

# HS2 construction – safety must be priority



## Union calls for rigorous standards to protect workforce as main construction works authorised

GMB Union, which represents HS2 construction workers and workers in the wider supply chain, has responded to the news that the government has authorised the start of main construction works on HS2.

**Eamon O'Hearn, GMB National Officer, said:**

"GMB wants to protect workers jobs, health and pay – HS2 is a project of national importance but the safety of its workforce, and supply chain, must be the overriding priority.



"Construction should be conditional on rigorous observation of social distancing, provision of personal protective equipment where required, individualised risk assessments for workers with underlying conditions, and mandatory dialogue between contractors of all levels and recognised unions.

"This is an extremely worrying time for everyone in the construction industry and GMB will be fighting HS2 workers' corner in the days and months ahead."

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