

INDEPENDENT Phase 2b Planning FORUM FOR HS2

Title:	Planning Forum for HS2 Phase 2b	
Date & Time	Wednesday 5th July 2023 10:00 – 12:10 Microsoft Teams (Virtual meeting)	
Attendees	<p>██████████</p> <p>██████████</p> <p>██████████</p> <p>██████████████████</p> <p>██████████</p> <p>██████████████</p> <p>██████████████</p> <p>██████████</p> <p>██████████</p> <p>██████████</p> <p>██████████████</p> <p>██████████████</p> <p>██████████████</p> <p>██████████</p> <p>██████████████</p> <p>██████████████</p> <p>██████████████</p> <p>██████████</p> <p>██████████</p>	<p>Independent Chair</p> <p>HS2 Ltd - Head of Town Planning</p> <p>HS2 Ltd- Senior Town Planning Manager</p> <p>HS2 Ltd- Technical Engagement Manager</p> <p>HS2 Ltd – Town Planning Manager</p> <p>HS2 Ltd – Town Planning Advisor</p> <p>HS2 Ltd- Head of Community Engagement</p> <p>HS2 Ltd- Design Director</p> <p>HS2 Ltd – Petition Manager</p> <p>HS2 Ltd – Town Planning Manager</p> <p>Independent Design Panel</p> <p>Independent Design Panel</p> <p>Cheshire East Council (CEC)</p> <p>Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWCC)</p> <p>Trafford Council (TC)</p> <p>Trafford Council (TC)</p> <p>Manchester City Council (MCC)</p> <p>Scottish Government (SG)</p> <p>Manchester City Council (MCC)</p> <p>Department for Transport (DfT)</p>

Apologies:		
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Item		Action Owner
	<p>Welcome and Introductions</p> <p>The 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 provided an overview of the Actions Log. Item 6 of the log concerned an action on Forum members to make any further comments on the Environmental Memorandum. MCC reported that it was the intention to collate a final agreed set of comments over the following week which would then be provided to HS2 Ltd.</p>	
2	<p>Review of Minutes from Previous meeting</p> <p>2.1 The May 2023 meeting minutes were reviewed. The Chair noted that no comments on these minutes had been received by HS2 Ltd. The Forum agreed the minutes.</p>	
3	<p>Design at HS2 and the Independent Design Panel</p> <p>3.1 HS2 Ltd provided an overview of Design at HS2, outlining the content of the Phase 2b Information Paper D1, the Design Vision principles and the assurance tools for delivering the Design Vision. Several examples of the Design Vision in the delivery context were then explained (Refer to slide pack).</p> <p>3.2 The Independent Design Panel (IDP) then provided an overview of the IDP, covering its role, its governance, and examples of the areas of work that the panel had been involved with on Phase One of the project (Refer to slide pack).</p> <p>3.3 The Chair thanked colleagues for their detailed presentations and sought clarity on the role of the IDP in relation to the Schedule 17 process. HS2 Ltd and the IDP responded that it had been the role of the panel to provide strategic advice during detailed design development. In the case of the Colne Valley Viaduct, there had been design reviews and the subsequent reporting was used at the pre application stage. HS2 Ltd added that for Key Design Elements, Design and Access statements are</p>	

