



How to Petition against the proposed amendments to Phase One of HS2.

This guide explains what you can do if you want to object to the Government's proposals for changes to Phase One of HS2. These changes are being proposed in the House of Commons through an amendment known as an "Additional Provision", which will amend the High Speed Rail (London – West Midlands) Bill ("the Bill") which was introduced in November 2013.

The Bill is currently before a Select Committee of MPs who are hearing petitions from organisations and individuals who are impacted directly and specially by the proposed scheme.

If you think you will be directly and specially affected by the changes described in the Additional Provision, you can object to it by petitioning the House of Commons. This will give you an opportunity to explain to the Select Committee of MPs, how the amendment would affect you and why you object to it. If the MPs agree with your objections they have the power to change the Bill before it becomes law.

What to do if you think you will be affected by the Additional Provision

If you receive, or have received, a notice, to owners, lessees or occupiers, from the solicitors (*Winckworth Sherwood or Eversheds*) acting for the HS2 project, you will be affected by an Additional Provision. The notice will tell you how you may be affected and that you can contact the House of Commons to object to the way in which the Additional Provision affects you.

You can also object to the Additional Provision if you have not already received a letter but you think that you could be affected by it.

To object to the Additional Provision you will have to submit a petition to the Private Bill Office of the House of Commons. You may do this even if you have, or have not, already petitioned against the Bill.

Who may petition?

Any individual, group of individuals, or organisation "directly and specially affected" by an Additional Provision may petition against it.

If the promoter of the Bill (the Secretary of State) believes that someone who petitions against the Bill is not "directly and specially affected" he may object to the petitioner's right to be heard by the Committee. In such cases, the MPs on the Select Committee on the Bill will decide if the petitioner can be heard. The Select Committee have issued an interim report that comments on cases that have already been heard. This can be found on the Committee website. (Details listed in the next column)

What is a petition against an Additional Provision?

A petition is a summary of how you are directly and specially affected by the changes in the Additional Provisions and the objections that you therefore have to particular aspects of the Additional Provision. It is a request to the House of Commons for the petitioner (you) to be allowed to argue your case before the Select Committee on the Bill.

What should petitions contain?

The petition should state:

- what the Additional Provision does (briefly);
- who you (the petitioner) are;
- why the Additional Provision affects you; and
- what you would like the Select Committee to do about it.

Since your petition will form the basis of your case before the select committee, it should include all the points of objection you have against the Additional Provision. There is no need to elaborate objections in great detail. The petition may only deal with your objections to the Additional Provision. It cannot deal with any objections you may have to the rest of the Bill. When your petition is heard by the Select Committee, you will only be able to raise issues that you have raised in the petition.

What form should petitions take?

The format of a petition to the Select Committee is very specific and is determined by Parliament. It is

not the same as other petitions you may have seen. There is a guide which explains in detail the formal wording required for petitions to the House of Commons. If you want to petition please download the leaflet 'How to Petition against Additional Provisions on a Hybrid Bill in the House of Commons Session 2015' from the Select Committee website:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/high-speed-rail-london-west-midlands-bill-select-committee-commons/publications/>
or call or email the Private Bill Office (details below).

The deadline for depositing the petition

It is important that all petitions are received by the deadline set by the House of Commons. The deadline for each Additional Provision is subject to approval by Parliament and will be announced once this has happened. Please check our website or call the Private Bill Office to make sure you know when the deadline is.

Your MP can deposit your petition on your behalf.

The timing of when the Committee considers the Additional Provision, and any petitions against them, will be announced in the Committee programme which is published on the Committee website. If you have already submitted a petition against the Bill or an earlier Additional Provision, the Committee will attempt to schedule your hearing such that all of your petitions are heard at the same time.

The website can be found here:
<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/high-speed-rail-london-west-midlands-bill-select-committee-commons/>

This is updated regularly with the latest news on the Select Committee proceedings.

