



POSSIBLE SOURCES OF FUNDING FROM HS2

NOTE: these are the views of WHS2 and no reliance is to be placed upon these comments

1. HS2 Community & Environment Fund

Two funds

- a. **CEF Local** will focus on quality of life and environment in individual communities.
- b. **CEF Strategic** will focus on large projects across several communities and address strategic rather than purely local concerns. Wherever possible, the CEF fund aims to leave a sustainable legacy.

There will be no advantages of submitting applications early or disadvantages of submitting applications later during the construction period.

Primarily this funding programme is targeted at the voluntary/community sector, including resident's associations, constituted community groups, Community Interest Companies (CICs), social enterprises, community businesses and registered charities.

Examples of projects

- Improved pedestrian, equestrian, or cycle access not provided under statutory services;
- Landscape and nature conservation enhancement projects which increase biodiversity (including pop up interventions such as skip gardens);
- Enhancement or replacement of sports and recreational facilities;
- Improved access and enhancements to public open space;
- Provision of enhanced or new community facilities; and
- Refurbishment/re-use of historic buildings and monuments.

Local projects have different application criteria. Those below £75K have a simplified process which takes 8 weeks and are assessed by an internal panel at Groundworks UK (who administer the scheme). Those between £75K and £250K (which implies there is an upper limit) go to an independent panel and can take up to 16 weeks.

(With BLEFs) £40m available of which as at March 2021 £9.4m has been awarded. Available until 1 year after end of construction phase (11 years). Mention of fair distribution spread across route. Not clear what funds have been allocated in our area (further research needed).

Average funding £50K. Smallest £1K.

Application forms and a guide to process are on the HS2 website.

According to the HS2 map the following local projects have received CEF funding:



Wendover Woods - Strategic - £450K
Wendover Parish Council: Witchell Parking - Local - £74K
Chilterns MS Centre: Exercise Improvements - Local - £74K
John Colet: 3G Football Pitch - Local - £56K
Wendover Swimming Pool refurbishment phase 2 - Local - £74K
1st Wendover Scouts: roof solar panels - local £10K
Chiltern Forest Golf Club: ladies changing rooms - local £27K

2. HS2 Business & Local Economy Fund

Created to support local economies that are demonstrably disrupted by the construction of Phase One.

Applications will be invited for capital or revenue funding from £10,000 up to a maximum of £250,000. Through this funding, HS2 are looking to fund interventions that will have a positive impact on local economies.

Potential applicants are organisations which have formal objectives that support the development of local business/tourism. You are eligible to apply for funding if your organisation is formally established for public benefit and is not for profit.

Examples

- Schemes to improve the local public realm, especially in retail and tourist areas;
- Improved local cycling and pedestrian access to local economic centres;
- General promotional activity for local economic benefit;
- Creating and running events that increase footfall or promote business activity during seasonal periods (for example, farmers markets);
- Employment and job creation schemes;
- Town/village discount cards to retain spend in local areas and;
- Projects that aim to increase tourist visits to an area.

Neither CEFs or BLEFs will directly fund individuals, limited liability partnerships, private sector company/business or any organisation that cannot demonstrate appropriate governance.

Application process is as for CEFs. Application forms and a guide to process are on the HS2 website.

3. HS2 Road Safety Fund

The Buckinghamshire HS2 Road Safety Fund opened on 22 February 2021. Applications were and will be invited for schemes that will create a legacy of safer roads for those who live and work in the county. £3.95m has been allocated to Buckinghamshire by the Department for Transport in recognition of the likely disruption to communities.

The fund, which is being administered by Buckinghamshire Council, will be released to meet the costs of road safety schemes, in a series of tranches between now and 2026. The first, £1m, was made available in 2021. Applicants wishing to apply for funds needed to

apply by 15 May 2021. Applications for 35 road safety schemes with an estimated collective cost in excess of £4m, were submitted. One of these was for cameras on the bypass which was rejected but which is subject to appeal (Wendover News).

£1.6m is available for a second tranche of funding in 2022 and this will be open for applications between 1 March and 31 May 2022.

Applications must meet all eligibility criteria.

The assessment criteria for tranche 2 applications will be similar to those used for tranche 1 but will additionally prioritise those schemes where there has been the greatest impact from HS2 construction on the local community in terms of road safety.

Applications must meet all of the following eligibility criteria:

- costs relate to measures which will improve a road safety issue caused or exacerbated as a result of HS2 construction activity but which is not identified for mitigation by HS2 Ltd
- the proposed scheme will leave a legacy of road safety beyond the period of HS2 construction
- the proposed scheme does not relate to road safety maintenance which is the responsibility of Buckinghamshire Council/ Transport for Buckinghamshire (TfB)
- full funding has not already been committed/provided for the proposed scheme, from other sources
- the proposed scheme does not directly conflict with adopted national or local policy or strategy
- work has not already started on implementation of the proposed scheme

The criteria against which applications will be assessed are:

- road safety benefit - the history/accident potential and the degree to which this is likely to be improved by the proposed scheme
- projected long-term road safety benefit/legacy
- the impact HS2 construction has on the local community in terms of road safety or road safety issues
- strategic/policy linkages - e.g. with Buckinghamshire Local Transport Plan
- indicative cost of the scheme - less costly schemes will score more highly
- financial contribution from applicant - schemes for which the applicant is providing a financial contribution will score more highly
- ongoing costs to maintain the effectiveness of the scheme beyond delivery - schemes with lower maintenance costs, or costs which will be met by the applicant will score more highly
- extent of risks/issues, which could impact cost/delivery of the scheme
- whether the applicant has already received funding/undertakings/assurances from HS2 Ltd that would impact the need for this scheme e.g. some mitigation measures have already been implemented or offered

4. Prolonged Disruption Compensation Scheme

The Prolonged Disruption Compensation scheme supports people who will be disrupted by HS2 construction work for an extended time. Where noise from HS 2 construction work is above the noise insulation trigger level, you can have noise insulation installed so your property remains suitable to live in.

Applicants must have, or be in the process of having, appropriate noise insulation installed at their home. The cash compensation is a fixed amount and HS2 will pay it for the period of time that construction noise goes above the temporary rehousing trigger levels, as set out in Information Paper E23. (<https://www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/assistance-for-property-owners/find-out-if-your-home-is-affected>).

Compensation will be paid each month. The amount of compensation HS2 will pay will be based on the home. HS2 will use council tax bands to work out the compensation, and it will be equivalent to the average property rental value for the tax band. The most compensation HS2 pay in total will be £30,000. Only one claim can be made for each property.

Tenants are eligible for this. Other options for compensation are temporary rehousing and property purchase.

5. Homeowner Payment Scheme

Covers properties more than 120 metres and less than 300 metres from the line of the route.

Currently, eligible owner-occupiers will be able to claim from £8,000 to £24,000.

- For properties between 120 metres and 180 metres from the line of route - £24,000.
- For properties between 180 metres and 240 metres from the line of route - £16,000.
- For properties between 240 metres and 300 metres from the line of route - £8,000.

You are eligible if:

- you are the owner-occupier;
- you have either the freehold of the property or a lease which has more than three years left to run;
- your property is fully or partly in the Homeowner Payment Zone (if partly in this zone, either your home or 25% of the whole area of your land must be in the zone); and
- you were an owner of the property by 9 April 2014

6. Land Compensation Act

Can only be claimed 12 months after completion of the works.