AWE NUCLEAR SECURITY TECHNOLOGIES

Future Materials Campus

Information pack

AWE Future Materials Campus

ABOUT AWE

AWE's purpose is to protect the UK through nuclear science and technology. Our mission is to design and manufacture warheads and deliver nuclear services to support national defence. The UK's Continuous at Sea Deterrent (CASD) is vital to our national security and that of our NATO allies. It provides round-the-clock protection against future threats.

For over 75 years, AWE has played a central role in supporting CASD – designing, developing, manufacturing, and maintaining the UK's nuclear warheads at our sites at Aldermaston and Burghfield, and across the UK.

No other organisation can fulfil AWE's unique and vital role in UK defence. We are at the forefront of nuclear technology and innovation. From delivering the warheads that underpin CASD to developing novel solutions to counter emerging threats and terrorism, we help keep the nation – and our allies – safe and secure.

We're proud of the part we play in enabling the Government's policy and protecting the UK's citizens.

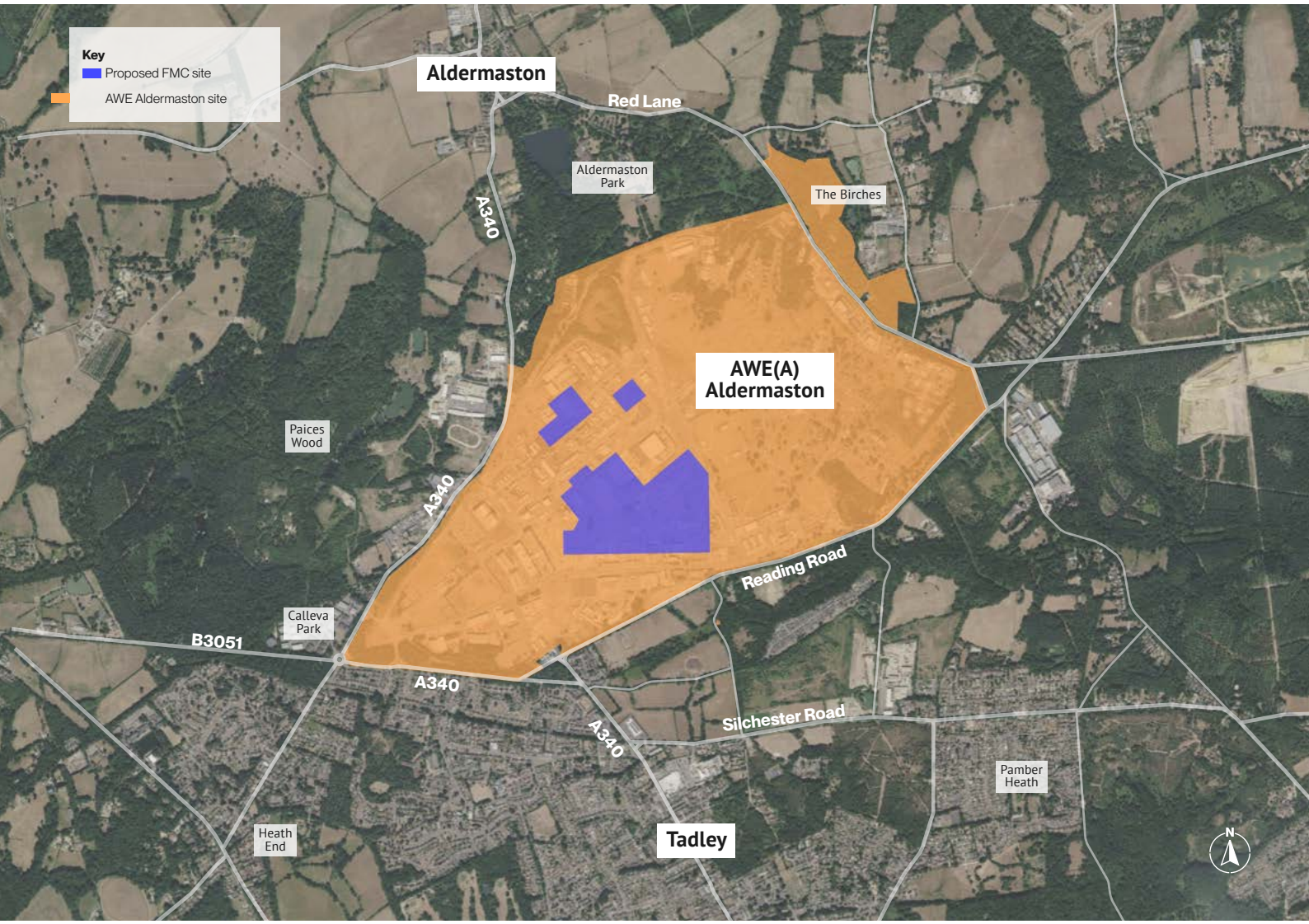
AWE Future Materials Campus

THE FUTURE MATERIALS CAMPUS

As part of a Ministry of Defence (MoD) renewal programme, the UK will replace its existing nuclear warhead, and it is our highly skilled teams here at AWE that will do this.

As well as people, we need to make sure we have the right facilities too. As part of this, we will be building the Future Materials Campus (FMC) on our existing site at Aldermaston.

This significant investment means AWE will continue to be a major employer and neighbour in the local area for many years to come.



