

News story: HS2 Phase One Community Information Events 2017

We invite you to attend one of our informative events about the High Speed Two (HS2) project and what it means for your local area.

During the events, there will be experts available to explain the technical aspects of topics such as ground investigations, environmental impacts, construction, land and property compensation and assistance schemes for people affected by the line of route, as well as information about [our community funds](#).

We hope you will take this opportunity to talk to the project team, view maps, ask us questions, and learn more about the construction and design of the new railway.

We'll be updating this page regularly once the times and dates of planned events are confirmed.

Current and future events

Date	Area	Venue	Time	Theme
Thursday 13 April	Handsacre	Armitage Village Hall, 51 Shropshire Brook Road, Armitage, Rugeley, WS15 4UZ	3pm to 7pm	Community, construction, engineering, property, environment, utilities
Tuesday 18 April	Steeple Claydon	Steeple Claydon Village Hall, Queen Catherine Rd, Steeple Claydon, Buckingham, MK18 2PZ	3pm to 7:30pm	Community, construction, engineering, property, environment, utilities

News story: HS2 Phase 2a information events 2017

We are holding a number of information events, to share all the latest details about our plans for building and running the new railway.

You'll be welcome to discuss any of this new information with us, including:

- the 3 Phase 2a route changes we consulted on last year and recently confirmed

- how you can track what's happening with the Phase 2a bill as it goes through Parliament
- assistance available to property owners

Date	Venue	Time
Saturday 12 August	Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, Eastgate Street, Stafford, ST16 2LT	11am to 5pm
Wednesday 16 August	Whitmore Village Hall, Coneygreave Lane, Whitmore, ST5 5HX	2pm to 8pm
Wednesday 23 August	The Madeley Centre, New Road, Madeley (near Crewe) CW3 9DN	2pm to 8pm

Past events will be removed as new events added on a regular basis.

The section of HS2, known as Phase 2a, will extend the high speed line from the West Midlands to Crewe, and provide reduced journey times further north by connecting to the West Coast Main Line at Crewe.

It will open in 2027, 6 years earlier than planned, bringing benefits to the North of England sooner.

[News story: PHE annual conference 2017: bookings open](#)

Public Health England's (PHE) annual conference takes place at Warwick University on 12 and 13 September 2017.

The [PHE annual conference](#) brings together over 1400 participants from a wide range of organisations, to learn, and share knowledge and experience to help improve public health.

This year's conference focuses on 3 key themes across the programme:

- promoting world-class science and evidence
- making the economic case for prevention
- working towards a healthier, fairer society

Key note speakers at this year's conference will include:

- Nicola Blackwood MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Public Health and Innovation
- Sir David Spiegelhalter, Winton Professor of the Public Understanding of Risk at Cambridge University
- Professor Dame Margaret Whitehead, WH Duncan Professor of Public Health, University of Liverpool

- Dr Jennifer Dixon, Chief Executive at The Health Foundation

[Abstract submissions](#) are invited in work that clearly link to one or more of the conference themes, introducing new ideas, research findings and advances in public health practice and outcomes.

Press release: PM meetings in Saudi Arabia: 4 April 2017

The PM and the Saudi Minister of Energy, Khalid al Falih, discussed working together on energy policy, including energy diversification, as well as investment opportunities for small and medium businesses on the London Stock Exchange and in the UK.

In a second meeting, the Prime Minister and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Nayyaf, Minister of the Interior, discussed a range of issues including the shared threat posed by foreign fighters returning from Syria, and dangers posed by extremist material on the internet.

Labour fail to back Lib Dem bid to kill Tory restrictions to disability benefit

A Liberal Democrat motion designed to kill the Government's attempts to severely restrict disability benefits has been lost after Labour peers failed to support it.