

Phase 2a Planning Forum – Environmental Health Subgroup Minutes #2 – February 2020

Date, time & Venue:	Thursday 13 February 11:00-13:00 HS2, Snowhill	
Promoter Attendees:		HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd Department for Transport (DfT) HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd
Attendees:		Cheshire East Council (CEC) Cheshire East Council (CEC) Stafford Borough Council (SBC) Stafford Borough Council (SBC) Newcastle-under-Lyme District Council (NUL) Newcastle-under-Lyme District Council (NUL) Lichfield District Council (LDC) Staffordshire County Council (SCC) Chiltern & South Bucks District Council (CDC)
Also invited/ apologies:		Stafford Borough Council (SBC) Lichfield District Council (LDC) Cheshire East Council (CEC) Cheshire East Council (CEC) Staffordshire County Council (SCC) Stafford Borough Council (SBC) Shropshire Council (SC) Department for Transport (DfT) East Staffordshire Borough Council (ESBC) Stafford Borough Council (SBC)
Copies:		

Item	Topic	Action owner
1.	<u>Introductions and agenda</u> All attendees introduced themselves and which organisation they represent. The chair apologised for the meeting being postponed from November (due to the Pre-election Period restrictions) and ran through the agenda for the meeting.	
2.	<u>Review of the actions from the last meeting</u> Action: HS2 Ltd to recirculate the Terms of Reference (ToR) to the subgroup members to enable those unable to attend to formally approve. <i>Action closed.</i>	

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	<p>Action: Members of the subgroup to confirm their formal approval of the ToR. <i>All agreed, action now closed.</i></p> <p>Action: HS2 Ltd to confirm the most appropriate subgroup to cover water quality/private water supplies. <i>It was discussed that relevant updates from the Flood Risk and Drainage sub-group can be provided to the Environmental Health sub-group and the agenda and minutes can be shared with those interested. Items on private water supplies can also be included on the agenda at future Environmental Health sub-group meetings.</i></p> <p>Action: HS2 Ltd to include contaminated land/land quality within the scope of the meetings. <i>Action closed - future agenda items will be added as appropriate.</i></p> <p>Action: Members requested that provisional dates for future meetings are sent out early to secure availability. <i>Noted. June or early July was proposed for the next meeting.</i></p> <p>Action: HS2 Ltd to progress the Section 61 guidance to enable it to be shared in draft. <i>Action closed - guidance complete and to be circulated with the meeting minutes.</i></p> <p>Action: HS2 to set up another session to discuss the Section 61 process and liaise with another council willing to share their experience on Phase One. <i>Action closed – scheduled as part of this meeting.</i></p> <p>Action: HS2 Ltd to provide information on the funding arrangements. <i>Action closed - information was circulated with meeting #1 minutes.</i></p> <p>Action: SBC to send through specific query raised if an HS2 Ltd response is still required. <i>Action closed – response no longer required.</i></p> <p>Action: NuL to provide details to HS2 Ltd of issues specific to their area and arrange a separate meeting for discussion. <i>Action agreed to be closed however HS2 Ltd is willing to support with future queries.</i></p> <p>Action: NuL to provide information on the council's air quality compliance (data sources and references) for separate discussion. <i>Action agreed to be closed however HS2 Ltd is willing to support with future queries.</i></p> <p>Action: HS2 Ltd to circulate links to the initial ground investigation (GI) reports and liaise with Phase One regarding sharing of subsequent GI information. <i>Action closed - links circulated with meeting minutes #1.</i></p>	
3.	<p><u>Phase 2a Update (Bill and Delivery)</u></p> <p>HS2 Ltd gave an update on the progress of the hybrid Bill, explaining that it was awaiting revival following the dissolution of Parliament in November. The Revival Bill would enable the remaining petitions to be heard by the House of Lords Select Committee. HS2 Ltd also gave an update on delivery of Phase 2a, including the current Early Environment Works (EEW) package.</p> <p>SBC asked if Phase 2a would be referred to as Phase One following the publication of the Oakervee report. HS2 Ltd advised that as both phases will have a separate Act, they would likely continue to be referred to as Phase One and Phase 2a.</p>	
4.	<p><u>Section 61s, including Local Authority feedback</u></p> <p>HS2 Ltd presented information on the Section 61 (S61) process, providing an overview of the HS2 Guidance Note that has been developed. This included: a summary of the requirements; planning and preparation; the formal application process; the use of Statements of Intent (Sol) for low risk sites; templates; and the provision for appeals.</p> <p>HS2 Ltd advised that contractors will undertake a risk assessment for all works. For low risk works a Sol will be issued to the local authority rather than a formal S61 application. HS2 Ltd confirmed that it will review the contractors' applications and will provide input, however it will not approve or provide the S61, it is the contractor that owns the consent.</p> <p>HS2 Ltd advised that the guidance had originally been developed with the Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) for Phase One and was drafted as a Phase One document. It has now been modified to be applicable route-wide and would be circulated with the minutes of the meeting.</p>	