The FMC programme will renew existing facilities for the manufacture and storage of nuclear components, improve science and analysis capabilities, and invest in renewed capability for material recovery. Material recovery means treating and reusing materials when feasible, to minimise waste.

The FMC will develop the UK's domestic capabilities across defence, skills development and technology, creating jobs in the local area, across the UK and in the companies that supply us.

It will also work closely with communities with the aim of creating lasting positive value beyond the programme itself.

AWE Future Materials Campus

FMC PROGRAMME TIMELINE

We expect to submit an outline planning application to West Berkshire District Council in winter 2026. If our outline planning application is approved in 2027, we will start to prepare the site for construction shortly after.

The main construction work is likely to begin within 2-3 years of approval and take approximately 10 years. This will be followed by further testing before each facility becomes fully operational.

The information we are sharing with the local community is based on our current plans for the FMC. We will continue to look at ways to build the FMC more quickly, efficiently and to provide better value for money. This may mean we need to adapt our plans, and we will continue to engage with the local community on changes in the future.

FMC PLANNING APPLICATION AND CONSTRUCTION

If the outline planning permission for the FMC is approved, we will then seek approval for the detail of each building separately, before starting construction on each building. This may take us several years.

There will be an opportunity to comment on the application for outline planning permission when it is submitted later this year and also further opportunities to comment on the design of individual buildings.

