



## LONDON-WEST MIDLANDS HERITAGE SUB-GROUP

### MEETING NOTES

**DATE:** 5<sup>th</sup> February 2014  
**TIME:** 2-5pm  
**VENUE:** Birmingham City Council  
1, Lancaster Circus

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Project Update</b> <b>HS2 Ltd provided a presentation (attached) on the following items</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hybrid Bill</li><li>• Environmental Statement</li><li>• Heritage Memorandum</li><li>• Phase 2 Consultation</li></ul> <p>Comments focused on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The phrasing of the Heritage Memorandum; lack of definitive commitment.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ HS2 Ltd responded that there was another opportunity to comment on the HM and that it would remain a draft throughout the hybrid Bill Parliamentary process, so there was further opportunity to request changes.</li></ul></li><li>• What happened to the Environmental Statement now – how are issues highlighted in responses addressed?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ HS2 Ltd responded that, as presented, an independent assessor reported on the ES to Parliament and that Parliament could then decide if further work was required. Otherwise, the ES remains a point in time. It is obviously in the best interests of the project to consider all matters raised and their implications as the detailed design progresses.</li></ul></li><li>• There was a request for greater clarity/explanation on how the different documents provided related to each other.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ HS2 Ltd to review explanations available and consider how this can be conveyed.</li></ul></li></ul>

<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>Generic Written Scheme of Investigation: Archaeology</b>  <b>HS2 Ltd provided a presentation (attached)</b></p> <p>Comments focused on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A request for confirmation that in location-specific situations, where there is existing evaluation information, would this be used rather than re-evaluating? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ HS2 Ltd will use all existing data and will judge on a site-by-site basis whether further evaluation would be required.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• EH were keen that where possible innovative approaches to archaeological works would be considered. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Each location will be considered in terms of appropriate methodologies during detailed design.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>Heritage Programme</b>  <b>HS2 Ltd provided a presentation (attached) on the following items</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generic WSI for Built Heritage.</li> <li>• Consultation on the Heritage Agreements. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Listed Buildings (Schedule 17).</li> <li>○ Scheduled Monument.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Developing detailed design.</li> </ul> <p>Comments focused on:</p> <p><i>General</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The lack of resources available to Local Authority officers to respond to requests for HS2 Ltd and its partners or to monitor site work. A request for funding to improve resourcing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ HS2 Ltd agreed to highlight these concerns again to the Planning Forum.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><i>Archaeology</i></p> <p>Request for information from technical appendices to be made available to the pertinent local authority HER, including OASIS forms for fieldwork.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ HS2 Ltd to review how this would be delivered.</li> <li>• Uncertainty as to what archaeological works will be undertaken post ES and the programme for that. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ HS2 Ltd is developing the next stages of work required.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Concern over the variability in the standard of technical work in the ES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ HS2 Ltd to discuss further with EH initially to understand concerns more clearly.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Request for plans showing the total the areas subject to non-intrusive</li> </ul>

evaluation.

- HS2 Ltd to consider request.
- Request for risk model tables that supported evaluation areas chosen.
  - HS2 Ltd to consider request.
- Archiving – where will the results of all investigation works be deposited? A separate meeting would be useful to discuss this matter specifically.
  - HS2 Ltd is aware of the matter and will be investigating available facilities and agreed to propose a meeting on this issue once it had undertaken some further information gathering.
- Human remains – a need to continue discussions regarding approach to human remains.
  - HS2 Ltd looking forward to continuing those discussions but was keen to first see the imminent EH guidance on approaches to post medieval burial grounds as this will be a particularly relevant document.

#### *Historic Buildings*

- The removal of powers from Local Authority officers to influence decision making.
  - HS2 Ltd explained the nature of the legislation required for national infrastructure projects and the powers held by the local authorities to determine planning submissions made by the nominated undertaker.
- Lack of ‘pre-application’ discussion. Location specific information, programming information wanted now; detail in ES inadequate.
  - HS2 Ltd explained that the detailed design and the Schedule 16 planning process would provide this and that the Heritage Memorandum and other EMRs provided the commitments to the mitigation of heritage assets.
- Non-designated built heritage assets – what being done about them?
  - HS2 Ltd proposes to include them in the routewide generic WSI for built heritage; lessons learnt from Crossrail suggest this is most appropriate. Comments on this approach welcome.
- Relocation: a concern that no relocations as a form of mitigation for buildings (other than railings, statues, lamps, monuments) had been proposed).
  - HS2 Ltd acknowledges this and noted that LAs or other could petition in cases where they considered that relocation of an historic building should be considered.
- Salvaging: the opportunities for salvaging from historic buildings was raised.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ HS2 Ltd confirmed that it would be developing procedures for salvage. This matter will be discussed in the routewide generic WSI for built heritage.</li> </ul>
<b>5</b>	<p><b>Further information links provided to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>HS2 Ltd Information Papers</i>, where HS2 Ltd is published a series of IPs to provide information to those outside the project on the policies and strategies which define the hybrid Bill and Environmental Statement documentation.</li> <li>● Hybrid Bill documents (especially the useful Explanatory Notes which accompany the hybrid Bill).</li> </ul>
<b>6</b>	<p><b>Actions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● HS-G members to return any further comments on draft heritage Memorandum to HS2 Ltd by 19<sup>th</sup> March 2014. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Post meeting note: extended to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>● HS2 Ltd to issue the draft generic WSI for Archaeology to HS-G for comment</li> <li>● HS2 Ltd to issue a high level programme providing a sequence of submissions for HS-G review.</li> </ul>
<b>7</b>	<b>AOB &amp; Close</b>

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