# Panel Newsletter June 2018

# **HS2** INDEPENDENT DESIGN PANEL



### Phase 2b work continues

In June, the panel visited a section of the proposed Phase 2b route that crosses Kingsbury Water Park and Pooley Country Park in Warwickshire. An informative and enjoyable site visit was led by Warwickshire County Council and North Warwickshire Borough Council.

At the meeting, the panel applauded the emerging collaboration between county and local authorities and HS2 Ltd. The strength of this relationship will be critical to developing a design suitable to these sensitive and remarkable landscapes.

The panel stressed that the community must be the starting point for building a rich understanding of place and key issues. Following further work on biodiversity and ecology, the panel urged HS2 Ltd to develop a multi-layered landscape strategy. This will help develop a mindset of not just mitigating the impact of HS2, but how it can deliver real positive change. This strategy will set the tone and direction of architectural and engineering approaches.

Learning lessons from Phase One ahead of Bill submission in late 2019 will also be important to ensure Phase 2b delivers a high quality railway offering real benefit to the communities around it.

# **Design Panel activities June 2018**

· site visit of and panel meeting to discuss Kingsbury Water Park and Pooley Country Park

Site visit and review meeting

- · Connectivity: Cycling
- · HS2 Ltd approach to Schedule 17 applications

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- · Interchange Station
- · Curzon Street Station
- Area South head houses (including Manderville Road, Adelaide Road, and Euston Approaches)
- · Canterbury Works headhouse

#### **Full reviews**

- Design Panel Team Meeting attended by the chair, vice chair, secretariat and HS2 Ltd staff
- · Quarterly Governance Advisory Group meeting

2

Governance meetings

2

Workshop meetings

# **Design Panel comments on Schedule 17 applications**

The High Speed Rail Act grants deemed planning permission for the HS2 Phase One route. Schedule 17 of the HS2 Act puts in place a process for aspects of the design and construction of the railway that HS2 Ltd must seek approval of from the relevant local planning authority.

Schedule 17 planning applications for the Main Works Civil Contractors (MWCC), who are developing designs for civil engineering structures along the Phase One route, are programmed to be submitted from autumn 2018. Station Design Services Contractors (SDSCs), who are developing designs for the four Phase One stations, will begin submitting their applications in March / April 2019.

For those elements that the panel has previously commented on, it has been agreed that a series of Schedule 17 panel meetings will be arranged. This will allow the panel to assess the way designs have progressed in response to its previous comments, and provide updated comments on the submitted scheme.

As with previous panel meetings, local planning authorities will be invited to attend Schedule 17 reviews, so that they can brief the panel on key issues. Following each meeting a report will be produced and made publicly available.





Jessica Andrews Assistant Design Manager for SCS Railways

## **People's stories**

Jessica Andrews is a civil engineer and forms part of the Design Management team at SCS Railways, which is the contractor responsible for completing Area South as part of the Phase One works. She has been working on HS2 for the past seven months, with her focus being mainly on the design management of the shafts within Lot S1, as well as management of the Design Panel engagements on behalf of SCS Railways.

Most of Jessica's seven years' industry experience is in above-ground structures such as the redevelopment of London Bridge Station and various bridge construction projects back in her native Australia.

Making the move to HS2, where SCS Railways structures are predominently below-ground, is a new and exciting challenge for her. She is also excited by the opportunity to make a difference to the outcome of the design by joining the project while it is still in the scheme design stage.

### **Headhouses in Area South**

In June the panel revisited the work of the Area South Main Works Civil Contractor, SCS Railways. Overall, the panel welcomed the approach presented, particularly how the design team is balancing the needs of HS2 Ltd with the context of each site. However, significant challenges remain and the panel highlighted the need to now focus on developing a creative landscape approach that not only embeds these structures in their context but harnesses the opportunities each site presents.