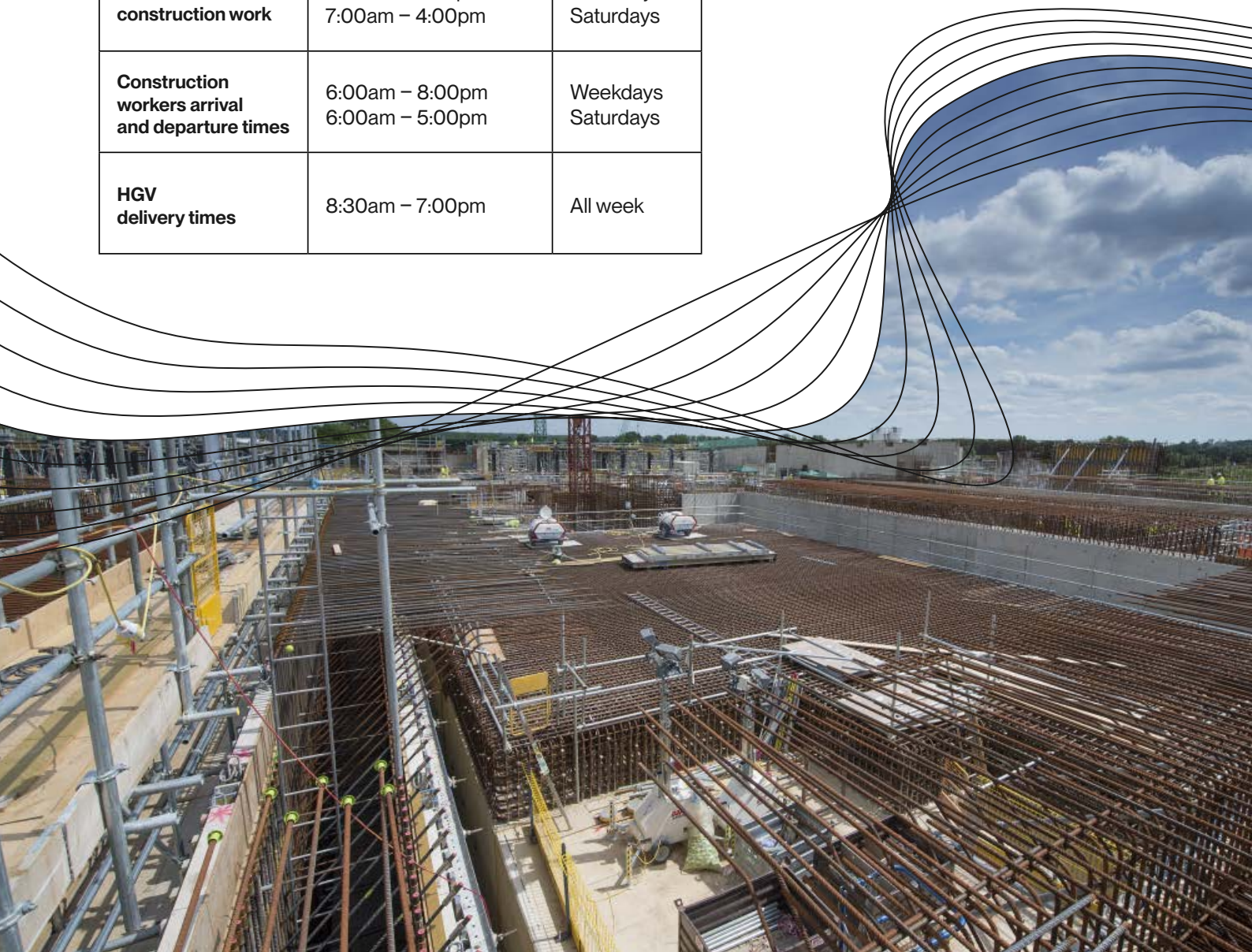
Construction work for the FMC is likely to follow AWE's normal construction working hours.

Work will normally take place between 7am and 7pm on weekdays, and 7am to 4pm on Saturdays.

Construction workers will normally arrive on site from 6am and leave at any time up to 8pm on weekdays, and up to 5pm on Saturdays.

Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) will normally deliver to the site from 8.30am and leave the site up to 7pm. There may be some short periods of work that require longer working hours to make sure sensitive elements of the work can be completed in one go or for deliveries to site when the roads are quieter.

Type of work	Time	Day
FMC construction work	7:00am – 7:00pm 7:00am – 4:00pm	Weekdays Saturdays
Construction workers arrival and departure times	6:00am – 8:00pm 6:00am – 5:00pm	Weekdays Saturdays
HGV delivery times	8:30am – 7:00pm	All week



