

# Minutes

<b>Document number</b>	HS2-HS2-EV-MRC-000-000350
<b>Meeting date</b>	Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2018, 13:00 to 15.30
<b>Meeting location</b>	Mary Ward House, London, 5-7 Tavistock Place, WC1H 9SN.
<b>Meeting title</b>	Environmental Health Sub Group (North and South) Meeting #20
<b>HS2 contact or group</b>	planning.forum@hs2.org.uk
<b>Stakeholder</b>	Environmental Health Sub Group to Planning Forum
<b>Topic keywords</b>	N/A

## **Attendees**

### ***External Attendees***

Peter Carey- Independent Chair of EH subgroup

Ted Allett - Independent Chair of the Planning Forum (PFC)

### ***Promoter Attendees***

Christian Bonard - HS2 Ltd

Anthony Coumbe - HS2 Ltd

Paul Gilfedder - HS2 Ltd

Stephen Hyland - HS2 Ltd

Tim Robins - HS2 Ltd

Phil Brewer - HS2 Ltd

Neil Wait - HS2 Ltd

Andrew Medley - HS2 Ltd

Carrie Garlett - HS2 Ltd

Gennaro Sica - HS2 Ltd

Kerry Bangle - HS2 Ltd

***EH Attendees***

John Penny - South Northamptonshire Council (SNC)

Olayinka Ekundayo - London Borough of Brent (LBB)

Steve Braund - Chiltern District Council (CDC)

Peter Rodham - London Borough of Camden (LBC)

Helen Masterson - London Borough of Camden (LBC)

Tom Parkes - London Borough of Camden (LBC)

Richard Hiscock - Aylesbury Vale District Council (AVDC)

Barbara Terres - Westminster City Council (WCC)

Richard Peers - Staffordshire County Council (SCC)

Julian Smith - Wycombe District Council (WDC)

Dominic Towey - Solihull MBC (SMBC)

Greg Pilley - Three Rivers District Council (TRDC)

Stephen Whiles - North Warwickshire Borough Council (NWBC)

Mike Jenkins - Warwick District Council (WDC)

Alasdair Carlin - London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham / Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea

## **Meeting notes (key topics)**

### **Item 1**

#### ***Welcome and introductions***

The Chair called the meeting to order, welcomed attendees and introductions were made.

### **Item 2**

#### ***Review of notes and actions from last meeting***

##### **Review of Action Log**

Action 6a - Presentation provided at the March 2018 EH subgroup. ***Agreed Action Closed.***

Action 7a – HS2 Ltd explained AQ report template was sent out and comments have been received and this would be discussed later in the meeting. The noise report template will be sent out following the meeting. Action to be closed when noise template sent out with draft minutes for this meeting.

Action 7b – Action open until noise report template has been sent out and comments received.

##### **Review of Minutes from last meeting**

***Correction – make correction to draft minutes as Helen Masterson should be LBC and not CDC.***

Chair raised item about SharePoint Access for group members and how it can be resolved.

PFC suggested the group uses the same system as Thames Tideway project and have one log in and password which all members can use.

***Action 2a- HS2 to check process for getting access to SharePoint before next meeting on May 22nd.***

Page 3 – Chair asked for update on public recruitment for permanent Construction Commissioner. HS2 Ltd updated that job applications were received by Friday 16th March, and

interviews are to be held in May. The current contract for interim CC has been extended until the permanent position is filled.

Page 4 – Chair asked for an update on HS2 website. CB updated that it is still a work in progress.

Post meeting note: A Beta version of the HS2 website has gone live: <https://www.hs2.org.uk/>.

Chair asked for an update on publication of the Schedule 17 Appeals Guidance. PG confirmed that it has now been published on gov.uk.

HS2 Ltd state the appeals guidance for S61 will be published in due course.

***Correction – make correction to previous minutes which does not explicitly state 'appeals' guidance.***

Pg. 6 Item 6 – noise update. AVDC requested that draft meeting minutes state that speed of trains can affect operational noise from output from the trains.

