

INDEPENDENT Phase 2b Planning FORUM FOR HS2

Date & Time:	<p>Phase 2b Planning Forum Meeting</p> <p>Wednesday 14th September 2022</p> <p>10:00 – 13:00 Planning Forum</p> <p>Microsoft Teams (See calendar invite)</p>
Independent Chair:	

Item		Lead	Time
	Welcome and introductions	Forum Chair	10:00
1	Review of actions log	HS2 Ltd	10:05
2	Review of minutes	HS2 Ltd	10:10
3	Bill update	HS2 Ltd	10:15
4	Petitioning issues	HS2 Ltd	10:25
5	Operation of Schedule 17 and lessons learnt	HS2 Ltd	11:05
6	Ground Investigation Strategy	HS2 Ltd	11:45
7	Overview of Undertaking and Assurances	HS2 Ltd	11:55
8	General Principles of the Environmental Minimum Requirements (EMRs) feedback	HS2 Ltd	12:10
9	Community Engagement update	HS2 Ltd	12:15
10	Update from subgroup meetings	HS2 Ltd	12:25
11	Planning authority feedback and matters feedback from pre-meets with Chair	Local authorities (with Forum Chair)	12:30
12	Overview of content for future meetings	HS2 Ltd	12:45
13	Next meeting – 9th November 2022	All	12:50
14	AOB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2023 proposed meeting dates 	All	12:55
	End		13:00

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		Owner
	<p>Welcome and Introductions</p> <p>Chair opened the meeting and welcomed those who were attending the Forum for the first time.</p>	
1	<p>Review of actions log</p> <p>1.1 HS2 Ltd advised that all outstanding actions had been completed.</p> <p>1.2 HS2 Ltd reminded members who did not have access to the live sub group programme (on SharePoint) to inform HS2 Ltd.</p>	
2	<p>Review of Minutes from Previous meeting</p> <p>2.1 The July 2022 meeting minutes were agreed and will be published on GOV.UK.</p> <p>Action: HS2 Ltd to upload the July 2022 minutes to GOV.UK.</p>	HS2 Ltd
3	<p>Bill deposit</p> <p>3.1 HS2 Ltd explained that there has been minimal progress on the Bill in Parliament, due to recent ministerial changes, which in turn has delayed the appointment of a Select Committee.</p>	

<p>4</p>	<p>Petitioning issues</p> <p>4.1 HS2 Ltd provided a summary of the broad issues raised in petitions (for Schedule 17 & EMRs) that were received against the Bill and Additional Provision 1 (AP1), from six of the local authorities who are members of the Planning Forum (see slide pack for further details).</p> <p><u>Schedule 17 specific</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Requests for a major/minor split for the appropriate period defined in para 24(5)• Requests for a requirement for public engagement under para 18• Concern over the definition of temporary in para 3(9)• Seeking commitments on the packaging of requests for approvals and handling of requests e.g:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Determination periods- Agreement of conditions• Seeking advance notice for planning submissions (6 months)• Should be a validation process for submissions <p><u>EMR specific</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• That documents such as prior LEMPs should be agreed with the planning authority• Status/weight of pre-application advice• That planning authorities should monitor HS2 works• That various aspects controlled by the CoCP should be subject to planning authority approval• Certain further assessments are required• Requests for further local authority funding to enable sufficient resource <p>4.2 The Chair acknowledged that some of the concerns have been discussed at previous meetings and noted that the Planning Forum could usefully discuss many of these broad issues in future meetings. .</p>	
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<p>5</p>	<p>Schedule 17 Pre-Application Engagement and Lessons Learnt on Phase 1</p> <p>5.1. HS2 Ltd provided an overview of two examples of scheduled works in Phase one, both of which had received approval under Schedule 17 of the Phase one Act. The presentation focussed on the process of pre application engagement and engagement during consideration of the submission by the relevant local planning authority, together with subsequent learning (see slide pack for further information).</p> <p>5.2. HS2 Ltd observed through their current petition engagement with members, it was evident that there were concerns around the familiarity of the Schedule 17 process and a perception that local authorities will not be given sufficient time to determine applications without consultation. HS2 Ltd stated that the Planning Forum will play an important role in simplifying the process and provide reassurance in areas where members had concern.</p> <p>5.3. HS2 Ltd explained that the Schedule 17 process is different compared to the Town and Country Planning Act as it more constrained. However, local authorities will still have a high degree of control through the Planning Regime and the commitments given in the EMRs. It was made clear that there will not be a circumstance where a Schedule 17 application is submitted to a local authority without pre-application consultation, as this would be a breach of the commitment given to parliament in the EMRs. HS2 Ltd emphasised that it was in everyone’s interest to engage in early proportionate pre-application consultation in order to reduce the risk of refusal/non-determination.</p> <p>5.4. The Chair noted the importance of HS2 Ltd sharing the lessons learnt from previous phases, so that they can be incorporated into the process for Phase 2b. He requested that two items should be brought to a future meeting. The first item related to the differences between the scope of the Independent Design Panel (IDP) and the remit of Schedule 17. The second item was related to temporary construction activities and the scope of Schedule 17.</p> <p>Action: HS2 Ltd to include the following items at a future meeting</p> <p>(1) on differences between the scope of the Independent Design Panel (IDP) and the remit of Schedule 17.</p> <p>(2) The second item was related to temporary construction activities and the scope of Schedule 17.</p>	<p>HS2 Ltd</p>
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6	<p>Ground Investigation Strategy</p> <p>6.1 HS2 Ltd provided an overview of the Ground Investigation (GI) Strategy for Phase 2b route wide (see slide pack for further information).</p> <p>6.2 HS2 Ltd set out the town planning strategy associated with route wide GI. The strategy relied predominately upon the use of Permitted Development rights (GDPO Schedule 2 para 4 Class A and B), however it was explained that if this was not the appropriate route then a full planning application would be submitted to the relevant authority.</p> <p>6.3 CEC noted that they have already received planning applications citing HS2 construction as the main or substantive justification for the submission. However, there was uncertainty if all the applications genuinely related to HS2 or were formally endorsed by HS2.</p> <p>6.4 HS2 Ltd explained that they had been made aware of one landowner that has submitted a planning application for a site compound. HS2 Ltd had not been involved in, or agreed to, these proposals. HS2 Ltd confirmed that, where any site was required for a GI compound, it will always undertake pre-application discussions with local authorities prior to submitting any planning application.</p> <p>6.5 CEC and HS2 agreed to discuss the matter further bilaterally.</p> <p>Action: HS2 Ltd to provide the G.I Project Manager’s contact details to the Forum.</p>	HS2 Ltd
7	<p>Overview of Undertaking and Assurances</p> <p>7.1 HS2 Ltd provided an overview of Undertaking and Assurances associated with the parliamentary process (see slide deck and Information Paper B5 here).</p>	
8	<p>General Principles of the Environmental Minimum Requirements</p>	

