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# Announcing Phase 2b

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November 2016





HS2 Community Engagement Event

Image: HS2/Bob Martin

The Government has announced its preferred route for the proposed High Speed Two (HS2) railway from Crewe to Manchester and West Midlands to Leeds – known as Phase 2b. This means that this is the route the Government believes the new line should take.

This leaflet sets out further details including where there have been significant changes to the route and how you can have a say on them. We also know that plans for the new railway raise serious issues for people living nearby. So if your property is directly affected by the Government's plans, we can help you understand your options and get the assistance you need.

Whether you know about the HS2 project or are hearing about it for the first time. We hope this explanation of the announcement is useful. The back page of this leaflet shows you how to find more detailed information about HS2 in your area, and how to get in touch with us.

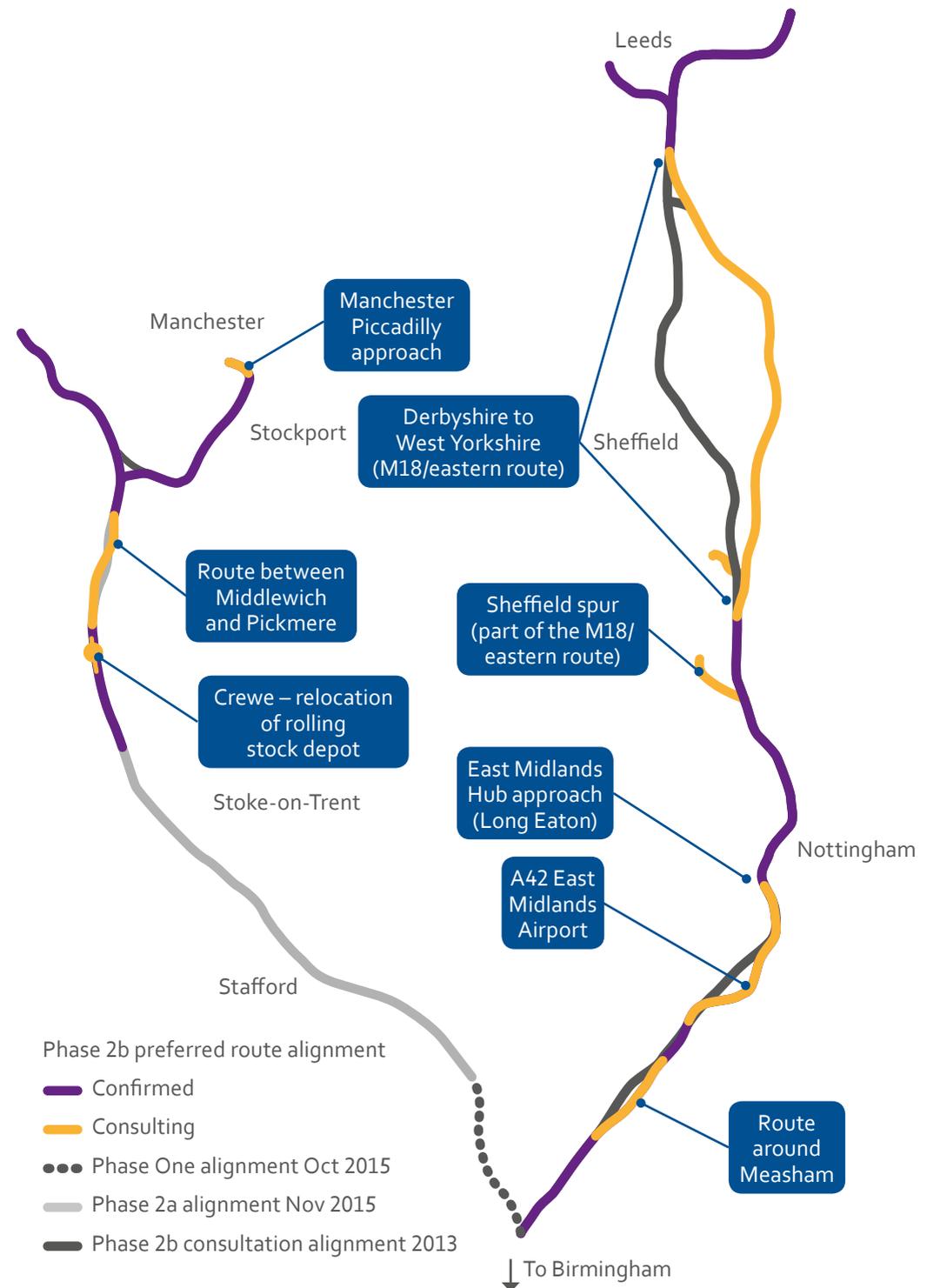
### **What's the announcement about?**

- The Government has confirmed the majority of the Phase 2b route which runs from Crewe to Manchester and West Midlands to Leeds: we hope this now provides certainty for people living in areas near the proposed railway.
- The route includes some changes to what we consulted on in 2013. We are launching a consultation on the seven substantial changes we are proposing to the route. These reflect feedback from the consultation and lessons learned from developing other parts of the route.
- We are also issuing safeguarding directions for the entire preferred route. Safeguarding directions require HS2 to be consulted on any relevant planning applications which could conflict with the plans for HS2, and gives homeowners access to statutory compensation schemes. If you are within the safeguarded area, you will have received a separate letter.
- We are launching a consultation on the property compensation and assistance schemes we are proposing for people affected by the plans for HS2. We are also launching some schemes from today, to ensure that people who are most directly affected can start planning for their future now.

## Changes to the route on which we're consulting

The right route for HS2 needs to balance different factors, including serving communities effectively, delivering value for taxpayers and passengers, and limiting disruption for local residents and businesses. We are proposing seven substantial changes to the route consulted on in 2013:

- Move the proposed rolling stock depot from near Golborne to a site north of Crewe near Wimboldsley.
- Change the route in the Middlewich-Northwich area to avoid existing infrastructure and to minimise the risk of subsidence.
- Change the approach to Manchester Piccadilly so the station can operate more efficiently, avoid direct impacts on residential properties and a school at West Gorton and reduce flood risk.
- Move the route to the east of Measham to avoid some significant impacts on the town, businesses and a major development site.
- Avoid the need to tunnel under East Midlands Airport by instead passing to the east of the M1.