***Correction – add note to draft minutes for January meeting.***

Item 8 – Commonplace website. Chair stated that seven Commonplace websites are now live and he thinks they are very helpful to residents. Chair asked are there plans for more for other areas? HS2 Ltd confirmed there would be 10/11 in total.

Item 9 – Chair asked for an update on Service Level Agreements with local authorities on Phase One. PG explained that some agreement have been reached and HS2 Ltd is working towards finalising agreements with other LAs.

Pg. 9 (item 9) – Chair asked for update on working group for noise barrier design. PG updated that an item will be presented to next planning forum (earliest next meeting). The EH Sub Group would be appropriately involved in the future.

### **Item 3**

#### ***Operational Noise Update***

The Chair introduced Phil Brewer, who gave a presentation on operational noise.

HS2 Ltd provided information on slab track and noise implications following last meeting.

Chair asked whether the Phase One route would be more heavily used than HS1 in terms of trains per hour. HS2 Ltd explained it would be. HS2 Ltd explained that part of the reasoning

for choosing slab track was for safe service and reduced maintenance which led to reduced night time maintenance (and noise) over lifetime of track.

LBC asked why in the Environmental Statement (ES) it mentions ballast vs slab track. HS2 Ltd clarified that at the time of writing the ES, the decision was yet to be made for some sections of the route whether ballast or slab track would be used. The ES assumes that either ballast or slab track would be used, however it is possible to treat slab track at selected locations so that its acoustic properties are equivalent to ballasted track. HS2 Ltd explained that HS2 Ltd is confident that operational noise can be mitigated down to noise levels in line with commitments within the EMRs. HS2 Ltd is working closely with a track slab provider so acoustic improvement can be designed in from the start. HS2 Ltd is also exploring low level barriers as an alternative to mitigate noise close to the railway.

AVDC asked what assumptions the MWCC design teams are working on.

HS2 Ltd explained that the MWCCs were using the ES assumptions but had been advised of the risk of additional source noise due to slab track and conventional compatible rolling stock.

CDC challenged about the timing of Schedule 17 applications and asked how LAs can form a view on effective mitigation through 'bringing into use'. HS2 Ltd explained that Schedule 17 applications for approval of permanent works that have a role in mitigating noise effects will be accompanied by the information required by paragraph 7.5.2 of the Planning Memorandum and Planning Forum Note 10.

AVDC asked for HS2 Ltd to confirm that trains could be slowed down to reduce operational noise if required in order to meet EMR noise commitments. HS2 Ltd confirmed this.

CDC asked about assumptions for ES. HS2 Ltd explained that slab track had been assumed in some sections for the ES already, and but for other sections the ES had not specified ballast or slab track.

PFC asked why was there an increase in noise from the rolling stock in comparison to assumptions made in the ES. HS2 Ltd confirmed the ES has assumed a mix of conventional compatible (i.e. trains capable of also operating on the existing 'conventional' network) and captive trains (i.e. trains only capable of operating on the new high-speed network); however, the Department for Transport (DfT) had since made the decision to initially procure conventional compatible rolling stock. This had implications on the noise source.

***Action 3a: HS2 Ltd to return to the EH Sub Group with more information on operational noise, when available.***

LBC noted that if additional noise mitigation is required for residents, they would appreciate early engagement.

***Action: HS2 to share slides following meeting.***

#### **Item 4**

##### ***Air Quality Update***

The Chair introduced Neil Wait, who introduced himself and gave presentation on air quality (AQ) reporting periods from September 2017 to February 2018.

The presentation showed 2017 and 2018 year to date compliance dashboards for area North, Central and South. The presentation explained that during early works reporting will be area based.

HS2 Ltd stated from now on the monthly updates would be uploaded onto the LA SharePoint site.

LBC asked about how HS2 monitor the exemptions / vehicles. HS2 Ltd explained the exemptions process and how HS2 monitor contractors. More information can be found in Information Paper E31.