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	<p>part of the submission pack for Schedule 17 submissions and they would explain how the design had been approached, including interaction with the IDP.</p> <p>3.4 MCC asked when LPAs could expect contact with the panel. HS2 Ltd responded that this would occur once the Bill process had concluded, and Royal Assent had been achieved. MCC asked whether the design ambition for particular assets is made public and it was explained that the documentation is not public facing but that collaboration with the LPAs formed a key part of the pre application process. MCC also queried whether the role of the panel is focussed on work prior to construction or whether there is a role in reviewing outputs post construction. It was explained that the Panels work is focussed on design development, pre delivery.</p> <p>3.5 TC asked whether the Panel only looked at Key Design Elements. The IDP responded that they were not constrained by the KDEs, their remit was to consider the big picture and they also emphasised the importance of understanding design in the context of place and local environment. MCC reiterated their welcome to collaborative working with the panel and HS2 Ltd to establish high design standards.</p>	
<p>4</p>	<p>Bill update</p> <p>4.1 HS2 Ltd outlined that Additional Provision 2 (AP2) had been deposited on 03/07/23. It was reported that the petition period would extend to 15th August and that a concurrent consultation period on the Environmental Statement would until 31st August. See also further commentary on AP2 under Community Engagement and in AOB.</p> <p>4.2 MCC referenced that a request had been made previously by local authorities for HS2 to share the GIS data related to Additional Provision 2 (AP2) as soon as possible. HS2 Ltd responded with awareness that colleagues were looking at how this could be addressed in the most efficient timeframe.</p> <p>4.3 HS2Ltd outlined that select committee hearings were on going. CWAC reported their petition hearings scheduled for 03/07/23 had not taken place.</p>	
<p>5</p>	<p>Community Engagement Update</p> <p>5.1 HS2 Ltd updated on engagement activity with regards to the deposit of AP2 on 03/07/23. It was outlined that in some ways there was a soft launch of the design change proposals in February as the responses to</p>	

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	<p>the Land Interest Questionnaires were compiled. LPAs have all have been briefed as to the changes that affect each authority area.</p> <p>5.2 It was outlined that recent engagement focus had been on the legal aspects of the deposit and ensuring copies have been deposited in libraries and other public civic buildings across the route, with published newspaper notices informing people of their locations. The consultation website has also been launched and this signposts the petitioning guidance and documents on the parliamentary website.</p> <p>5.3 In addition, it was updated that the Environmental Statement navigator had been refreshed with AP2 detail, letters sent to Leaders and Chief Execs of LPAs and emails issued to hundreds of stakeholders. Work is ongoing regarding the uploading the GIS dataset and there are webinars aimed at the public later this month. Those whose land is directly affected by the scheme changes have been written to with the offer of 1-2-1 meetings.</p> <p>5.4 Finally, it was reported that additional targeted engagement is being undertaken in some communities where previous contact has been a little lower than elsewhere, given the scale of impact. This engagement is being discussed with the relevant local authority contacts to ensure that location and timing (and where relevant, permissions) are most appropriate.</p> <p>5.5 MCC asked whether letters had been sent to those who had previously been affected by the sub surface tunnel in Manchester, but due to the AP2 realignment, were no longer affected. HS2 responded that in this instance, those persons had not been written to in the context of the impact of this amendment and the would be cost to the taxpayer. MCC understood why this approach was taken.</p>	
6.	<p>Forum sub group update</p> <p>6.1 HS2 Ltd provided an overview of recent activity at the Planning Forum sub groups (refer to slide pack). It was reported that sub group meetings had taken place across May and June with further upcoming meetings also scheduled for September. An overview of the common themes was provided, and it was highlighted that fourteen comment sheets have circulated to date.</p>	

