

## Phase 2a Planning Forum – Environmental Health Subgroup Minutes #5 – 25 March 2021

<b>Date, time &amp; Venue:</b>	<b>Thursday 25 March 2021</b> <b>10:30 – 12:00</b> <b>Microsoft Teams</b>	
<b>Promoter Attendees:</b>		HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd Department for Transport (DfT)
<b>Attendees:</b>		Cheshire East Council (CEC) Cheshire East Council (CEC) Staffordshire County Council (SCC) Stafford Borough Council (SBC) Stafford Borough Council (SBC) Newcastle-under-Lyme District Council (NUL) East Staffordshire Borough Council (ESBC) East Staffordshire Borough Council (ESBC) Shropshire Council (SC)
<b>Also invited/apologies:</b>		Cheshire East Council (CEC) Department for Transport (DfT) Newcastle-under-Lyme District Council (NUL) Lichfield District Council (LDC) Lichfield District Council (LDC) Shropshire Council (SC) Stafford Borough Council (SBC) Stafford Borough Council (SBC) Staffordshire County Council (SCC) HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd
<b>Copies:</b>		

Item	Topic	Action owner
1.	<b><u>Welcome and Introductions</u></b> All attendees introduced themselves and which organisation they represent. The chair confirmed the agenda and advised on meeting etiquette given the virtual nature of the meeting.	
2.	<b><u>Review of Minutes from Previous Meeting</u></b> <b>Action:</b> HS2 Ltd and its Contractor (Balfour Beatty) to resend the Statement of Intent (SOI) for the ground investigation works to SBC and CEC. <i>Action closed: SOI resent on 25-Nov-20.</i> Other actions were closed out through agenda items.	