##### ***NRMM dashboards.***

HS2 Ltd advised that there are no NRMM reporting requirements in the CoCP. LBC queried this. NW explained however, that HS2 Ltd will report performance against the emission standards. The format will be similar GLA NRMM reporting.

The presentation showed route wide dashboards for 2017, 2018 to date and grand total NRMM use.

LBC queried if Network Rail is included in the NRMM reporting. HS2 Ltd confirmed that this is not included at the moment, but will be in the future.

WCC queried how HS2 Ltd assesses compliance? HS2 Ltd explained that contractor registers compliant NRMM plant with HS2 Ltd prior to entry on site and HS2 Ltd carries out an audit / site assurance to make sure this is correct.

HS2 Ltd stated that future reports will be uploaded onto the LA SharePoint site.

Chair stated that HS2 Ltd.'s presentation was very informative.

## Item 5

### ***Monthly Reporting Feedback – Air Quality and Noise Update***

#### ***Air Quality Monitoring Report***

HS2 Ltd explained comments back from EHOs for Air Quality template.

Comment 1 – “The reports are fairly long, look at ways of reducing”

HS2 Ltd stated it was seeking to reduce report length by putting introductory text and background legislation in a separate document. Agreed

Comment 2 – “Diffusion tube data presented in Appendix B/C to be provided in excel format”

HS2 Ltd explained this will be deposited on a Data.gov.uk link.

Comment 3 – “NTS to include a project time line, to show how HS2 construction is affecting AQ (or not)”

HS2 Ltd suggested some additional commentary around current work in that area that has led to the monitoring taking place. HS2 Ltd also noted context for AQ effects will be contained within the annual air quality reports.

Comment 4 – “Need an LAQM Dashboard with NTS”

***Action 5a- HS2 to think about reporting AQ NTS in a simpler manner for benefit of community readers.***

Comment 5 – “Suggest this page carries an explanation why not all parts of the route have associated AQ reports”

HS2 Ltd agreed that text would be added to explain why some areas have reports and others don't. This was Agreed.

### **Noise Monitoring Report**

HS2 Ltd updated that Noise report will be circulated to EH Sub Group for comment. Following an internal review, the sections within the report which do not change month to month have been removed and a link to where explanatory text can be found added. The hour by hour data in the Appendix has also been removed as this data will be provided on a Data.gov.uk website. TRDC asked where complaints were being recorded. HS2 Ltd stated that noise complaints will be reported in the monthly reports in addition complaints will also be reported at the Planning forum.

### **Item 6**

#### ***Prolonged Disturbance Compensation Scheme***

The Chair introduced Kerry Bangle (KB), Sponsor Area South, to the EH Sub Group, who gave a presentation on the Prolonged Disturbance Compensation Scheme (PDCS).

PDCS essentially offers a cash alternative to temporary rehousing (TRH). Those who qualify could either take or the cash alternative, not both. TRDC asked about cumulative effects and impacts. HS2 Ltd stated that this scheme will operate predominantly on predictions of noise. HS2 Ltd has developed a cumulative impacts tool which contractors are required to use. This would then inform the need for noise insulation and temporary rehousing.

LBC asked about how non-noise disturbances are addressed. KB responded that noise insulation and temporary rehousing thresholds had been used as a rule of thumb for wider disturbance. LBC stated that their Council leader had provided a response to HS2 Ltd.

LBC queried if a resident's property is in a SOAEL area would they qualify for the scheme. HS2 Ltd clarified that to qualify for the PDCS one would need to qualify for temporary rehousing.

LBC asked about how money would be paid to recipients. HS2 Ltd explained payments would be made monthly directly to the household.

KB requested feedback from EH Sub Group members on the PDCS should be given by 6th April 2018. Comments would then be collated and recommendations will be made to



the Secretary of State for Transport. All feedback should be provided via the Planning Forum email address.

TPC asked EH Sub Group members to coordinate with Planning Forum colleagues prior to commenting back to HS2 Ltd, to provide a single view from each Local Authority

## **Item 7**

### ***HS2 Phase One Update***

HS2 Ltd gave presentation providing an update on Phase One.

