

**INDEPENDENT Phase 2b Planning FORUM FOR HS2**

<b>Title:</b>	<b>Planning Forum for HS2 Phase 2b</b>	
<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021 10:30 – 13:30</b> <b>Microsoft Teams (Virtual meeting)</b>	
<b>Chair</b>		Independent Chair
<b>HS2 Ltd Attendees:</b>		HS2 Ltd - Head of Town Planning HS2 Ltd - Town Planning Lead, Phase 2 HS2 Ltd- Senior Town Planning Manager HS2 Ltd- Town Planning Manager HS2 Ltd – Town Planning Assistant HS2 Ltd- Technical Engagement Manager HS2 Ltd- Head of Consultation and Engagement HS2 Ltd- Community Engagement Manager HS2 Ltd- Senior Petition Manager HS2 Ltd- Hybrid Bill Delivery Director

<b>Local Authority Attendees:</b>		Carlisle City Council (CaCC) Carlisle City Council (CaCC) Manchester City Council (MCC) Manchester City Council (MCC) Trafford Council (TC) South Ribble Borough Council (SRBC) Warrington Borough Council (WBC) Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWCC) Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWCC) Wigan Council (WC) Wigan Council (WC) Wigan Council (WC) Cheshire East Council (CEC) Cumbria County Council (CuCC)
<b>Promoter Attendee:</b>		Department for Transport (DfT)
<b>Apologies:</b>		HS2 Ltd- Town Planning Manager

<b>Item</b>		<b>Action Owner</b>
	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>  Chair opened the meeting.	

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<p><b>1</b></p>	<p><b>Review of Minutes from Previous meeting</b></p> <p>The actions from the previous meeting were discussed (See slide):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Item 1 - If an FOI request is received by an authority there is no requirement to request permission from HS2 prior to sharing the information from this meeting. However, on other phases authorities generally let HS2 know of any requests and consider any advice offered by HS2 on the applicability of FOI legislation.</li> <li>• Item 6: HS2 Ltd circulated the hybrid Bill explanatory paper on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2021.</li> <li>• Item 6: Members to progress Lead Local Authority process amongst themselves</li> <li>• Item 8: Pre-meets with Chair was discussed later in the agenda</li> </ul> <p>The minutes were accepted as correct by members.</p>	
<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>Purpose of current meeting</b></p> <p>HS2 Ltd explained that the current purpose of the meeting is to share information on HS2 planning and environment processes including the EMRs ahead of Bill deposit in preparation for dialogue within the Forum after deposit.</p>	
<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>2b EMRs -</b></p> <p>HS2 Ltd provided an update of the draft Phase 2b EMRs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There have been some minor but essential updates to the 2b EMRs from the previous 2a versions – principally in terms of referencing and numbering to be in line with the Bill.</li> <li>• The Planning Memorandum has been updated to include clearer wording around validation, the phasing of decisions and the relationship with the EMRs.</li> </ul> <p>A question was asked whether the changes to the Planning Memorandum are available now? HS2 Ltd said that the draft Memorandum will be available at Bill Deposit. However, the EMRs will be in draft until Royal Assent and can be discussed after the point of Bill deposit. It was agreed after deposit that a short summary tables of changes would be communicated to Forum Members at a future meeting. <b>ACTION</b></p> <p>HS2 Ltd’s Head of Consultation and Engagement mentioned that HS2 Ltd is currently putting together a handling plan for the process of letting members know about the EMRs and other key documents. Will go into more detail when these are about to be published.</p>	<p><b>HS2</b></p>

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	<p>A Forum member suggested it would be good to have representation from relevant officers for specific details e.g. highways and environment health. HS2 Ltd stated that currently there is just the Planning Forum but after Bill deposit there will be subgroups to discuss these specific details. It was also asked if there is there any feedback from previous phases on whether authorities resourced these activities with contractors or in house staff? HS2 it was difficult for it to say on how authorities resourced activities associated with the Bill but the impression it had was that it was a mixture.</p>	
<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>Community Engagement</b></p> <p><b>HS2 Ltd provided an update on community engagement:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There has been an update to the Community Engagement Strategy reflecting the lifecycle of the project and lessons learnt. Furthermore, a new operating model has been put in place on Phase One which means that contractors are principally undertaking engagement on the ground rather than through HS2 staff (See slides). Some of the commitments in the previous strategy were hard to measure so they have been adjusted to make it easier to measure progress.</li> <li>• Engagement took place for feedback on the Strategy with a variety of groups (See slide) and the feedback made it clear that a new Strategy was needed.</li> <li>• The newest version of the Community Engagement Strategy '<i>Respecting People and Respecting Places</i>' was released the end of October. This is concise than the previous version and contains clearer language and deliverables (See slide for further details).</li> </ul> <p>It was asked in the meeting chat if HS2 Ltd could circulate the link to the 'Respecting People and Respecting Places Community engagement strategy'. HS2 Ltd agreed to circulate link <b>ACTION. This was circulated in the meeting chat. For ease of reference it is copied below:</b></p> <p><b><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hs2-ltds-community-engagement-strategy">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hs2-ltds-community-engagement-strategy</a></b></p>	<p><b>HS2 Ltd</b></p>
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>Update on the Bill and Changes to Highways Powers</b></p> <p>HS2 Ltd gave an update on the highways powers in the Bill.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With the aim of learning lessons from previous Bills, there will be a few changes in the new Bill.</li> <li>• The Forum was updated on the changes to the highways powers within the bill (See slides).</li> </ul>	



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	<p>been an issue on Phase 1. HS2 Ltd said that time sheeting is important for controlling the spend of HS2 Ltd and a critical part of the audit process. HS2 agreed to have further discussions with members to see if these can be made more efficient <b>ACTION.</b></p> <p>It was noted that there are SLAs to cover activities pre-Royal Assent. If members have any questions about these they should contact the Engagement Team.</p> <p>5. Forum was reminded that this is a collective meeting and HS2 Ltd are open to adding any agenda items they would like discussed.</p>	
<b>7</b>	<p><b>Arrangements for next meeting- Chair</b></p> <p>The chair said that the invites for the meetings in upcoming year (2022) had been sent out to members.</p> <p>He will be looking into a date for pre-meetings to take place with enough time prior to the Forums.</p> <p>Will come back to the forum with a proposed a pre-meet with enough time prior to the next forum (12<sup>th</sup> January) <b>ACTION.</b></p>	<b>Chair</b>
<b>8</b>	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>In respect of the earlier discussion on SLAs, HS2 will continue to liaise with the main point of contact at each local authority for these, but if LPAs wish to involve planners in these meetings to let HS2 know. It can then be reported at a future Forum.</p>	
	<b>END</b>	