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<p>3.</p>	<p><b><u>HS2 Phase 2a Update</u></b></p> <p>HS2 Ltd confirmed that Royal Assent was obtained on 11 February 2021 and provided the Subgroup with links to the Act and Phase 2a Environmental Minimum Requirements (EMRs).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HS2 (West Midlands to Crewe) Act: <a href="https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2046">https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2046</a></li> <li>• Phase 2a EMRs: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environmental-minimum-requirements-for-hs2-phase-2a">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environmental-minimum-requirements-for-hs2-phase-2a</a></li> </ul> <p>HS2 Ltd gave an update on the delivery of Phase 2a early works and main works contracts. HS2 Ltd provided an overview of the works being undertaken by the Early Environmental Works (EEW) contract and an overview of the proposed scope in the Advanced Civil Works (ACW) contract. HS2 Ltd also provided an indicative six month lookahead for Section 61 applications and SOIs to be issued to Local Authorities.</p> <p>HS2 Ltd updated the Subgroup on a Section 61 consent application that will be submitted for the ground investigation (GI) works that are proposed to occur between July and August at M6 Junction 15 as part of the Early Civil Work 1 (ECW1) contract. (Post-meeting note: These works are now scheduled for June/July). HS2 Ltd noted that as the GI works span across two Local Authority boundaries (SBC and NUL), a coordinated approach to consent application will be required. SCC also noted their involvement via the highway works and suggested a coordinated approach between SBC, SCC &amp; NUL is needed for these HS2 works.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> HS2 Ltd to arrange a meeting to discuss the submission of SOIs for the EEW construction works with the relevant Environmental Health Officers.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> HS2 Ltd to share with the Subgroup documentation of the Section 61 application process and model conditions. <i>Action closed: The Guidance Note – Section 61 Procedure for Local Authorities, that includes model conditions in Appendix 7, was previously issued to the EH Subgroup via an email dated 17-March-2020 and a copy is saved on the EH SharePoint site.</i></p> <p><b>Action:</b> SCC to arrange a meeting with SBC and NUL to discuss coordinating their approach to the HS2 ECW1 works.</p>	<p>HS2</p> <p>HS2</p> <p>SCC</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p><b><u>Green Corridor</u></b></p> <p>HS2 Ltd gave an overview of the Green Corridor to the EH Subgroup.</p> <p>The Green Corridor comprises two elements: firstly, the environmental mitigation and compensation being implemented during the construction of the railway. Secondly, through the use of additional funds, i.e. how HS2 can enable stakeholders to realise their own environmental and community projects along the line of route.</p> <p>The Green Corridor will reconnect landscapes by creating a network of bigger, better-connected, climate resilient habitats and new green spaces for people to enjoy. By joining up many projects means the Green Corridor can deliver greater environmental benefits than a series of separate initiatives. The Green Corridor will contribute to parts of the Government’s 25-year environment plan including increasing woodland cover and creating or restoring wildlife habitats. Key stakeholders for the Green Corridor include Natural England, Environment Agency, Forestry Commission and Historic England.</p> <p>The Green Corridor provides additional funds for communities/ organisations to improve water quality, heritage assets, green spaces, and woodlands. Details on the different funds available on Phase 2a is provided in the Prospectus.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green Corridor Prospectus: <a href="https://assets.hs2.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/11152821/24136_HS2_GreenCorridor_v43_CS1469_Interactive.pdf">https://assets.hs2.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/11152821/24136_HS2_GreenCorridor_v43_CS1469_Interactive.pdf</a></li> </ul> <p>HS2 Ltd presented the works undertaken to date on Phase One with the planting of approximately 430,000 trees and the creation of 60 wildlife sites. HS2 Ltd provided the Subgroup with an overview of two projects that have been funded to date: Wendover Woods Hub and Wolesley Centre.</p> <p>Further information on the Green Corridor can be found on the webpage:</p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green Corridor information: <a href="https://www.hs2.org.uk/building-hs2/hs2-green-corridor/">https://www.hs2.org.uk/building-hs2/hs2-green-corridor/</a></li> </ul> <p>SBC enquired if HS2 is considering the carbon offsetting associated with the Green Corridor work. HS2 Ltd confirmed that the carbon sequestering potential is being considered.</p> <p>SBC enquired if Local Authorities could apply for the Green Corridor additional funds. HS2 Ltd stated that each fund has its own particular terms and conditions regarding which parties can apply for the different funding. Further information can be found via the Prospectus.</p>	
5.	<p><b><u>Air Quality Update</u></b></p> <p>HS2 Ltd confirmed that the vehicle and non-road mobile machinery (NRMM) compliance dashboards for Phase 2a will be saved on the EH Subgroup SharePoint site.</p> <p>HS2 Ltd presented the results to date from the M6 baseline air quality monitoring programme. The results of the M6 baseline monitoring will be included in the HS2 Monthly Monitoring summary report as well as the annual Air Quality Report and from 11 February onwards (Royal Assent) published on gov.uk.</p> <p>The Phase One 2020 vehicle and NRMM emission requirement compliance figures were presented to the EH Subgroup. Additionally, the Phase 2a vehicle compliance figures from 11 February (Royal Assent) to 28 February were presented to the Subgroup.</p> <p>HS2 Ltd provided an update on the innovation projects that are currently ongoing to promote air quality improvements, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NRMM Emission Reduction Innovation: the NRMM retrofitting solution to reduce air emissions to an EU Stage V equivalent classification has been certified by the Energy Saving Trust and is now available industry wide. For further information see: <a href="https://mediacentre.hs2.org.uk/news/hs2s-world-first-emissions-retrofit-solution-cuts-emissions-and-carbon-and-will-save-millions-of-pounds">https://mediacentre.hs2.org.uk/news/hs2s-world-first-emissions-retrofit-solution-cuts-emissions-and-carbon-and-will-save-millions-of-pounds</a></li> <li>Clean Air Gas Engine (CAGE): the replacement of diesel with ultra-low emission engines (bio-LPG) is continuing its testing stage at a HS2 construction site (St James' Gardens). An update on the CAGE project will be provided at the next EH Subgroup meeting.</li> <li>Hydrogen HGV dual fuel: diesel HGVs will be retrofitted with a dual fuel system (petrol and hydrogen) and the air emissions from the retrofitted HGV will be tested against a standard HGV.</li> <li>Energy Efficiencies/ Renewables/ Alternative Fuels: emission savings from the use of alternative fuels is being trialled and tested by Balfour Beatty Vinci and Imperial College London (w/c 19 April 2021). HS2 is continuing its trial of alternative hybrid and fully electric solutions. Further feedback from the trials will be provided at the next Subgroup meeting and updated on the HS2 Air Quality Webpage.</li> </ul> <p>SC enquired if retrofitted dual fuel HGVs can be programmed to run on hydrogen when in sensitive areas, e.g. residential. HS2 Ltd confirmed that the HGVs can be switched to use hydrogen when needed; however, HS2 Ltd was unable to confirm if this process can be automated when in sensitive areas.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> HS2 Ltd to determine if retrofitted dual fuel HGVs can be automatically programmed to switch to hydrogen fuel consumption in sensitive areas.</p> <p>SBC enquired if HS2 vehicles are marked. HS2 Ltd responded that vehicles are not marked because HS2 employs a wide supply chain; however, all vehicles working on HS2 are tracked via the Vehicle Monitoring System (VMS) and have a unique ID on their windows. SC enquired how compliance with the emission requirements are monitored, raising specific concerns by the residents at Woore. HS2 Ltd stated that all vehicle and their emission classification need to be registered on the VMS. HS2 also undertakes onsite audits to confirm compliance.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> HS2 Ltd to send a note to the Subgroup on how vehicle emission compliance is monitored and how complaints are managed.</p>	<p>HS2</p> <p>HS2</p>