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	<p>Action: HS2 Ltd to circulate the Section 61 guidance with the minutes. The EHOs are invited to comment on the guidance. Post Meeting Note: the Section 61 guidance note was circulated to the EH Subgroup in an email dated 17-Mar-2020. <i>Action Closed.</i></p> <p>HS2 Ltd confirmed that there will be an appeal process in place. The guidance for this has been developed by Department for Transport (DfT) and is based on the equivalent document for Phase One. HS2 Ltd will circulate a draft of this guidance, ahead of its publication, with the minutes of the meeting.</p>	HS2 Ltd
	<p>Action: HS2 Ltd to share the draft Guidance on the determination of appeals in relation to noise from construction sites. Post Meeting Note: the draft guidance note was circulated to the EH Subgroup in an email dated 17-Mar-2020. <i>Action Closed.</i></p> <p>The EHO from Chiltern & South Bucks District Council (CDC) attended as a guest speaker and presented on his experience of being an EHO on Phase One. CDC advised that pre-application engagement is key and that community engagement is also a key factor in managing S61 consents. He also referred to the HS2 Information Paper on Control of Construction Noise and Vibration, which for Phase 2a is Information Paper E13. It was agreed to circulate a link to this paper to the sub-group.</p>	HS2 Ltd
	<p>Action: HS2 to share Information Paper E13 on the 'Control of construction noise and vibration'. <i>Action closed.</i></p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/841631/E13_Control_of_Construction_Noise_and_Vibration_v1.1.pdf</p> <p>Time was allowed in the agenda for questions and a number were raised as follows:</p> <p>SBC asked how HS2 Ltd would organise the applications so that they are not all submitted at once. HS2 Ltd advised that the contractors should provide a forward look of the number of applications a local authority is likely to receive to ensure that the workload can be planned.</p> <p>CDC was asked how many applications had been submitted to date. CDC advised that to date the majority had been Sols. LDC also confirmed that to date, from their experience on Phase One, it had mainly been Sols that had been received rather than formal S61 applications. Post Meeting Note: CDC has been issued with approximately 14No. S61 applications to date.</p> <p>NuL asked if the Principal Contractor would submit applications for the contractors working for them. HS2 Ltd confirmed that this was likely to be the case, although applications from third parties (e.g. from utility companies) would be submitted separately.</p> <p>NuL commented how they would know whether the contractor was proposing best practicable means (BPM), e.g. in relation to tunnels or viaducts, if they had no prior experience of what constitutes BPM for those activities. HS2 Ltd advised that they would expect the contractor to be able to clearly articulate the proposed method of working and why it constitutes BPM. Other EHOs on Phase One will also have experience which can be shared.</p> <p>A question was also asked on how applications would work that crossed Local Authority boundaries. HS2 Ltd confirmed that where works span the boundaries of more than one local authority, S61 applications (or Sol as appropriate) shall be formally submitted to each of the relevant authorities for determination. Where the local authorities agree, a lead authority approach may be taken in respect of the cross-boundary works. Where works are wholly within the borders of one local authority but impact upon receptors in another, S61 applications (or Sol as appropriate) shall be submitted for determination to the relevant authority in which the works occur and a copy of the application forwarded to any adjoining authority for information. In such instances, it is expected that the relevant local authority in which the works occur will have regard to any comments from the adjoining local authority when issuing a consent.</p> <p>The CDC EHO advised that he would be happy for his contact details to be shared with the minutes should the EHOs have any follow up queries after the meeting.</p>	HS2 Ltd
	<p>Action: HS2 to share contact details for the CDC EHO with the minutes. Post Action Note: contact details have been shared with the EH Subgroup in an email dated 17-Mar-2020. <i>Action Closed.</i></p>	HS2 Ltd