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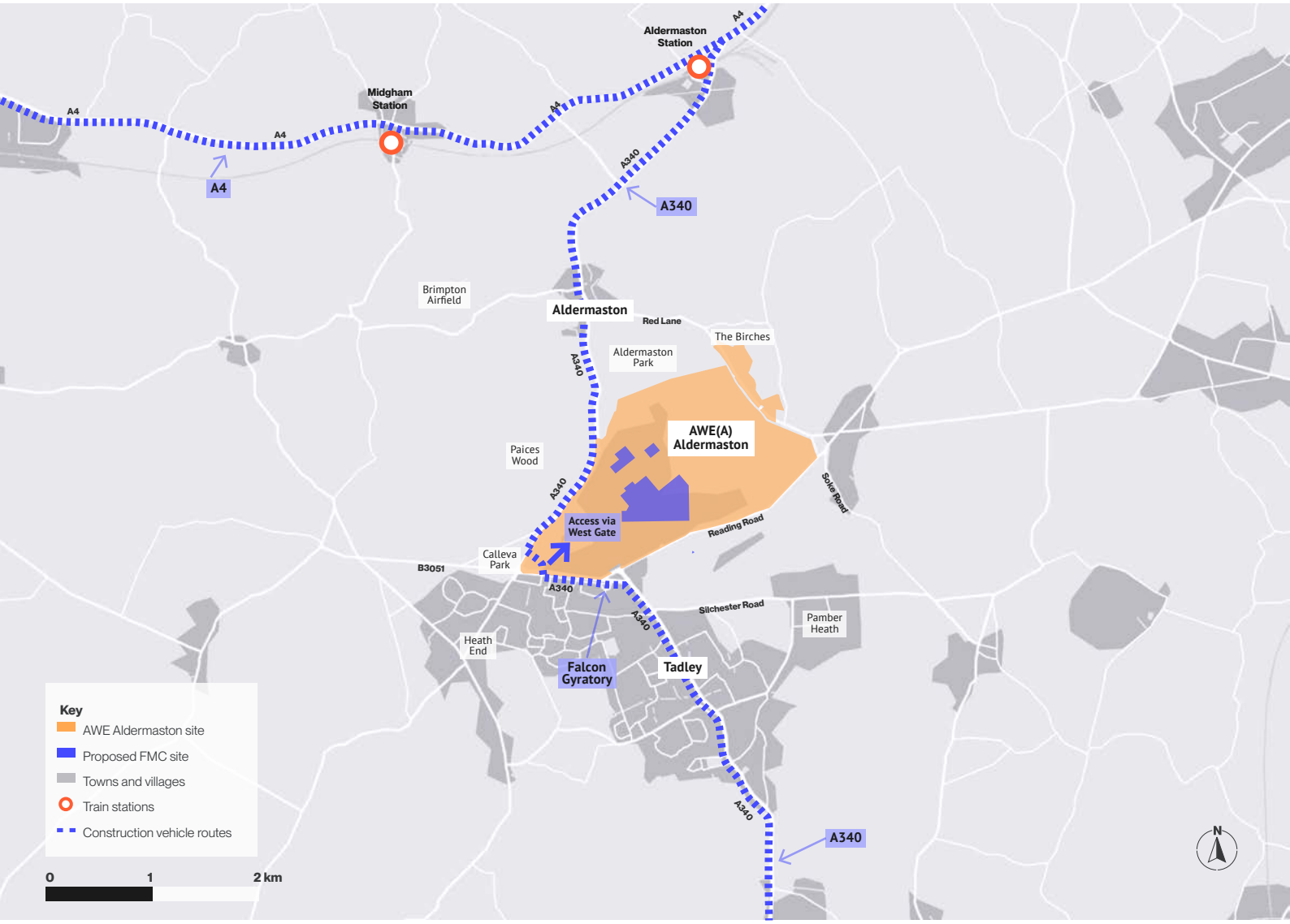
MANAGING CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC

