

Phase 2a Planning Forum – Highways Sub Group Minutes #19 – July 2021

Date, time & Venue:	Thursday 15 th July (11:00 – 12:30) MS Teams	
Nominated Undertaker Attendees:	██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████	HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd
Promoter Attendees:	██████████	DfT
Attendees:	██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████	Staffordshire County Council Cheshire East Highways Highways England Atkins Atkins Atkins
Also invited/ apologies:	██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████	Staffordshire County Council Shropshire Council Shropshire Council Stoke on Trent City Council Cheshire East Highways Cheshire East Highways DfT HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd
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Item	Topic
1 & 2	<u>Introductions</u> All attendees introduced themselves and which organisation/highway authority they represented. Apologies received were noted.
3.	<u>Review of Actions from last meeting</u> The minutes of meeting #18 were agreed. Actions arising from the previous meeting were reviewed, please refer to the Action Log.

<p>4.</p>	<p><u>Update by DfT</u></p> <p>Phase 2a Local Consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DfT ran a Phase 2a local consultation in February asking for views on environmental and transport impacts and on transport provision for the Phase 2a Scheme. • DfT published an Ipsos MORI Report on 13 May which summarised the points made by those responding to the consultation and on 29 June the Government Response to the Consultation was published. • The Government response acknowledges the challenges facing communities which will be affected by Phase 2a construction, of learning lessons from Phase One and the importance of listening to local people and acting on their feedback. • It sets out the Government’s intention to improve the Phase 2a Scheme as it is developed, to avoid reduce and mitigate environmental impacts and impacts to local communities and to work with organisations and communities to tackle issues as they occur. • It gives details of the £17.8m package of funds for Phase 2a to deliver benefits for communities and the local environment along the Phase 2a route. <p>Road Safety Fund Allocations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government has established a £6.5m Road Safety Fund for Phase 2a to help improve traffic, pedestrian, cycle and equestrian safety along the route. • The Government Response to the Phase 2a Local Consultation set out the allocations for the £6.5m Phase 2a Road Safety Fund, comprising of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ██████████ for Staffordshire County Council; ○ ██████████ for Cheshire East Council; and ○ ██████████ for Shropshire Council. • The fund is proportioned on the basis of distance travelled by Large Goods Vehicles in each local highway authority area to be a more accurate proportioning of funding compared to the number of journeys, as used for Phase One. This is because distance is more reflective of impact in any area, as journeys will vary in length. • An official letter from the Department will be sent shortly to the relevant Councils confirming the allocations and giving further information. <p>ACTION: Cheshire East Council asked DfT to see if Road Safety Fund allocation letters can be shared with attendees of this group as they may go to other departments/areas within councils before being seen by attendees.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p><u>Road Safety fund procedure</u></p> <p>HS2 provided an overview of the road safety fund procedure, based on how the procedure works currently with Phase One.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p><u>Highway Condition Surveys</u></p> <p>Atkins (EDP), who carried out the Highway Condition Surveys on Phase One, gave an overview of why and how the surveys are carried out. To carry out these works, the Highway Condition Survey Methodology developed by TRL is followed. The team will collect data to build up a baseline on Class B roads and below.</p> <p>Cheshire East Highways raised concerns that SCANNER vehicles might not be suitable for some rural roads and an alternative might be needed. Atkins noted the concern for when the network has been assessed.</p> <p>It was also noted that should a Highway Authority carry out maintenance on a section of road, the team will be able to reset the survey to take this into account.</p> <p>A roads & Trunk roads have been excluded from the survey as it is assumed that they are suitable for HGV traffic. However, during the Phase One works sometimes the approach from an A road onto a B road was assessed.</p> <p>Using a bridge condition index would be the proposed approach for structures along the route. However only structures that have been identified as a risk are assessed.</p>

7.	<p><u>TRO Guidance</u></p> <p>HS2 highlighted the TRO guidance to Highway Authorities. Schedule 30 of the High Speed Rail (West Midlands to Crewe) Act 2021 requires authorities along the route to consult the Secretary of State for Transport before making an order which could 'significantly interfere' with use of the road for HS2 construction purposes.</p>
8.	<p><u>Lorry routes and Schedule 17</u></p> <p>HS2 gave a Schedule 17 update to attendees.</p> <p>Comments made on the draft Written Statement by Cheshire East Council are currently being reviewed ahead of an anticipated submission towards the end of August 2021.</p> <p>The draft Written Statement for Staffordshire is currently being reviewed internally n HS2 before sharing with Staffordshire County Council. There is an anticipated submission of October 2021 for Staffordshire.</p> <p>Forward plans will be issued by the end of the month (July 2021).</p> <p>Staffordshire County Council asked for more coordination between Schedule 4 and Schedule 17 to help their review. It was agreed a lookahead of works from contractors would be useful.</p> <p>ACTION: HS2 to ask contractors to put Schedule 4's into Street Manager and present at TLG so everyone can have a forward look.</p>
9.	<p><u>Forward Programme and Future Meeting dates</u></p> <p>The next Highway Sub Group meeting is to be held on 9th September.</p> <p>The dates for the next two Highway Sub Group meetings are as follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thursday 4th November - Thursday 6th January (subject to further postponing depending on availability with Christmas break). <p>If for any reason you can not make these dates, please let [REDACTED] know so that we can move the meetings to ensure all required attendees can join.</p>
10.	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>HE raised that they are not often seeing Schedule 4 submissions and requested if it would be possible to get a lookahead.</p> <p>ACTION: HS2 to speak to HE contacts to discuss and resolve this issue.</p>