

Phase 2a Planning Forum – Environmental Health Subgroup Minutes #7 – 1 December 2021

Date, time & Venue:	Wednesday 1 December 2021 14:30 – 16:00 Microsoft Teams	
Promoter Attendees:		HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd HS2 Ltd Department for Transport (DfT)
Attendees:		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) Shropshire Council (SC) Independent Acoustic Consultant
Also invited/ apologies:		Cheshire East Council (CEC) Cheshire East Council (CEC) Department for Transport (DfT) East Staffordshire Borough Council (ESBC) East Staffordshire Borough Council (ESBC) East Staffordshire Borough Council (ESBC) 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
Copies:		

Item	Topic	Action owner
1.	<u>Welcome and Introductions</u> All attendees introduced themselves and which organisation they represent. The chair confirmed the meeting agenda.	
2.	<u>Review of Minutes from Previous Meeting</u> Action: HS2 Ltd to send the EH Subgroup the Local Authority Service Level Agreement: Schedule of Services. <i>Action closed: The Schedule of Services was emailed to the EH Subgroup on 6 August 2021.</i>	

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	<p>Action: HS2 Ltd to resend the Guidance Note for accessing the EH SharePoint site and request if EH Officers require their passwords for accessing the EH SharePoint to be reset. <i>Action closed: The Guidance Note and a request for EH Officers to confirm if they require a password reset was emailed to the EH Subgroup on 6 August 2021.</i></p> <p>Action: HS2 Ltd to ask for EH Officers to confirm their preference for future meetings, i.e., whether they are virtual or face to face. <i>Action closed: An email was sent to the EH Subgroup on 6 August 2021.</i></p>	
3.	<p><u>HS2 Phase 2a Update</u></p> <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 Advanced Critical Design (ACD) contract to support the procurement and onboarding of the Design and Delivery Partner (DDP) in 2022. HS2 Ltd also provided an update on the Early Environmental Works (EEW) contract.</p>	
4.	<p><u>Non-Contestable Utilities</u></p> <p>HS2 Ltd gave an overview of the non-contestable utility (NCU) portfolio across Phase 2a and an indicative programme for the NCU works. All NCU works are delivered by the relevant Statutory Undertaker / Utility Company.</p> <p>HS2 Ltd provided the EH Subgroup with a description of the NCU scope of works: surveys, consenting, delivery of the utility work, and reinstatement of land (where required). HS2 Ltd described the process used to assure that the Utility Company's works are undertaken in accordance with HS2 requirements and other relevant legislation.</p> <p>HS2 Ltd gave an indicative forward look of Section 61 consents and Statement of Intent that will be submitted to the Local Authorities.</p>	
5.	<p><u>Air Quality Update</u></p> <p>HS2 Ltd noted that the HS2 Air Quality Webpage has been updated with the latest information on HS2's emission requirements and innovation studies. HS2 Ltd also confirmed that the Learning Legacy Webpage has been launched. The HS2 Learning Legacy shares lessons learned, good practice and innovation from the HS2 Programme. Links:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Quality Webpage: https://www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/managing-impacts-of-construction/hs2-and-air-quality/ • Learning Legacy Webpage: https://learninglegacy.hs2.org.uk/ <p>HS2 Ltd presented the results to date from the M6 baseline air quality monitoring programme. The results of the M6 baseline monitoring are included in the HS2 Monthly Monitoring summary report. The annualised air quality monitoring results for 2020 will be published imminently.</p> <p>The Phase One 2021 Non-Road Mobile Machinery (NRMM) emission requirement compliance figures were presented to the EH Subgroup. Additionally, the Phase 2a vehicle compliance figures from 11 February (Royal Assent) to 31 October were presented.</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"> • NRMM Emission Reduction Innovation: the second phase of the NRMM emission measurements are complete (refer to the July 2021 minutes for further detail). Trials to better understand site worker's exposure to air quality emissions are ongoing. • Clean Air Gas Engine (CAGE): additional welfare units with the CAGE technology are being deployed across the project, and progress has been made on Phase 2 that involves a stand along bio-LPG system as a direct replacement for diesel generators. • Hydrogen HGV dual fuel: HS2 Ltd noted the challenges in obtaining green hydrogen (hydrogen derived from renewable sources). HS2 Ltd is working with the supply chain to develop a Strategic Business Case for green hydrogen infrastructure. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy Efficiencies/ Renewables/ Alternative Fuels: The alternative fuel trial has been completed and results can be found in the links below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://mediacentre.hs2.org.uk/news/alternative-fuels-trial-boosts-hs2-drive-to-cut-carbon https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/imperial-college-london-alternative-fuels-study <p>SBC enquired whether the transformers and power supply used for the HS2 railway will operate on a renewable electricity.</p> <p>Action: HS2 Ltd to confirm how electricity will be generated for the operation of the railway.</p> <p>SBC enquired about the noise outputs from stationary systems. HS2 Ltd referred to Environment Paper 11 for further information on the control of noise from stationary systems. Link:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/960726/E11_Control_of_noise_from_the_operation_of_stationary_systems_v1.1.pdf <p>SBC enquired if HS2 Ltd will be installing electric vehicle (EV) points during construction and if they can be made permanent. HS2 Ltd confirmed that there will be EV charging points in compounds but was unable to confirm whether these points would be made permanent.</p> <p>Action: HS2 Ltd to confirm if EV charging points installed for the construction will be temporary or permanent.</p>	<p>HS2</p> <p>HS2</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p><u>HS2 Independent Acoustic Consultant</u></p> <p>The Independent Acoustic Consultant (here-on-in referred to as the Specialist) introduced themselves to the EH Subgroup and their role with the HS2 project.</p> <p>The Specialist described that Schedule 26 of the High Speed Rail (West Midlands – Crewe) Act 2021 modifies subsection 7 of the Control of Pollution Act such that an appeal against a notice or against a failure to give consent or the giving of qualified consent is determined by the Secretary of State (SoS) rather than through a magistrates’ court.</p> <p>To assist in determining appeals the SoS is likely to instruct an independent construction noise specialist and the Specialist described how he has been appointed to fulfil this role.</p> <p>The Specialist went on to detail the requirements of the appeal process as described in the High Speed Rail (West Midlands – Crewe) Act 2021: Guidance on the Determination of Appeals in Relation to Noise from Construction Sites”, this included information on the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rights of Appeals; Determination of Appeals, including the appointment of the independent construction noise specialist by the Secretary of State; and Procedure to be followed in the determination of an Appeal. <p>Link: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/high-speed-rail-west-midlands-to-crewe-act-2021-hs2-phase-2a-noise-appeals</p> <p>The Specialist detailed his experience to date with construction noise appeals on Phase One.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p><u>Planning Forum Feedback</u></p> <p>HS2 Ltd provided feedback on the Phase 2a Planning Forum held on 17 November 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An update on the construction and utility works on Phase 2a was provided; Planning Forum Note 18 (Waste, Minerals and Borrow Pits) was presented. The Note is currently with the Local Planning Authorities for review and comment; The Phase 2a consenting forward plan was presented to the Planning Forum; and The next Planning Forum will be held in mid-January 2022. 	

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8.	<p><u>Local Authority Experience and Feedback</u></p> <p>No feedback was received from the EH Subgroup during this agenda item. Questions were posed during the other agenda items and are captured accordingly in the minutes.</p>	
9	<p><u>Forward Planning</u></p> <p>SBC requested a future agenda item on air quality and carbon from the operation of HS2.</p> <p>Action: HS2 Ltd to have a future agenda item on the air quality and carbon impacts of HS2 in the operational phase.</p> <p>The Chair raised reducing the frequency of EH Subgroup while Phase 2a is still in the early work stage. No objections were raised by the EH Subgroup Members. The next EH Subgroup meeting was proposed for June 2022.</p>	HS2
10.	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>No AOB.</p>	