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6.	<p><b><u>Planning Forum Feedback</u></b></p> <p>The HS2 Senior Town Planning Manager for Phase 2a provided feedback on the Phase 2a Planning Forum held on 17 March 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Planning Forum Note 17 (Information for Decision Making) has been agreed.</li> <li>• The Class Approval (class approval for matters ancillary to development under Schedule 17) was made on 15 March 2021.</li> <li>• The Schedule 17 Draft Statutory Guidance document is currently being drafted and will be published by Department for Transport in due course.</li> <li>• The Forward Plan giving an indicative six-month programme for the submission of Schedule 17 applications will be issued to the Local Planning Authorities at the end of March.</li> <li>• The Schedule 17 lorry route pre-application process will be commencing soon for Cheshire East Council followed by Staffordshire County Council.</li> </ul>	
7.	<p><b><u>Local Authority Experience and Feedback</u></b></p> <p>SCC discussed collaboration with other Local Authorities on any HS2 highway works and offered support and guidance to Local Authorities working on Phase 2a.</p>	
8.	<p><b><u>Forward Planning</u></b></p> <p>SBC identified that it would be useful to have a further update following on from the Green Corridor presentation, specific to the Phase 2a Local Authority areas, and linked to carbon.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> HS2 Ltd to consider providing an update at a subsequent meeting, where possible including the carbon sequestering potential of habitats constructed by Phase 2a when data becomes available.</p> <p>SBC requested a presentation on how Local Authorities can recover costs from HS2 Ltd via the Service Level Agreement (SLA).</p> <p><b>Action:</b> HS2 Ltd to provide the EH Subgroup with a presentation on Local Authorities recovering costs from HS2 work.</p>	<p>HS2</p> <p>HS2</p>
10.	<p><b><u>AOB</u></b></p> <p>The next EH Subgroup meeting was proposed for July 2021.</p> <p>SBC enquired about Local Authorities recovering costs for Third Parties that are required to come in to support on HS2 work.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> HS2 Ltd to confirm the specifics around Local Authorities charging for Third Parties to undertake work where necessary.</p> <p>SBC noted that they have received a report from the Stone Railhead Crisis Group stating that the Group do not consider the plans for the haul route to be feasible. HS2 Ltd noted the Stone Railhead Crisis Group's concerns and are in discussion with SBC about the concerns raised outside of the EH Subgroup.</p> <p>SC enquired if HS2 Ltd can provide an overview of the proposed HS2 works that will be occurring around the Woore area.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> HS2 Ltd to provide SC with an overview of the works that are occurring at Woore.</p>	<p>HS2</p> <p>HS2</p>

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	<b>Action:</b> HS2 Ltd to provide a presentation on how to access the EH Subgroup SharePoint site at the next EH meeting.	HS2
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