

02/08/2023

**DATES OF WORK**  
August 2023 – Spring 2024

**Area reference: Reminder about Aylesbury railway culvert repairs and preparing for HS2**

Dear neighbour,

I'd like to remind you about our major railway upgrades between Aylesbury and Princes Risborough stations which will ramp up this month and involve phased closures of the railway from 7 August to 29 October 2023.

**Aylesbury culvert repairs: 7 to 18 August 2023**

Earlier in July, we wrote to residents in the Aylesbury station area with a timeline of construction activity which will take place to repair a damaged culvert beneath the tracks. This is the first phase of our upgrades and will take place between 7 – 18 August. If you'd like more information about this work, or to find a copy of this letter online, please visit [www.networkrail.co.uk/pra](http://www.networkrail.co.uk/pra)

**Preparing the railway for HS2: 19 August to 29 October 2023**

From Saturday 19 August to Sunday 29 October, the railway between Aylesbury and Princes Risborough stations will remain closed to passenger trains whilst work takes place to move approximately 1.8km of the line onto a new embankment built by HS2. This will allow the HS2 tracks to be built beneath the existing railway in future.

Most of the materials and equipment we need for the project is already on site ready for work to take place, however we will be using engineering trains during the railway closure to deliver remaining material and to help install the new railway system

**What's happening? We've put together a timeline of activity to give you an idea of what will take place during the ten weeks of work.**

As the work will be round the clock there will be three shifts of 8 hours and the majority of the time staff will access the railway via the main EKFB worksite and on the rare occasion may access the railway on foot via Marsh Lane level crossing.

18 August:

- Marsh Lane level crossing will close to the public on the evening of Friday 18 August. Over the weekend 19-20 August, all of the level crossing systems and equipment will be removed. Marsh Lane will be upgraded in 2024 to bring the crossing up to modern safety standards. We'll write to residents again in the coming months to advise on when we expect Marsh Lane to reopen to the public.

19-25 August:

- Network Rail will remove approximately 1.8km of track, ballast and railway equipment between Aylesbury station and Marsh Lane level crossing.

26 August – 15 September:

- A new railway drainage system will be installed on the new railway alignment.
- The new railway embankment will be built up with its base layer, ready for the new track alignment to be installed.

16 September – 1 October:

- Network Rail will begin to install approximately 14,000 tonnes of new ballast (railway stone).
- 3,000 new sleepers and 4,520m of rail will be installed to form the new track.
- Once the new track is installed, specialist ‘tamping’ trains will be used to compact the ballast and make sure that the track is aligned and ready for trains to run.

2 October – 13 October:

- Work will take place to install new signalling and telecoms equipment.
- Redundant equipment will be removed from the old railway alignment.

14 October – 29 October:

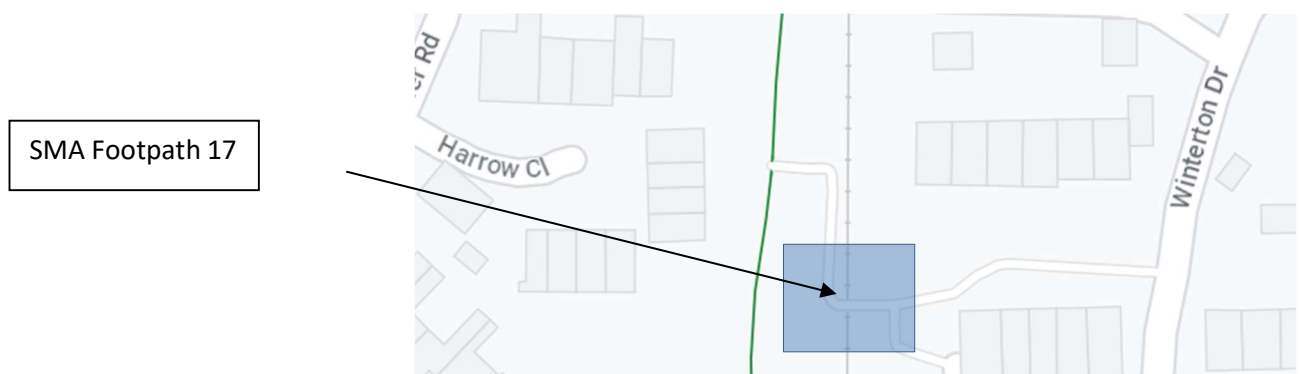
- HS2’s contractor EKFB will complete remaining earthworks and finish off drainage work.
- Final testing will take place on the new track alignment before the railway reopens to passenger and freight trains on Monday 30 October.

Scan the QR code to find out more about HS2 or visit <https://bit.ly/BucksHS2>



#### Railway footpath level crossing closure (Ref. SMA17)

To ensure the safety of the public during the engineering work we need to close footpath ‘SMA17’ for the whole length of the railway closure from 19 August to 29 October. This right of way is located along Winterton Drive.



#### Marsh Lane level crossing closure – November 2023 to Spring 2024

As part of our work to realign the railway, we also need to close Marsh Lane level crossing to allow our engineers and engineering trains safe continuous access to the railway. After the track realignment work has completed and the railway fully reopens in October, upgrades to make Marsh Lane level crossing safer are needed and will take place in 2024.

This means that Marsh Lane level crossing will be closed to pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles from Saturday 19 August until spring 2024.

The route of the diversion will be via North Lee Lane which will travel from Marsh to Little Kimble, then to Princes Risborough and past Terrick and back onto to A4010 Risborough Road. (Please see map on last page, there is a larger version on our website [www.networkrail.co.uk/prs](http://www.networkrail.co.uk/prs)).

Our project to upgrade the level crossing is still being developed and we'll let local people know more about our plans, including details of exactly when we expect to reopen the crossing to road users, in the coming months. We understand that this road closure will be extremely disruptive to local people and regret that we need to keep the level crossing closed for such a long period of time. (See pictures on

### Changes to train services

To complete our work safely, a 12-day railway closure is needed to repair the culvert between Monday 7 and Friday 18 August.

This will impact all trains between Aylesbury Vale Parkway and Amersham and Aylesbury and Princes Risborough.

To keep passengers on the move during this time, rail replacement buses will be in operation between:

- Aylesbury Vale Parkway – Aylesbury – Stoke Mandeville – Wendover – Great Missenden – Amersham (for connections to London Underground)
- Princes Risborough – Monks Risborough – Little Kimble – Aylesbury

To complete our work safely the Route between Aylesbury and Princes Risborough will be closed for 10 weeks

This will impact all trains between Aylesbury Vale Parkway and Amersham and Aylesbury and Princes Risborough.

To keep passengers on the move during this time, rail replacement buses will be in operation between:

- Princes Risborough – Monks Risborough – Little Kimble – Aylesbury

You can find more journey information online at [www.chilternrailways.co.uk/pr](http://www.chilternrailways.co.uk/pr)

### Community and passenger information events:

- **Tuesday 22 Aug 2023 Between 2pm – 7pm Hawkslade Community Centre – (EKFB event)**  
Address: Orwell Drive Aylesbury HP21 9YL

If you have any questions about our work, please telephone our 24-hour national helpline on **03457 11 41 41** or email [NRHS2@networkrail.co.uk](mailto:NRHS2@networkrail.co.uk). Please use the reference at the start of this letter.

If you have any questions about the HS2 project or HS2 construction work, please contact the **HS2 helpdesk** on **08081 434 434** or email [HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)

Yours sincerely,



Myra Hornsby  
Community Relations Executive



### Diversion Map.



Images sourced from Bing Maps using Ordnance Survey imagery.