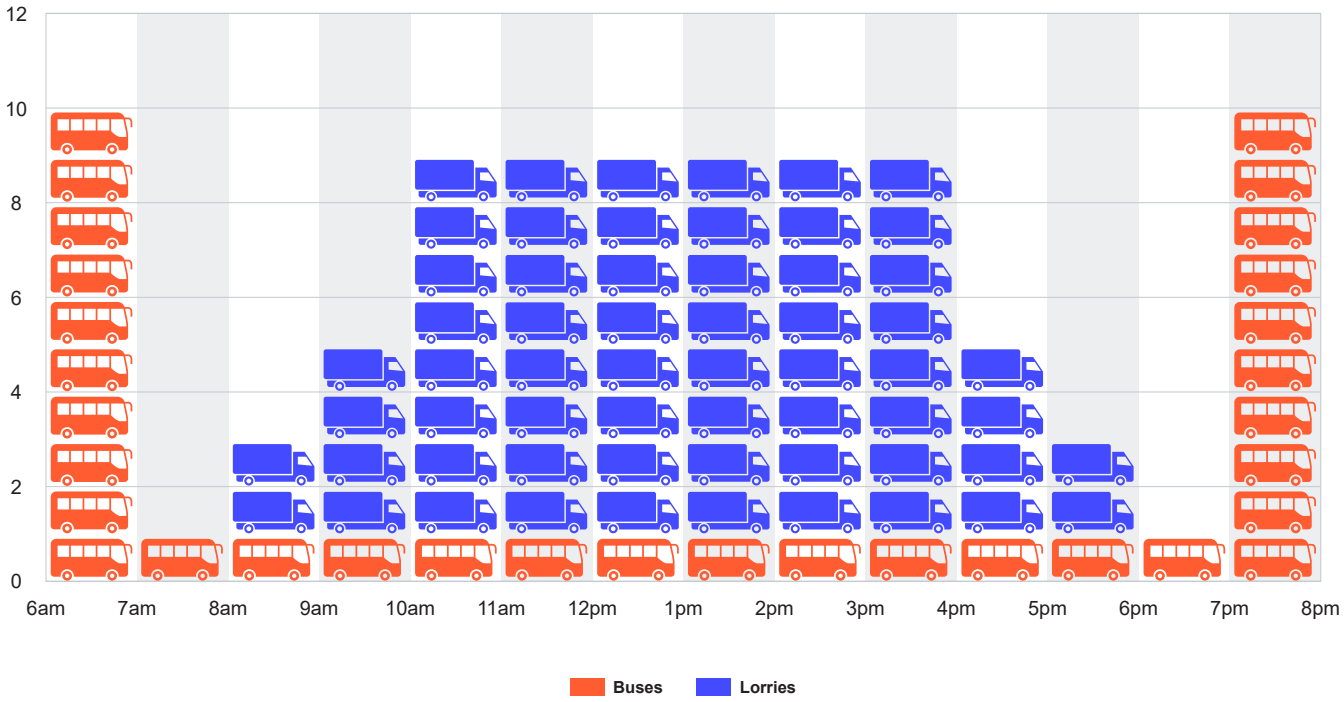
We are implementing a Construction Logistics Plan and a Construction Traffic Management Plan for the FMC programme that recognises 'site-wide' activity so that we can manage the flow of people, material and equipment on and off site effectively.

To reduce the impact on local traffic, we are planning to move construction workers to and from our site by bus from park and ride sites. We are currently looking for suitable park and ride sites.

HGVs will travel to our Aldermaston site along the A340 from the A4 at Aldermaston Wharf or the A339 at Basingstoke and enter our construction site via West Gate.