- Amend the route through Long Eaton to address local concerns over the creation of a physical barrier and impacts on the road network, and to reduce flood risk.
- Move the alignment of the route from Derbyshire to West Yorkshire, and serve Sheffield Midland station. Instead of travelling along the Rother Valley to Meadowhall, the new proposed route follows the M1 and then the M18, passes between Conisbrough and Mexborough, and crosses more open country passing Thurnscoe, South Kirkby, Hemsworth and Crofton. A spur between Huthwaite and South Normanton, would allow high speed trains to serve Chesterfield and Sheffield Midland.



## Our property schemes

People who live in or own property near the HS2 route could be affected by the project.

You will have received a separate letter with this leaflet setting out how these proposals apply to you and your property if you are directly affected. Subject to the outcome of the consultation we expect the confirmed compensation and assistance schemes will be implemented in full in 2017 with the exception of the homeowner payment scheme which will be launched following Parliamentary approval of route in this area. Schemes are expected to run until one year after this part of the railway is fully operational.

The Government is consulting on the following schemes it proposes to introduce:

Express purchase

### Express purchase

Express purchase is available to those owner occupiers within the identified safeguarded area, which is the area of the route closest to the railway that will be needed for its construction and operation. Express purchase simplifies how eligible owner occupiers can claim compensation under the statutory blight regime.

Need to sell

### Need to sell

A purchase scheme for people who have a compelling reason to sell their property, but can't do so, other than at a significantly reduced price, because of HS2. There is no geographical boundary for this scheme.

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To support those living on the route the Government has decided that the Express Purchase and Need to sell schemes will be made available on an interim basis from now.

Image: HS2/Bob Martin



Rural support zone

### Rural support zone

There are payment and purchase schemes for people who live up to 120 metres from the line of route (where not covered by safeguarding). They are available where the railway would be in a rural area and on the surface, not in a tunnel.

Homeowner payment scheme

### Homeowner payment scheme

There will be cash payments for people who own and live in properties in the homeowner payment zone, which will generally operate between 120m and 300m in rural areas where the line is not in a tunnel. The scheme will be launched when the HS2 route in your area is approved by Parliament.

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For information about the property schemes, you can get in touch with HS2 directly by emailing [HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk) or calling **020 7944 4908**.

You can also visit [www.gov.uk/hs2](http://www.gov.uk/hs2) for full details, including detailed maps of where the different property schemes are available.

