

## APPENDIX C: DEPOSITING A PETITION IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS: THE MAIN DIFFERENCES IN THE PROCEDURE BETWEEN THE HOUSE OF LORDS AND THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

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### WHAT IS THIS DOCUMENT?

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This is part of the Petitioning Kit for petitioning against the High Speed Rail (London – West Midlands) Bill (**the HS2 Bill**) in the House of Lords and should be read in conjunction with *The High Speed Rail (London – West Midlands) Bill: How to Petition against a Hybrid Bill in the House of Lords petitioning kit guide*.

The process of petitioning in both the House of Commons and the House of Lords is very similar but there are a few differences which may catch you out if you petitioned in the House of Commons:

### THE WORDING OF THE PETITION

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The wording used in a petition to the House of Lords is the modern form of words. There are still certain phrases which **must** appear in your petition but these are different to those used in the House of Commons. The wording for a House of Lords petition is given in *Appendix A: template for a petition against a hybrid bill*. The body of your petition can be very similar to that of a petition in the House of Commons.

### HOW YOU DEPOSIT YOUR PETITION

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In the House of Commons petitions had to be deposited in person. In other words, either you, your Agent or your MP had to take your petition to the petitioning room.

In the House of Lords petitions may, if you wish, be delivered in person. Anybody may deliver a petition for you to the House of Lords Private Bill Office; it does not have to be you, your Agent or your MP.

The House of Lords will also accept a signed petition sent by post<sup>1</sup> (together with the completed *Appendix B: Information Sheets*). **They must be received during the petitioning period.** The other documents, and the fee, can be received shortly afterwards if need be).

The House of Lords will also accept a PDF of a signed petition (together with the completed *Appendix B: Information Sheets*) as long as they arrive within the petitioning period. The fee and any other documentation can be received shortly afterwards if need be – you will need to add your petition number (which will be emailed to you) to the documents that you post to the House of Lords Private Bill Office.

If you post or email your petition you should do so as early as possible as proof of

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<sup>1</sup> to the House of Lords Private Bill Office, House of Lords, London, SW1A 0PW

## Appendix C: Depositing a petition in the House of Lords : Differences in the procedure between the House of Lords and the House of Commons –*continued*

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posting/emailing will not be sufficient; you must check that your petition has been received. See *the petitioning kit guide* for further information.

### **WHERE YOU DEPOSIT YOUR PETITION IN PERSON**

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In the House of Commons petitions were deposited in Portcullis House (the new building by Big Ben). In the House of Lords the House of Lords Private Bill Office will be temporarily located in Committee Room 2A, on the Committee Corridor in the main Houses of Parliament building. If you attended the House of Commons Committee on HS2 it is on the other side of the corridor quite near to that Committee Room.