

www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk

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