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	<p>8.1 HS2 Ltd provided a status update on the General Principles of the Environmental Minimum Requirements (EMRs).</p> <p>8.2 HS2 Ltd noted that members have not raised any new concerns following the request for comments at the previous Forum but do require additional time to properly review the document. Therefore, it was agreed that the item would be revisited in 2023 to seek final comments and agreement on the document.</p>	
9	<p>Community Engagement</p> <p>Stephen Smith confirmed that he had been appointed as the new Interim Head of Community Engagement and would be leading on this issue at future forum meetings .</p> <p>9.1 HS2 Ltd advised that there were no specific updates to share with members beyond what was covered in July’s meeting. However, HS2 Ltd emphasised that they have undertaken the activities that they presented at the last meeting and continue to support the petition team with their petition activities.</p> <p>9.2 CWCC asked if HS2 Ltd have arranged site visits for members of the public to view previous phases of the project, to gain an understanding of the potential construction impacts that they may experience.</p> <p>9.3 HS2 Ltd explained that in previous phases there has not been the opportunity for the general public to view sites, given the stage of each phase. However, as construction works have begun on Phase 1 and early works on Phase 2a, the general public can view the sites from publicly accessible area.</p>	
10	<p>Sub group update</p> <p>10.1 HS2 Ltd provided an overview of the themes covered at each sub group meeting since May 2022 (see slide pack for further details).</p> <p>10.2 HS2 Ltd presented a live programme of upcoming sub group meetings.</p>	

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11	Planning authority feedback and matters Feedback from pre-meets with Chair 11.1 The Chair confirmed that a pre meeting had taken place with local authorities in August. He confirmed that nearly all the matters raised from the pre meeting had already been discussed at this meeting of the forum. The only outstanding issue that had been raised at the earlier LPA pre meeting was whether any of the off-route sites (Preston, Carlisle and Annadale) would feature as KDEs. 11.2 HS2 Ltd explained that most of the works in the Preston and Carlisle are alterations to existing assets, therefore it is unlikely that those sites would be considered as a KDE. HS2 Ltd would confirm the status of Annadale as it is a new asset. 11.3 The Chair also confirmed that the next LA/Chair pre-meet would be held (via Teams) on 12th October 2022.	
12	Overview of content for future meetings Planning authority feedback and matters 12.1 HS2 Ltd provided an indicative overview of November's meeting, which is also the last meeting of the year for the Forum (see slide pack for further details). It was noted that this programme would be kept under review to allow opportunities for further discussion of matters if required.	
13	Arrangements for the next meeting on 9 November 13.1 It was advised that the next meeting will be online only, but it was hoped that the Forum would be conducted in a hybrid format twice a year from 2023, which would provide further opportunities for Forum members to meet in person. 13.2 Meeting invites will be sent out shortly and Members will be asked to confirm/update their representatives who will attend.	

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14	AOB	
	END	12:10