

HS2 Update



13 May 2016

This E-update looks at the upcoming House of Lords Select Committee hearings and the East West Rail/ HS2 integration report.

House of Lords

As is already well known, the select committee has been appointed and is as follows:

- Lord Walker of Gestingthorpe (Chairman): Cross-bencher, former Supreme Court Justice
- Lord Brabazon of Tara (Conservative): former Lord Chairman of Committees, so familiar with Bill procedures and used to dealing with private bills
- Lord Freeman (Conservative): former MP and minister Roger Freeman
- Lord Jones of Cheltenham (Lib Dem): former MP Nigel Jones. He was on the Crossrail Bill committee
- Baroness O’Cathain (Conservative): former MD of the Barbican Centre. She has been on a private bill committee that we promoted
- Lord Plant of Highfield (Labour): an academic
- Lord Young of Norwood Green (Labour): former union leader. He was also on the Crossrail Bill committee

Martin Tett has written to the Chairman of The House of Lords Select Committee, Lord Walker, to invite them to undertake site visits to Buckinghamshire, see the letter [here](#). We will let you know what response we receive and will work with stakeholders and residents to help plan any visits.

The Committee has announced its initial steps [here](#).

Locus Standi challenges

Of the 821 petitions deposited in the House of Lords, the promoter has challenged 414 of these, see list [here](#). Those challenged do have the right to a hearing to try to demonstrate they are specially and directly affected. Please find attached a letter which Martin Tett has written to the Chairman of the House of Lords [here](#). Also attached is some information (not legal advice) from our Parliamentary Agent on the locus challenges [here](#).

Petition Response Documents (PRDs)

The Promoter has begun sending out PRDs to petitioners at the northern end of the line, indicating that it is likely that the committee will consider petitioners, as in the Commons, in geographical order from north to south. The PRDs that we have seen are similar in form and content to those received in the Commons.

HS2 and East West Rail (EWR) Integration Report

The County Council and Aylesbury Vale District Council petitioned the House of Commons HS2 Select Committee in May 2014 requesting that a study was carried out on integration East West Rail (EWR) and High Speed 2 (HS2) in the areas of Buckinghamshire where the two lines intersect. As members

of the EWR consortium both Councils are concerned about the impact of HS2 on the early delivery of EWR. The Councils are also aware that concerns are held by the Parish Councils and organisations in the areas about how the lines will interact and be constructed. Network Rail were commissioned by HS2 to produce an integration report in approx. September 2015. The Councils were originally told this report would be provided in October 2015 but following a number of dates being put forward it was finally received on May 4 2016.

This report is designed to set out the high level principles that the two schemes will work to in the defined area. The four principle recommendations are:

- To develop a single integrated design solution for HS2 and EWR which builds upon the HS2 base scheme and resolves the issues identified within the report in order to deliver the requirements of HS2 and Network Rail
- To obtain a unified direction regarding the integration of HS2 and EWR to prevent further abortive development work on the EWR Phase 2 project
- To promote a single approach to public and stakeholder engagement
- To develop a programme for design and construction of the integrated scheme building upon the scenarios within the report

This report does not go into detail on issues such as shared construction compounds, construction routes or environmental benefits. The Councils understand that this is only the first report of a series that will come forward; the next is proposed for September 2016.

To ensure this is available to members of the public we have published this on our website [here](#)

FCC Sidings event

The Council has been informed that a local exhibition is to be held on the 25 May 2016 at Calvert Green Village Hall on the FCC Sidings Transport and Works Act. This event will look to outline the plans FCC and HS2 have been working on to build the replacement Waste Transfer Sidings to the South of Sheephouse Wood. We have not yet been given exact timings for this but will email these out when available.

HS2 Alerts

If you would like to be kept up to date with all the latest information on HS2 matters please contact Andrea Polden andreapolden@icloud.com who will add you to her mailing list. Andrea is a volunteer who shares daily information on HS2 matters.

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