

## 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 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021 14:00 – 16:30</b> <b>Microsoft Teams (Virtual meeting)</b>	
<b>Chair</b>		Interim Independent Chair
<b>HS2 Ltd Attendees:</b>		HS2 Ltd - Town Planning Lead, Phase 2 HS2 Ltd – Town Planning Assistant HS2 Ltd - Head of Town Planning HS2 Ltd- Senior Town Planning Manager HS2 Ltd- Town Planning Manager HS2 Ltd- Technical Engagement Manager HS2 Ltd- Head of Consultation and Engagement HS2 Ltd- Senior Petition Manager HS2 Ltd- Hybrid Bill Delivery Director

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

Item		Action Owner
	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	
<b>1</b>	<b>Review of Minutes from Previous meeting</b>	

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	<p>The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting. The actions from the previous meeting were reviewed and all of the were complete.</p> <p>WDC asked about the FOI status of the meeting slides. . HS2 Ltd said that they are intended for use by members and relevant colleagues to inform discussions rather than wider use, their purpose being to facilitate an open discussion. However, HS2 Ltd were not sure of the status in terms of FOI and agreed an action to seek guidance on the matter.</p> <p><b><u>Action: HS2 Ltd to confirm the status of the Forum slides in relation to FOI.</u></b></p>	HS2 Ltd
2	<p><b>Purpose of current meeting</b></p> <p>In response to a request from the Interim Chair of the Forum, HS2 Ltd explained how the role of the Forum will evolve over time. In summary the operation of the Forum can be seen as falling into four main phases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-Bill deposit – sharing knowledge of how planning and environmental controls have worked on previous hybrid Bills and explaining proposed changes in order to develop a common understanding amongst members.</li> <li>• First half of the Parliamentary process – engagement on routewide planning and environmental matters.</li> <li>• Second half of the Parliamentary process – preparation for construction such as agreeing processes and standards and agreement on secondary legislation.</li> <li>• Post-Royal Assent – implementing the planning regime, monitoring performance, agreeing standard designs and procedures.</li> </ul> <p>There were no questions or comments from members on the topic.</p>	
3	<p><b>Confirmation of Chair and Terms of Reference:</b></p> <p>At the previous meeting of the Forum the appointment of the permanent chair of the Forum was discussed. It was set out that there were two options for agreeing the permanent chair: that the Forum appoint the interim chair to the role or that a open recruitment process take place. Forum members were requested to send their preferences on which approach to HS2 Ltd.</p> <p>Only one comment was received. This was from TC supporting the appointment of the interim chair. HS2 Ltd proposed that the Forum appoint the interim chair to the permanent role. This was agreed by the Forum. Tony Thompson was appointed the permanent Chair of the Forum.</p>	

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	<p>The draft terms of reference for the meeting were presented at the previous meeting of the Forum. It was agreed that these would be circulated to members for comment which the intention of agreeing them with any appropriate amendments at the next meeting.</p> <p>One response was received on the draft terms of reference. This was from TC which supported the draft without amendment. In the absence of any proposed amendments, they were agreed.</p>	
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Updates to Planning Regime</b></p> <p>HS2 Ltd explained that the presentation given at the last meeting of the Forum on the planning regimes in Hybrid Bills was based on the regime in the High Speed Rail (West Midland – Crewe) Act 2021. It was explained that there has been a process of refining legislation in light of the lessons learnt on previous projects. This process is continuing with the Phase 2b Bill.</p> <p>The planning schedule of the 2b Bill will contain some minor amendments from the Phase 2a Act. These do not constitute a wholesale overhaul of the regime. Rather they are refinements aimed at clarifying certain aspects of regime from the experience on Phase 1. Once the Bill is deposited the Forum will be able to engage in more detail on the relevant provisions in the Act.</p> <p>HS2 Ltd described the amendments that will be included in the 2b Bill, their rationale and the effects of them.</p> <p>There was one question which related to an amendment to the process for extending the determination period for requests for approval. In response to the query HS2 Ltd explained that without it a situation can arise 42 days after the appropriate period that nominated undertaker would lose the ability to appeal.</p> <p>There were no other questions and no comments or concerns were raised with the proposed amendments.</p>	
	<b>BREAK</b>	
<b>5</b>	<p><b>Community Engagement</b></p> <p>HS2 Ltd provided an update of the latest community engagement activity, covering the recent route wide update.</p> <p>It was also explained that the plans to communicate the deposit of the bill were being developed and it is hoped these can be shared at the next meeting.</p>	

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	No questions or concerns were raised during this section.	
<b>6</b>	<p><b>Hybrid Bill process</b></p> <p><i>Influencing scheme during Bill passage</i></p> <p>HS2 Ltd spoke to the paper that had been circulated. Member from Wigan asked whether they could share the simple hybrid Bill explanatory paper – Simon said that the paper would be posted on HS2 Ltd’s website and it would be better if members could direct people there instead. Simon agreed to circulate the URL for the paper when it had been posted.</p> <p><i>Lead local authority process</i></p> <p>HS2 Ltd explained the lead local authority process and that it was something that members would need to consider amongst themselves.</p>	<p><b>(HS2 Ltd)</b></p> <p><b>Members</b></p>
<b>7</b>	<p><b>Planning authority feedback and matters</b></p> <p>No matters were raised by planning authorities.</p>	
<b>8</b>	<p><b>Arrangement for next meeting:</b></p> <p>It was decided that the meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021 will be at 10.30 and will take place on Teams.</p> <p>It was agreed that meetings in the morning were preferable than the afternoon and that timings of future Forums can be adjusted in order to meet needs for travel.</p> <p>The meeting discussed the merits of meeting on Teams as opposed to in person in the medium to long term MCC made it clear would be ideal to have meetings in person sooner rather than later especially when it comes to discussing details of the scheme. But the member understood why a virtual meeting was proposed in the meantime.</p> <p>HS2 Ltd stated its preference to move to in person or hybrid meetings when circumstance allow. The chair stated that it would probably be spring 2022 before in person meetings are possible but this would be kept under review.</p> <p>The Chair intends to invite all LPAs to a short pre-meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> October to allow the opportunity to identify any issues for discussion at the next meeting.</p> <p>Future meeting dates will be circulated to members shortly.</p>	
<b>9</b>	<b>AOB</b>	

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