## Phase 2b line of route

Available once line in public use for a year

Schemes being consulted on

 <p>Safeguarded area and extended homeowner protection zone<sup>1</sup></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Express purchase (available now)<sup>2</sup></li> <li>Extended Homeowner Protection Zone</li> <li>Rent back</li> </ul>	Part 1 compensation (where there is no land take) <sup>3</sup>
 <p>Rural support zone (RSZ)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cash offer OR voluntary purchase<sup>4</sup></li> <li>Need to sell scheme (available now)</li> <li>Rent back</li> </ul>	Part 1 compensation (where there is no land take)
 <p>Homeowner payment zone</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Homeowner payments<sup>5</sup> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Zone 1: 120m to 180m – £22,500</li> <li>Zone 2: 180m to 240m – £15,000</li> <li>Zone 3: 240m to 300m – £7,500</li> </ul> </li> <li>Need to sell scheme (available now)</li> <li>Rent back</li> </ul>	Part 1 compensation (where there is no land take)
 <p>Beyond</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need to sell scheme (available now)</li> <li>Rent back</li> </ul>	Part 1 compensation (where there is no land take)

<sup>1</sup> Usually 60m in rural areas. <sup>2</sup> Surface safeguarding only. <sup>3</sup> Compensation for any reduction in the value of property as a result of the physical effects of the operation of the railway. <sup>4</sup> Applies to rural areas only and does not extend to areas beyond deep tunnels. <sup>5</sup> Only available after Royal Assent to the Bill. Applies to rural areas only and does not extend to areas beyond deep tunnels.



## Residents' Charter and Commissioner

The Residents' Charter is our promise to communicate as clearly as we possibly can with people who live along or near the HS2 route. You can read it by visiting:

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/hs2-residents-charter](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hs2-residents-charter)

We also have an independent Residents' Commissioner whose job is to make sure we keep to the promises we make in the Charter and to keep it under constant review. The first of the Residents' Commissioner's reports is published at: [www.gov.uk/government/publications/hs2-residents-commissioner-report-1-may-2015](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hs2-residents-commissioner-report-1-may-2015)

You can contact the Commissioner at: [residentscommissioner@hs2.org.uk](mailto:residentscommissioner@hs2.org.uk)

## Why do we need HS2?

Since 1990, journeys on the rail network have more than doubled. HS2 will enable us to meet the huge growth in demand for rail travel; it will bring cities closer together through greater connectivity and quicker journey times; and, it will free up capacity for local and regional services. It will be a key part of our national rail network and will transform the experience of passengers by improving services and reliability across the railways.

## About us

HS2 Ltd was set up by the Government to deal with the design, engineering and technical requirements of building the railway. But we also have an important role in making sure that if you're affected by the Government's plans, you understand what to expect (and when), and how we can help.

We hope that this information provides some helpful clarity on the plans for the HS2 railway. If you need to find out more, there are a number of ways of getting in touch.

## Online

You can see further information of the recent announcement at [www.gov.uk/hs2](http://www.gov.uk/hs2), including detailed maps of the changes by area.

## At an event

We will be holding a series of information events where you can talk to members of the HS2 team, ask questions and find out more about HS2 in your area. We will write to you about these in the coming weeks; you can also find information on the events page of our website at [www.gov.uk/hs2](http://www.gov.uk/hs2)

## Via our helpdesk

You can contact us on 020 7944 4908 or at [HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)

Please contact us if you would like a free copy of this leaflet in large print, Braille, audio or easy read. You can also contact us for help and information in a different language.

## Have your say

The Government is holding a consultation on the proposed route changes, so it can consider the views of the public before deciding whether the changes should be in the HS2 design that is submitted to Parliament. To find out more details on the proposed route changes, go to [www.gov.uk/hs2](http://www.gov.uk/hs2) or find out more at an HS2 information event.

If you would like to respond to the consultation, you can:

- use the dedicated online response form at [route2b.dialoguebydesign.net](http://route2b.dialoguebydesign.net)
- email your response to: [route2b@dialoguebydesign.co.uk](mailto:route2b@dialoguebydesign.co.uk)
- post your response to: **FREEPOST HS2 PHASE 2B ROUTE REFINEMENT CONSULTATION**

You can also give your views on the proposed property schemes to assist people whose property is affected by the plans for HS2. You can see the details of the schemes at [www.gov.uk/hs2](http://www.gov.uk/hs2) or find out more at an HS2 information event.

If you would like to respond, you can:

- use the dedicated online response form at [property2b.dialoguebydesign.net](http://property2b.dialoguebydesign.net)
- email your response to: [property2b@dialoguebydesign.co.uk](mailto:property2b@dialoguebydesign.co.uk)
- post your response to: **FREEPOST HS2 PHASE 2B PROPERTY CONSULTATION**

The two consultations will run for 16 weeks until 9 March 2017.