Representation

You are entitled to appear before the Committee yourself, but you may also appoint someone else to represent you if you wish. Anyone you appoint [other than a barrister] must be an accredited Parliamentary Agent.

There are two types of agents. Professional Parliamentary Agents, who are solicitors who specialise in this type of matter and who are accredited by Parliament, are known as “Roll A” agents. Anyone else must be accredited as a “Roll B” agent. The process for this is relatively straight forward for a solicitor or for a member of the public, and you can find instructions on how to arrange for this in our “*Guide to petitioning against a hybrid Bill*”

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/high-speed-rail-london-west-midlands-bill-select-committee-commons/publications>

The following Roll A agents may be able to represent you:

Berwin Leighton Paisner LLP (Ms Helen Kemp) Adelaide House London EC4R 9HA 020 7760 1000 www.blplaw.com	Bircham Dyson Bell LLP (Mr Ian McCullough Mr Paul Thompson Mr Nick Brown) 50 Broadway London SW1H 0BL 020 7783 3437 www.bdb-law.co.uk
Pinsent Masons LLP (Mr Robbie Owen) 30 Crown Pl, Earl Street London EC2A 4ES 020 7418 7000 www.pinsentmasons.com	Sharpe Pritchard LLP (Mr Alastair Lewis Mr Emyr Thomas) Fulwood Place London WC1V 6HG 020 7405 4600 www.sharpepritchard.co.uk
Veale Wasbrough Vizards LLP (Mr Ron Perry) Barnards Inn, 86 Fetter Lane London EC4A 1AD 020 7405 1234 www.vwv.co.uk	

Fees

If you have already petitioned against the HS2 hybrid Bill, no fee is applicable.

Otherwise, you will have to pay a one-off fee of £20 when you deposit your petition at the House of Commons. There is no subsequent charge, for example for appearance before the committee.

Arrangements for paying fees will be publicised nearer the petitioning period.

What about consultations?

There will be a consultation on any supplementary environmental information accompanying the Additional Provision, which sets out the environmental impact of the amendments. You can participate in that consultation as well as petitioning against the Additional Provision.

Terminology

The HS2 Bill is a **hybrid bill**, having some features of a public bill and some of a private bill. **Public bills** relate to the general law of the land which affects everybody. **Private bills** make particular provisions affecting individuals, institutions or localities differently from the general law, and are therefore subject to their own scrutiny requirements.

If you have difficulty understanding the enclosed, you are strongly advised to contact a Citizen's Advice Bureau.

اذا كنت تواجه صعوبة في فهم المذكرة، فإننا نوصيك بشدة بالتواصل بأحد المراكز أو وحدة المكتب لتلقي المشورة المطلوبة.

যদি সংযুক্ত তথ্যগুলো বুঝতে আপনার কোনো সমস্যা হয় তাহলে একজন আইনজীবী বা সিটিসেল অ্যাডভাইস ব্যুরোর সাথে যোগাযোগ করার জন্য আপনাকে জোরালোভাবে সুপারিশ করা হচ্ছে।

Haddii aad dhibaato ku qabtid garashada macluumaadka ku lifaaqan, waxaa lagugu talinayaa inaad la xiriirto qareen ama Xafiiska Talo-siinta Muwaadanka.

یانی سہیل ریل (لندن ویسٹ مڈلینڈز) – پارلیمنٹ نوٹس
اگر آپ کو منسلک سمجھنے میں دشواری پیش آتی ہے تو آپ سے پرزہ سفارش کی جاتی ہے کہ آپ کسی سولسٹر یا سٹیزن ایڈوائز بیورو سے رابطہ کریں۔

If you want to know more

If you want to know more you can contact the Private Bill Office in the House of Commons on 020 7219 3250 and prbohoc@parliament.uk. You can check our web page which is updated regularly:
www.parliament.uk/about/how/laws/bills/private/office/
More information about the HS2 project is available on the HS2 website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/high-speed-two-limited>



The Proposed Amended High Speed Rail (London – West Midlands) Bill in the House of Commons

What you need to know