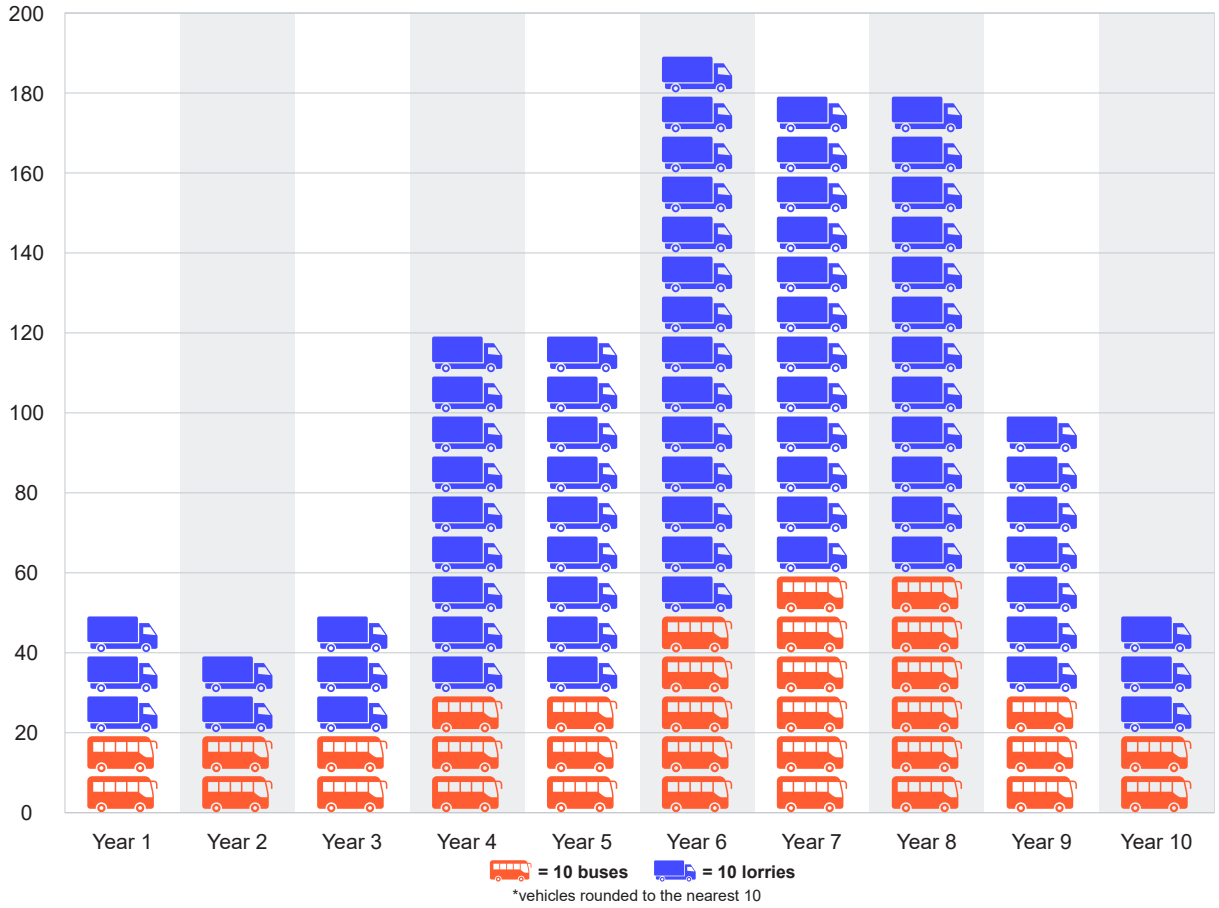
TYPICAL NUMBER OF HEAVY VEHICLES DURING THE DAY



HGVs will normally deliver to the site from 8.30am and leave the site up to 7pm. Buses will normally arrive on site from 6am and leave at any time up to 8pm on weekdays, and up to 5pm on Saturdays.

There will be a small number of buses travelling to and from the park and ride sites during the day.

AVERAGE DAILY HEAVY VEHICLES PER YEAR



We expect there will be a relatively low number of heavy vehicles traveling to our site each day for the first 3-4 years of construction. This will then increase in stages towards a peak construction period around two-thirds of the way through construction, before steadily reducing over the remaining years.

Our current estimates show that across the 10-year construction period, there will be an average of around 100 HGVs and buses entering our construction site each day.

When we reach the busiest construction period, this will increase to around 200 HGVs and buses each day.

These heavy vehicle numbers are estimates based on the latest assessment of our current plans for the FMC. They are likely to reduce as we confirm both our plans and the measures we will put in place to reduce the impact of our construction traffic on the community.

As a comparison, our most recent traffic surveys show an average of around 80 HGVs arrived at and then left our Aldermaston site each day.

Currently, an average of around 5,000 cars, light vehicles and HGVs arrive at and then leave the site each day.

Our surveys also showed around 10,000 vehicles travel through Aldermaston village on the A340 each weekday, around 350 of these vehicles are HGVs.