<p>7</p>	<p>Environmental Minimum Requirements update</p> <p>7.1 HS2 Ltd provided an update on progress with each of the suite of EMR documents and proposed timeframes to reach a stage that each document is settled by the forum, with no further outstanding comments (refer to slide pack).</p> <p>7.2 With regards to the General Principles document, it was reported that comments had been invited in July 2022, November 2022 and May 2023 but that no comments had been received to date. As such, Forum Members were requested to confirm that there were no further comments be made.</p> <p>7.3 The Chair first sought clarity on whether the approach would be to settle the Heritage memorandum at the Heritage sub group before then seeking settlement at the main Forum. HS2 Ltd responded that it would be this approach and that then it is the role of Parliament to agree the final documents as part of the Bill process.</p> <p>7.4 HS2 Ltd outlined a keenness to settle documents where possible to move onto other matters that the Forum will need to consider.</p> <p>7.5 With regard to the General Principles document, MCC and TC proposed that further time is given to re-consider the document and to seek consensus at the September meeting. HS2 Ltd requested that if there were any comments, that they are sent as soon as possible to maintain the September timeframe.</p> <p>Action: LPAs to further consider the General Principles document and provide any comments as soon as possible.</p> <p>Action: The General Principles document to be settled at September Forum if no comments received.</p> <p>7.6 With regards to the Planning Memorandum, HS2 Ltd explained that previous presentations on the role of Planning Forum Notes had sought to address the comments previously made and that this was a further document that it would be helpful to reach a consensus on.</p> <p>7.7 MCC highlighted resource pressures specifically related to responding to Additional Provision 2. MCC also stated concerns with being asked by HS2/DfT to agree to the EMR General Principles document ahead of</p>	<p>LPA's</p> <p>All</p>
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	<p>MCC’s select committee appearance on its main issues (i.e. environmental concerns). The Chair reiterated the intention to attempt to settle the General Principles document at the September meeting pending any further LPA comments and then review progress with the other EMR documents.</p>	
8	<p>Local Authority Feedback and Matters</p> <p>8.1 The Chair reported that the pre meeting with Local Authorities had taken place on 14th June. The focus of the meeting was the comments that LPAs were collating on the Environmental Memorandum that was in the process of being finalised. This would be provided to HS2 Ltd for discussion and response at the September meeting.</p> <p>8.2 The Chair also updated that there had also been a discussion around Sharepoint and asked to detail on the timeframes for access. HS2 Ltd responded that emails will be circulated to forum members with a password to enable access to the site.</p> <p>Action: HS2 to circulate SharePoint link to Forum members.</p>	HS2 Ltd
9	<p>Future Meeting Content</p> <p>9.1 An overview of the content for future meetings was presented (refer to slide pack). It was noted that this is always subject to change but in any event would need to be updated following the discussion under agenda item 7 on the EMRs.</p>	
10	<p>Arrangements for next meeting</p> <p>10.1The Chair advised that the next forum meeting on 6th September would be held in person, with the option to also attend virtually. HS2 Ltd updated that the meeting will be attended by the Independent Construction Commissioner and that HS2 will provide further detail on the venue and timings in due course.</p>	

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<p>11</p>	<p>AOB</p> <p>11.1 MCC outlined that the 2b Safeguarding Directions had been updated in May 2023 and asked for clarity on the changes had been made. HS2 Ltd responded that the update related to the removal of a small area of previously safeguarded land in the Leeds area, in a location known as Thorpe Park.</p> <p>11.2 MCC noted that AP2 included changes to certain Schedules within the Bill and requested an overview of these changes. HS2 Ltd responded that the Forum focusses on the Schedules of the Bill related to Planning but that HS2 Ltd will check with colleagues whether there is a summary of changes available for LPAs.</p> <p>Action: HS2 Ltd to explore if a summary of changes to Schedules in AP2 is available</p> <p>11.3 TC noted that the C series of information papers had not been updated since February and queried whether there had been updates to these papers. HS2 Ltd responded that there would only be updates where there had been changes.</p> <p>11.4 HS2 Ltd explained the existence of a long term epidemiological health study to better understand the relationship between the project and community health and wellbeing. As part of the study, LPAs on Phase 2b had been contacted and HS2 Ltd requested that officers respond and engage with the study where at all possible. LPA Forum members noted that contact may have been initially through other officers and recognising the importance of the study, it was agreed that the contact details of LPA forum members would be passed through to the team undertaking the study.</p> <p>Action: HS2 Ltd to share LPA Forum member email contacts with Health study team</p> <p>11.5 Further to previous discussions, HS2 Ltd set out proposed dates and format for a site visit to a Phase One work site this summer. Forum members welcomed the proposed site visit and it was agreed that HS2 Ltd would circulate a poll to establish the preferred date.</p> <p>Action: HS2 Ltd to circulate Doodle Poll for the proposed summer site visit</p>	<p>HS2 Ltd</p> <p>HS2 Ltd</p> <p>HS2 Ltd</p>
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	END	12.10
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