

## HS2 Update



### 22 January 2016

This E-update looks at the recent HS2 Select Committee hearings including the combined appearance of the Buckinghamshire Council's on 20 January 2016.

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#### Select Committee Appearance and Agreements 20 January 2016

Please find attached the press release that the County Council issued today.

#### Select Committee schedule

The Select Committee is nearing the end of its hearings. AP5 hearings are currently scheduled to take place at the beginning of February with the last day of hearings currently scheduled for 3 February 2016. Following the completion of its hearings the Committee will present its findings in an end of Committee report.

A HS2 Committee programme from the 11 January to 3 February can be found [here](#)

#### Select Committee Visit to Iver

The site proposed for the relocation of the Heathrow Express Depot in Langley was visited by 4 Members of the HS2 Select Committee on Monday 11 January 2016. The MPs also visited the highly impacted villages of Iver, Richings Park and Slough. The Committee heard about the existing HGV problem in Iver, how HS2 and other proposed schemes will exacerbate this problem and the aspirations for a relief road for the village. Local MPs Dominic Grieve and Fiona Mactaggart accompanied the visit.

#### Community and Business fund chair appointed

Cathy Elliott has been appointed as the independent chair of the panel overseeing the HS2 Community and Business funds. She is currently the Chief Executive of Community Foundations for Lancashire and Merseyside. The £30 million fund is aimed at providing additional support to communities 'demonstrably disrupted by the construction of the planned high speed rail link between London and the West Midlands'. The fund is split into two schemes the Community and Environment Fund and the Business and Local Economy Fund. The County Council appeared in October 2015 in front of the Select Committee to set out how £30 million was an inadequate amount given the huge impact along the length of the line. The full story can be found [here](#).

#### Buckinghamshire County Council HS2 Summit

The County Council will be holding a HS2 Summit on 24 March 2016 from (9.30 to 12.30) at Green Park, Aston Clinton, HP22 5NE. There are 150 places available at this event on a first come first served basis. Please email [hs2blueprint@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:hs2blueprint@buckscc.gov.uk) to reserve your place.

## **Additional Provisions 5**

The Additional Provisions 5 and Supplementary Environmental Statement 4 were published in December. The majority of changes within Buckinghamshire relate to the diversion of utility supplies. However there is a major change in the form of an extension to the Wendover Green Tunnel (which forms part of the Supplementary Environmental Statement for AP5).

The deadline for petitioning was 8 January 2016. Some 25 AP5 petitions were submitted against AP5, these can be found [here](#). The promoter has challenged 13 of these petitions, the list of those challenged can be found [here](#)

The County Council's petition said that we were not convinced that the tunnel extension by 100m appropriately addressed noise and landscape impacts. The petition continues to support the community's request for a mined or bored tunnel as part of a full bored tunnel through the AONB. The fall back would be an appropriately mitigated further extension of the green tunnel to the south. The Council also highlighted that HS2 have not provided details of the noise insulation they have said they would provide for St. Mary's Church or the Wendover Campus School. The Council's petition can be found [here](#).

## **Buckinghamshire Compensation and Mitigation Panel (BCMP)**

A meeting of the BCMP took place on Tuesday 1 December. At this meeting members discussed Additional Provisions 5, the recent Select Committee hearings and the impact of changes in the Wendover area. The date for the next meeting is 27 January, 14.00-16.00.

Each CFA area has a community representative on the panel who should be feeding back discussions had at the BCMP. If you would like to know who your representative is or you are not receiving feedback from these meetings, it is important that you let us know. Local County Councillors are also invited.

## **Other News**

Parliamentary committee to investigate report into HS2 complaints –details can be found [here](#)

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