Other measures we are looking at to reduce the impact of our construction traffic on the local community include:

USING AN OFF SITE CENTRE TO COMBINE SMALLER DELIVERIES INTO FULLER LORRIES

HOLDING LORRIES AT THIS OFF SITE CENTRE UNTIL THEIR PLANNED DELIVERY TIME

PLANNING DELIVERIES FLEXIBLY TO AVOID THE BUSIEST TIMES OF THE DAY, WHERE POSSIBLE

USING OFF SITE AREAS TO SEARCH VEHICLES BEFORE THEY ARRIVE AT OUR SITE

MAKING SURE LORRIES LEAVING OUR SITE WITH CONSTRUCTION WASTE ARE FULL, WHERE POSSIBLE

REUSING CONCRETE AND OTHER MATERIALS FROM THE BUILDINGS WE WILL KNOCK DOWN

MAKING SURE CONSTRUCTION VEHICLES USE APPROVED ROUTES ONLY

USING CLEANER, QUIETER VEHICLES, INCLUDING ELECTRIC BUSES

UNDERSTANDING POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Large infrastructure projects are usually required to carry out detailed environmental assessments to support planning applications. These are known as Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) with the results presented as an 'Environmental Statement'.

Due to the sensitive nature of AWE's role in national nuclear defence, the Government has exempted the FMC proposals from the requirement to carry out an EIA. We have agreed to submit a different form of environmental assessment, known as a 'Defence Exempt Environmental Appraisal' (DEEA). This allows us to provide environmental information to the public and West Berkshire District Council while protecting sensitive information about our site.

You will be able to view the DEEA and other supporting documentation when we submit the planning application to West Berkshire District Council.

The DEEA process will consider the following topic areas and whether the FMC is likely to have an impact on the local environment:

- Ground conditions
- Water resources and flood risk
- Transport
- Air quality
- Noise and vibration
- Landscape and visual impact
- Ecology and wildlife
- Heritage and archaeology
- Materials and waste
- Health
- Site safety

BUILDING A LASTING LEGACY

Local businesses
The FMC will create opportunities for local businesses providing construction supplies and services, as well as construction workers using local catering, hospitality, and transport services during the construction period.

We expect a significant share of construction spending to go to small and medium-sized businesses, including those in the surrounding area and wider region. We will continue to refine the exact distribution as the programme develops and as we work with our suppliers and partners.

Creating jobs and opportunities
Over the lifetime of the programme, we expect the FMC to support several thousand construction roles. There will also be new roles to support our existing workforce that will use the new facilities.

We will prioritise, where possible, opportunities for people living locally and across the wider region. This will depend on the skills available locally and supply chain decisions as the programme progresses. We will make the details of these job opportunities available to local people to help ensure the benefits of the programme are shared across the community.

Building skills for the future
The FMC will also help develop future skills. We expect to create opportunities for apprentices, graduates and trainees, providing practical routes into skilled careers. The scale and timing of these opportunities will be shaped by ongoing engagement with our partners.

Supporting local communities
We expect to contribute to local communities through volunteering and wider social initiatives. The level of participation will develop over time as the programme grows and as partnerships with local organisations develop. This means the programme will invest not just in buildings, but also in the local community.

This significant investment in infrastructure means AWE will continue to be a major employer and neighbour in the local area for many years to come. We will work to ensure the investment the Government is making in us flows down into the local community; through direct employment and through our supply chain.

AWE NUCLEAR SECURITY TECHNOLOGIES

HOW TO SEND US FEEDBACK

It's important to us that we engage with you as we plan and build the Future Materials Campus.

We'd appreciate it if you could spare a few minutes to fill out our survey.
You can do this online at: **http://awe.citizenspace.com/fmc/summer2026**
or by scanning the QR code below.

Alternatively, if you would prefer to send your views by email, please send your feedback to:
communityandschools@awe.co.uk

Your feedback will help us understand how our plans could affect the local community.
We will take your comments into account in the proposals we will submit as part of our planning application. We will produce a report summarising the feedback we receive, and we will make this available on our website.