Dr Paul and Elizabeth Carter (No. 32)

“The Promoter met with Dr Carter on 24 September to investigate the flood risk in the area. The Promoter will report progress to the Select Committee in due course.”

1. Following the meeting with Dr Carter the Promoter has undertaken further work on the flood risk in the area and what flood mitigation measures might be possible in order to address the concerns raised. The Promoter has developed and agreed to fund a package of potential mitigation and enhancement measures, such as works to clear and expand existing ditches and culverts, and will now discuss the taking forward of these measures with Staffordshire County Council, as the relevant local authority.

Luke Mellor and Son (No. 155)

“As reported to the Select Committee in September, the Promoter has been holding monthly meetings with the petitioner since their appearance before the Select Committee, and is continuing to work with the petitioner and their representatives with a view to reaching agreement in advance of the House of Lords petitioning period.”

2. Several meetings have subsequently taken place with the petitioner and/or their agent and a number of options have been explored for the maintenance of farming operations, including the acquisition of adjoining land, reorganising the existing landholding, and the mothballing of current farming enterprises and planning opportunities, as well as the option of serving a blight notice. At the last meeting on 30 January 2019 the agent for the petitioner indicated that his client had decided to submit a blight notice for the whole farm, and he has now done so.

Christopher and Carol Carney (No. 41)

“The Promoter and the petitioners’ representatives have agreed to continue working together via the Working Group, with a view to reaching agreement in advance of the House of Lords petitioning period.”

3. The Promoter is committed to supporting the petitioner’s provision of a valuable community asset and has continued to develop mitigation measures in order to facilitate the continuation of Carney Care Farm’s services during both the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme.
4. Following the petitioner’s appearance in Select Committee, the Promoter has included a noise barrier in Additional Provision 2 to the Bill, as well as provided an assurance that commits the Promoter to facilitate and pay for the relocation of the petitioners classrooms to an alternative site within the farm. Further, the Promoter has committed to maintaining an ongoing relationship with the petitioner via a case management steering group in order to facilitate consultation between HS2 Ltd and the petitioner regarding the farm's educational requirements and to incorporate such requirements so far as reasonably practicable in order to maintain the community's enjoyment and use of the farm.

Ingestre Park Golf Club (No. 148)

“The Promoter is continuing to engage with the petitioner with a view to identifying a practical and cost effective solution that allows the golf club to continue as a community asset, and is now progressing with a request from the golf club for funding for them to be able to commission specialist advisors.”

5. The Promoter has sought powers within Additional Provision 2 to the Bill for land acquisition and planning on land adjacent land at Ingestre to assist the Club to replace the holes that will be lost by the Phase 2A scheme and provide the Club with the opportunity to relocate part of its course as soon as possible. If agreement can be reached with the Club, the Promoter would be prepared to fund the design and other works in advance of Royal Assent to the Phase 2A Bill in an effort to mitigate disturbance to the Club's operations. A cost effective reconfiguration would also allow the Club to continue as a community asset in Ingestre. HS2 Ltd has met representatives of the Club on at least 10 occasions, 3 of which have taken place since their Select Committee appearance last year, on 30 August, 20 November and 29 January 2019. HS2 Ltd understand the Club has continued aspirations to purchase land and obtain planning consent to relocate the whole course to a new site approximately one mile away in Tixall with a brand new club house and car park. HS2 Ltd and the Club have discussed the mechanism on how to produce cost estimates in order to inform cost comparison between the two options. In addition HS2 Ltd has agreed to allow the Club to draw down reasonable fees in order to fund their advisors. Further discussions on the way forward are planned before the petition is due to be heard in Select Committee.

Mental health issues

“Monitoring changes to the epidemiological mental health and wellbeing baseline along the Phase 2A route during construction would be relatively straightforward, but the challenge would be in assessing whether any changes observed – positive or negative - were specifically attributable to HS2. In recognition of the Select Committee's request, the Promoter is scoping and will commission an epidemiological quantitative analysis of the impact of the construction and operation of Phase 2A, including on mental health and wellbeing, which will also look at international best practice in the field. The Promoter will provide a further update on progress on this when the Select Committee reconvenes in the New Year.”
6. HS2 Ltd have commissioned consultant health experts to undertake the initial scoping for an epidemiological to address community health and wellbeing. The scope includes three proposed work packages which could be employed to assess the community health and wellbeing effects of HS2:

- **work package 1-** qualitative interview and focus group study. To understand the different ways in which individuals and communities in affected areas perceive and experience the health and wellbeing effects of the HS2 scheme (both adverse and beneficial effects).

- **work package 2-** quantitative study of existing health data. To undertake a before and after study comparing health and wellbeing data (eg from Public Health England/Office for National Statistic/Department of Health and Social Care/Clinical Commissioning Groups/local authorities) for areas affected by the scheme.

- **work package 3 -** longitudinal epidemiological study of the effect of HS2 on health and wellbeing. To collect survey questionnaire data from residents living in communities affected by the HS2 scheme and uncertainty associated with the scheme, to quantitatively assess the effect of the scheme on health and wellbeing over time.