HS2 Ltd has awarded station design contractors for stations.

CDC mentioned 'Rocky' the newt-sniffing dog had appeared on the BBC.

Chair asked for clarification regarding interrelation between Phase 1, 2a and 2b and how HS2 Ltd managed interaction between LAs. HS2 Ltd explained there were internal interface meetings and stated the Terms of Reference for the Phase 2a Planning Forum would establish the Phase 2a EH Sub Group and any other Phase 2a Sub Groups.

SCC asked that Phase 2a EHOs could join the existing Phase One EH Sub Groups instead of setting up a separate one. HS2 stated that the 2a Forum and associated meetings are focused on the Bill process of the project currently and therefore a single meeting would not work at this stage. However at or around the time of Royal Assent for the 2a Bill it might be beneficial to review how the two Groups interact and have joint meetings.

Action: HS2 Ltd representative from Phase One EH Sub Group to attend future Phase 2a Planning Forum Sub Group meetings, when established.

SCC asked for HS2 Phase One and Phase Two updates going forward.

***Action 7a: HS2 Ltd to include Phase Two Update in future meeting agenda.***

## **Item 8**

### ***Planning forum Feedback***

HS2 Ltd provided an update on from previous Planning Forum including:

- Helen Wass (HS2- Head of Historic Environment) gave update relating to Schedule 17 and Historic England
- There was a design panel update
- KB gave same presentation on Prolonged Disturbance Compensation scheme
- David Gloucester gave update on complaints process and complaints received to date
- Reimbursement update under SLAs

## **Item 9**

### ***Ongoing Construction and Section 61 Experience***

LBC updated that they had supported night time working to remove trees from Euston Square gardens, given there are no residents due to the local buildings all being commercial premises. However, there had been a complaint about vulnerable people (i.e. homeless people) experiencing night time noise.

LBC noted that the applying acoustic noise blankets on Heras fencing had been welcomed locally.

LBC raised that scope changes during works, which may have an effect on approved S61 conditions.

## **Item 10**

### ***Forward Plan/Meeting Agenda Items***

The next EH subgroup will be May 22nd 2018.

#### ***Items for next meeting:***

- Chair: Update on complaints handling at next meeting.
- Chair: CDC requested update on tunnelling activities and application of Section 61.
- LBC requested update on vent shafts. But it was agreed each vent shaft had its unique design constraints.
- Noise template feedback will be covered.
- Contaminated land considered but consensus was that this is something for local meetings at this stage.

## **Item 11**

## **AOB**

HS2 Ltd updated that HS2 Ltd had obtained BREEAM infrastructure award of 'excellent' for our strategic assessment.

***Action 11a: HS2 Ltd to give presentation at future meeting explaining how HS2 Ltd achieved BREEAM Infrastructure strategic assessment award.***

HS2 Ltd updated that Chloe Lewis, Head of Environment for Area South, would be leaving HS2. HS2 Ltd and other EH Sub Group members acknowledged her excellent work and valued contribution to the EH Sub Group.

HS2 Ltd stated that the model Section 61 Consent conditions had been agreed.

***Action 11b: HS2 to recirculate model Section 61 Consent condition to EH Sub Group members.***

Future EH Subgroup: Agreed Thursday 19th July as date for future meeting

## **Actions**

Action 2a: HS2 to check process for getting access to SharePoint before next meeting on May 22nd.

Action 3a: HS2 Ltd to return to the EH Sub Group with more information on operational noise, when available.

Action 3b: HS2 to share slides following meeting.

Action 5a: HS2 to think about reporting AQ NTS in a simpler manner.

Action 7a: HS2 Ltd to include Phase Two Update in future meeting agenda.

Action 11a: HS2 Ltd to give presentation at future meeting explaining how HS2 Ltd achieved BREEAM Infrastructure strategic assessment award.

Action 11b: HS2 to recirculate model Section 61 Consent condition to EH Sub Group members.