



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 McCulloch 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.vvv.co.uk	

If you wish someone other than a Roll A agent to represent you, they will need to become a Roll B agent. You will find instructions on how to arrange for this in our "Guide to petitioning against a hybrid Bill" (see above).

Your MP can deposit your petition on your behalf.

### The deadline for depositing the petition

It is important that we receive all petitions by the deadline set by the House of Commons. This deadline will be announced once the Hybrid Bill has passed Second Reading. Please check our website or call or email the Private Bill Office to make sure you know when the deadline is.

When the Bill reaches House of Lords, a deadline for petitioning there will be announced.

### Fees

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.

### Terminology

The HS2 Bill will be 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 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/](http://www.parliament.uk/about/how/laws/bills/private/office/)

More information about the HS2 project is available on the HS2 website: [www.HS2.org.uk](http://www.HS2.org.uk)

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

إذ كنت تواجه صعوبة في فهم الوثائق الواردة، فإننا نوصيك بشدة بالرجوع إلى أحد المراكز  
أو وحدة المكتب التي نوصيك بالتواصل.

যদি সংশ্লিষ্ট তথ্যগুলো বুঝতে আপনার কোনো সমস্যা হয় তাহলে একজন আইনজীবী বা সিটিভেল  
আফিসের ব্যুরোর সাথে যোগাযোগ করার জন্য আপনারকে পরামর্শদাতার সুপারিশ করা হবে।

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

پالیسی سبڈ ریل (لندن-ویسٹ میڈلینڈز) - پارلیمنٹ ٹوٹن  
اگر آپ کو منسلک سمجھنے میں دشواری پیش آتی ہے تو آپ سے پرزور سفارش کی جاتی  
ہے کہ آپ کسی سولسٹر یا سٹیزن ایڈوائزر بیورو سے رابطہ کریں۔

November 2013

## High Speed Rail (London – West Midlands) Bill What you need to know





## The HS2 Hybrid Bill in the House of Commons

### What you need to know

#### The High Speed Rail (London – West Midlands) Bill (HS2 Hybrid Bill) will contain the main legislative proposals for Phase One of HS2.

The Bill will set out the work for Phase One of HS2, including where that work will take place and the land that will be required, and will provide statutory authority for it. Detail on the impact of the Bill will be set out in the accompanying environmental statement.

This guide explains what you can do if you want to object to particular aspects of the HS2 proposals becoming law.

**If you think you will be directly and specially affected by the Bill, you can object to provisions contained in it by petitioning the House of Commons. This will give you an opportunity to explain to a committee of MPs how the new law would affect you and why you object to particular aspects of 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 Bill

If you think you will be directly and specially affected by the Bill and wish to object to it, you will have to submit a petition to the Private Bill Office of the House of Commons.

You may receive a letter about HS2 from HS2 Limited, from the solicitors (*Winckworth Sherwood and Eversheds*) acting for the HS2 project, or from the Department for Transport. If so, you will be affected by the HS2 Hybrid Bill. The letter will tell you how you will be affected and that you can contact Parliament to object to the way in which the Bill affects you.

You can also object to the Bill if you haven't received a letter but you think that you could be affected by the Bill.

#### What is a petition?

A petition is a summary of objections to particular aspects of the Bill. 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 HS2 Hybrid Bill.

The principles of the HS2 Hybrid Bill will be considered by the House of Commons in a Second Reading debate. After this debate, if the Bill passes its Second Reading, the Bill will be referred to a select committee which will hear the petitioners' cases. After the select committee has completed its work, the Bill subsequently proceeds through a public bill committee which considers the Bill clause by clause. Only MPs may speak at that committee.

#### Who may petition?

Any individual, group of individuals, or organisation "directly and specially affected" by the provisions of the Bill may petition against it. **However, if the Bill passes Second Reading, the principle of HS2 Phase One will have been approved, so general objections to HS2 should not be presented in petitions.**

If the promoters of the Bill (the Department for Transport) believe that someone who petitions against the Bill is not "directly and specially affected" they 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 petition can be accepted.

#### Can I petition in both Houses of Parliament?

The Bill will start in the House of Commons and proceed in due course to the House of Lords. Petitioners may petition in either House or both. Each House has a separate format for petitioning and petitions must be addressed to the appropriate House. The timetable for receiving petitions in the House of Commons will be agreed by the House immediately after Second Reading of the Bill. There is information on deadlines below.

#### What should petitions contain?

The petition should state:

- the HS2 Hybrid Bill title;
- which clauses of the Bill are relevant to your petition with a brief explanation of why;
- who you (the petitioner) are;
- why the Bill affects you; and
- what you would like the select committee to do about it.

Your petition should not call upon the select committee to reject the Bill altogether, as the committee is not able to do that. **(You can lobby your MP on this before Second Reading, however.)**

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 Bill. However, there is no need to elaborate objections in great detail.

#### What form should petitions take?

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 "*Guide to petitioning against a hybrid Bill*" from the hybrid bills pages of [www.parliament.uk](http://www.parliament.uk) or call or email the Private Bill Office (details below).

#### What about consultations?

There will be a consultation on the environmental statement accompanying the Bill, which sets out the environmental impact of HS2 Phase One in detail. You can participate in that consultation as well as petitioning against the Bill.

#### Agents

If you want someone else to represent you (for example, a solicitor) you may wish to instruct an agent who will act on your behalf in all matters relating to the petition.

There are two types of agents: professional Parliamentary Agents (who also act for Bill promoters) are known as "Roll A" agents, and all others who are "Roll B" agents.