7. The proposed work packages cover a range of methodologies, to provide a broad assessment of the health and wellbeing effects on communities along the route. They would focus on construction and operation for Phase 2A communities while also including data collection and community groups from both Phase 1 and Phase 2B for comparison and to show health and wellbeing has been fully considered for all phases.

8. HS2 Ltd will now approach expert academic institutions to obtain their views on the scope and scale of the proposed study.

9. HS2 Ltd will report back to the Select Committee once these discussions have taken place with details of the anticipated next steps.

“HS2 Ltd is also committed to engaging appropriately with vulnerable stakeholders. This includes ensuring that front line staff receive appropriate training and support, and HS2 Ltd is in the process of putting in place (a procurement exercise is currently underway, with the requirement out to the market) a framework of services to provide its staff with expert advice and assistance in supporting vulnerable people. Given the potential for stress and anxiety to be caused as a result of planning blight and uncertainty during the route development process, not just during construction, and in recognition of the Select Committee’s request, HS2 Ltd have extended the scope to include an advocacy, support and wellbeing service for stakeholders. The service would provide:

- help with applying for the various HS2 property schemes;
- help with understanding HS2 legal notices;
• additional/extended support to individuals with learning, physical, sensory or multiple disabilities whose disability affects their ability to self-advocate;
• additional/extended support to individuals who, through frailty, deteriorating health affecting mental functioning or other circumstances, find their ability to self-advocate effectively is impaired; and
• additional support for individuals who are part of a minority ethnic community whose needs are not readily understood by HS2 Ltd because of cultural differences.”

10. In December 2018 HS2 Ltd issued an invitation to tender for an Independent Advocacy, Wellbeing and Support Service. This closed in January 2019 and tenders are currently being assessed.

“The Promoter is also committed to improving the evidence base for Phase 2B, and HS2 Ltd will conduct a qualitative assessment of the written responses collected during the community consultation exercise undertaken for Phase 2B in 2016-17 to identify stress and anxiety impacts. HS2 Ltd will examine these responses for a series of search terms to identify any evidence of stress and anxiety associated with the proposals and provide an indication of the issues most likely to give rise to these feelings. HS2 Ltd will also consider holding a similar exercise for the consultation on the Phase 2B Working Draft ES.”

11. In November 2018 HS2 Ltd commissioned Ipsos MORI to examine the Phase 2B consultation responses received in 2016-17. A series of search terms were used to identify where respondents had raised concerns relating to stress and anxiety associated with the HS2 proposals. Ipsos MORI have now delivered the outputs from their review and the Phase 2B consultant health experts will now undertake a qualitative analysis alongside the consultation responses received on the Phase 2B Working Draft Environmental Statement, for which the consultation period closed on 21 December 2018.

“A number of the Phase 1 projects that have so far secured funding (a total of some £250,000) from the HS2 Community and Environment Fund (CEF) have objectives that include improving community health. The Promoter has said that the criteria for compensatory funds such as the CEF, and the Business & Local Economy Fund (BLEF) will be reviewed to ensure projects seeking to improve mental health and wellbeing would be eligible for funding, and the Promoter would welcome such bids for Phase 2A in due course when the funds open for applications after Royal Assent. HS2 Ltd will engage with health and wellbeing stakeholders to encourage and support applications for such projects.”

12. HS2 Ltd have undertaken a review of the CEF and BLEF criteria and can confirm that projects seeking to improve mental health and wellbeing would be eligible for funding, subject to the applicant and the project meeting the other eligibility criteria of the funds. The funds have been designed with all Phases of HS2 in mind and therefore projects of this nature will remain eligible when the Phase 2A funding pot is opened for applications following Royal Assent of the Phase 2A Bill. HS2 Ltd held a workshop with Phase 2B health stakeholders in October 2018 and the funds were discussed; further
engagement will be held route-wide to ensure health and wellbeing stakeholders are encouraged to bid for funding.

**Other matters**

“The Guidance on Compulsory purchase process and the Crichel Down Rules sets out the compulsory purchase process in more detail and is intended to make it easier for people to access information on the compulsory purchase system. There are also a number of user friendly and accessible information booklets which were published by the Government in 2004 explaining, in simple terms, how the compulsory system works. The Government will give consideration to the need to update these information booklets.”

13. The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) has begun its review of its published information booklets on compulsory purchase in discussion with relevant stakeholders.

“In order to provide specific information to residential tenants affected by HS2, the Promoter has committed to publish an information paper for residential tenants affected by the HS2 project. The Promoter is also considering providing more detailed guidance on the process by which atypical cases are considered outside the package of non-statutory property schemes.”

14. HS2 Ltd has published\(^1\) a new Information Paper (Information Paper C15 in the C series on property and compensation) which is a Guide to Compensation for Short Term Residential Tenants. The Information Paper is supplemented with a series of questions and answers on the common queries likely to arise from residential tenants where the properties they occupy are acquired and possessed for construction of the HS2 works.

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\(^{1}\) It has been published with the other C series Information Papers at [https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/property-compensation-and-funding-hs2-phase-2a-information-papers](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/property-compensation-and-funding-hs2-phase-2a-information-papers).