

Meeting minutes

Phase 2b Planning Forum – Environmental Health Subgroup Minutes – February 2023

Meeting date	Wednesday, 15 February 2023
Meeting location	Microsoft Teams
Meeting time	10:00 am – 11:00 am

Presenters	
Chair:	Technical Engagement Manager HS2
Phase 2B Update:	Bill Governance Officer Department for Transport
Route-wide Update:	Environment Advisor HS2
Attendees	
Organisation	
	Cheshire East Council
	Cheshire West and Chester
	Manchester City Council
	Department for Transport (DfT)

1 Agenda item – Welcome and Introduction

- 1.1 Technical Engagement Manager, HS2 took attendees through the meeting agenda and informed them of the housekeeping rules.

2 Agenda item – Minutes of Last Meeting

- 2.1 Technical Engagement Manager, HS2 advised that the previous meeting minutes have been circulated and no comments were returned. It was agreed that the minutes are signed off as complete.

3 Agenda item – Comment Sheets

- 3.1 Technical Engagement Manager, HS2 went through all previous comment sheets that had been circulated in 2022 and advised that no further comment sheets are to be circulated at this time.

4 Agenda item – HS2 Phase 2B Update

- 4.1 Bill Governance Officer, DfT gave an update on the Phase 2B Crewe – Manchester Bill focusing on the Select Committee, petitioning and the second Additional Provision.

Questions and Discussion:

Manchester City Council queried the timeline on future Additional Provisions

Bill Governance Officer, DfT explained the current timeline for Additional Provisions

5 Agenda item – Route-wide Update

- 5.1 Environment Advisor, HS2 provided a high-level route-wide update explaining the current progress on what is happening on Phase 1.

Questions and Discussion:

Cheshire West and Chester Council queried the coverage on the news regarding 24 hour construction works taking place on Phase 1 and how the disturbance it has caused at night to residents can be better managed once construction takes places on Phase 2B

Head of Environment explained that engagement with local authorities on Phase 1 for all works are completed under a Section 61 of the Control of Pollution Act agreement. HS2 also advised that the works had been approved by the DfT minister, which included engagement with the community.

Air Quality Manager, HS2 explained that HS2 look at different mechanisms to support vulnerable people, and that there is a process beyond the CoCP in which HS2 seek additional mitigations which could be offered to ensure that there is no impact on health. Noise Assessment Specialist, HS2 added on all HS2 sites there is comprehensive noise and vibration monitoring systems in place which alert the contractor if any threshold has been exceeded, so that the contractor can mitigate any affect. Head of Environment also mentioned, where there is live monitoring in place, local authorities can have direct access to the live link.

Manchester City Council echoed Cheshire West and Chester Council's concerns and queried the impacts the scheme is going to have and how HS2 are going to deal with the impacts

Head of Environment, HS2 explained that in the Phase 1 Planning Forum meeting, HS2 asked the local authorities if they would be happy to attend a Phase 2B

meeting to share their experiences with Phase 2B local authorities, and a large number of them had advised they would be happy to do so.

Manchester City Council queried if HS2 have started the baseline quality monitoring for diffusion tubes for Phase 2B

Air Quality Manager, HS2 advised HS2 have not yet started the baseline quality monitoring, but will engage with local authorities once they're ready to be deployed.

Action 1: HS2 to have Phase 1 local authorities attend an EHO meeting with Phase 2B local authorities to share their experiences on the project

Action 2: HS2 to invite EHO subgroup members on a site visit later in the year

6 Agenda item – Subgroup Member Queries

- 6.1 Technical Engagement Manager, HS2 asked attendees if they have any queries they wish to ask the EHO team, no queries were raised.

7 Agenda item – Next Steps and AOB

- 7.1 Technical Engagement Manager, HS2 advised meeting minutes will be drafted and sent to the subgroup for review, and also mentioned for the next subgroup meeting to take place in May.

Action 3: HS2 to organise a meeting in May 2023

Action 4: HS2 to circulate the EHO presentation to subgroup members and upload it onto the EHO SharePoint