

HOUSE OF LORDS
MINUTES OF EVIDENCE
taken before the
STANDING ORDERS (PRIVATE BILLS) COMMITTEE
on the
AMENDMENTS OF PROVISIONS TO THE

CROSSRAIL BILL

Thursday 18 October 2007

Before:

Lord Brabazon of Tara, Chairman of Committees

MR PAUL IRVING of WINCKWORTH SHERWOOD appeared as Agent for the Bill.

1. **THE CHAIRMAN:** Good afternoon. I am Lord Brabazon, Chairman of Committees in the House, and you may like to know that under Standing Order 85 of this House I am empowered to act alone in unopposed cases, so I am. Mr Irving, could you address the Committee and speak to your statement?

2. **MR IRVING:** Thank you. I believe you have the statement in which we explain the dispensation we are seeking. There is one point I would add to what we have mentioned in our statement which is that, although we are seeking a dispensation as regards dates, I can confirm that the various deposits of documents were made at a time which ensured that they were available for inspection for the full petitioning period provided for in the instructions, which means that, although we failed to comply with the specific requirements as to dates, the purpose of the Standing Orders was achieved in that people affected by the proposals were not prejudiced in their ability to consider the documents and petition.

3. **THE CHAIRMAN:** They were able to petition against this if they wished to?

4. **MR IRVING:** Yes.

5. **THE CHAIRMAN:** I understand that you were in front of the House of Commons this morning?

6. **MR IRVING:** That is right, my Lord.

7. **THE CHAIRMAN:** They agreed to this?

8. **MR IRVING:** That is right, yes.

9. **THE CHAIRMAN:** There are no other questions I have for you other than that. We will agree with your proposal and I will report to the House in favour of dispensing with Standing Orders.

10. **MR IRVING:** Thank you very much.