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<p>5.</p>	<p><u>Air Quality Update – M6 monitoring and best practice</u></p> <p>HS2 Ltd gave an update on air quality, including monitoring and reporting and examples of best practice.</p> <p>The monitoring locations adjacent to the M6 and the raw data was shared with the EH Subgroup. Compliance with the National air quality objective was indicated from the raw data. Noise and air quality reports will be shared on www.gov.uk.</p> <p>HS2 Ltd advised that the HS2 vehicle requirements for air quality (from the beginning of 2020) means that all heavy goods vehicles (HGV) working on Phase One (from the beginning of 2020) must be Euro 6 compliant and all light duty vehicles (LDV) must be Euro 6 (diesel) and Euro 4 (petrol) compliant. All HGVs and LDVs on Phase 2a must be compliant from the date of Royal Assent. Exemptions are available for specialist vehicles, unforeseen circumstances and triviality. The Stage IIIB emission requirements and exemptions for Non-Road Mobile Machinery (NRMM) were also covered.</p> <p>HS2 Ltd presented information on the innovation studies which they have been undertaking with universities and others. This includes the West Midlands Air Quality Improvement programme with the University of Birmingham and the HS2 Innovation Panel approved project – NRMM emissions reduction with Kings College London. HS2 Ltd has also been working with the Construction Equipment Association (CEA) in the development of an Emissions Compliance Verification (ECV) system.</p> <p>HS2 Ltd also presented information on best practice for dust management, including examples from Phase One, and information was presented on low emission alternatives which are being used on some Phase One sites, including hybrid excavators.</p> <p>Following the presentation, it was agreed to circulate the link to Information Paper E14 on Air Quality. There was also a brief discussion on carbon and it was agreed to circulate the link on HS2's impact on reducing traffic and carbon.</p> <p>Action: HS2 Ltd to share Information Paper E14 on Air Quality. <i>Action closed.</i> https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/828982/E14_Air_Quality_v1.2.pdf</p> <p>Action: HS2 Ltd to share the link on carbon reduction. <i>Action closed.</i> https://www.hs2.org.uk/why/hs2-and-carbon-reduction/</p> <p>NuL advised that Keele University would be keen to work with HS2 on any innovation study opportunities.</p> <p>Action: NuL to advise on contact details re: Keele university.</p>	<p>HS2 Ltd</p> <p>HS2 Ltd</p> <p>NuL</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p><u>LEMPs & LTMPs</u></p> <p>HS2 Ltd gave a presentation on the development of the Local Environmental Management Plans (LEMPs) and how the LEMPs and Local Traffic Management Plans (LTMPs) will interact with each other.</p> <p>HS2 Ltd advised that a LEMP has now been drafted for each Local Authority area on Phase 2a. The format is largely based on the structure agreed for the Phase One LEMPs and have been developed using information from relevant sources, including the Code of Construction Practice and the Phase 2a Environmental Statements. Each Local Authority will be sent a copy of the draft LEMP for their area for comment.</p> <p>Action: HS2 Ltd to send each Local Authority a copy of the draft LEMP for their area for comment. These will be issued following circulation of the minutes. Post Meeting Note: The LEMPs have been circulated to the majority of the relevant Local Authority for comment.</p> <p>HS2 Ltd also gave an overview of the requirements of a LTMP and advised that it is a supplementary document to the Routewide Traffic Management Plan (RTMP). The RTMP was written taking into consideration the Phase 2a Bill, Phase One Act, Environmental Statement, Environmental Minimum Requirements, Code of Construction Practice, Register of Undertakings and Assurances and Information Papers. It sets out what must be undertaken to manage traffic</p>	<p>HS2 Ltd</p>

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	and transport, whilst the LTMP sets out how the requirements will be met.	
7.	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>All members were invited to raise any other business. Some specific questions related to the Oakervee report were raised, in particular regarding the Handsacre link. It was agreed that this would need to be passed on to the DfT for their response. Post Meeting Note: The DfT confirmed that the Government intends to retain the Handsacre Junction to enable services to Stafford and Stoke.</p> <p>Action: HS2 Ltd to pass on specific queries in relation to the Oakervee report to the DfT. <i>Action Closed.</i></p> <p>HS2 Ltd proposed the next meeting for June/early July to avoid the summer holiday period. HS2 Ltd asked for all to consider any agenda items for the next meeting, including presentations from the local authorities on aspects of their work that would be beneficial for the group.</p> <p>Action: HS2 to confirm date of the next meeting. Post Meeting Note: the next EH Subgroup meeting is scheduled for 22 July 2020. <i>Action closed.</i></p> <p>Action: All to identify any agenda items for the next meeting, including any presentations from the local authorities. Agenda items to be sent via email to the chair.</p>	<p>HS2 Ltd</p> <p>HS2 Ltd</p> <p>All</p>
	Meeting Close	