# HS2 through Buckinghamshire

# Proposed management of the Approvals process



# Overview

- Proposed delivery of HS2
- County Council Qualifying Authority function
- Pre-application and approval processes:
  - a) Lorry routes
  - b) Street works, other Temporary and Permanent highway works
- Collaborative working



# Phase One: high-level delivery schedule (Draft) June 2016

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Royal Assent											
Scheme Design											
Enabling Works											
Civils Works											
Railway Systems											
Testing and commissioning											
Entry into Service											

# Our role in the approvals process

- To approve, as a Qualifying Authority:
  - HS2 construction traffic routes through Buckinghamshire
  - Temporary and Permanent highways works to include design, structures, signage, lines, signals and the road safety audit review
  - Measures to address flood mitigation and risk
- This work will require coordination and collaborative working with other BCC functions and an agreed Service Level Agreement with TfB.
- To oversee/undertake delivery of over 100 Assurances currently agreed with HS2

### HS2 Lorry routes: 2017-2026

- Major roads through Bucks have been identified as lorry routes for HS2 construction traffic.
- As Highways Authority, we will be asked to formally allow HS2 Ltd access to these routes.
- Lorry route a road expected to encounter 24 or more LGV (>7.5T) movements per day.
- Detailed design matters regarding permanent and temporary works along the lorry routes will be submitted later under a Schedule 4 application.



## **Developing Traffic Management Plans & Lorry Route Approvals**

Indicative/Generic timings									
	2016			2017				2018	
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Key milestones									
Royal Assent									
Start of Enabling Works									
Appointment of Main Civil Works Contractor					one				
Start of Main Civils Works									
Appointment of Station Civil Works Contractor?									
Review of bridge structures, asset protection and restricti	ons on acces	s							
Stage 1 Initial review complete									
Stage 2 Detailed review and outline design									
Stage 3 Detailed design and works									
Traffic Management Plans									
Birmingham Box Strategic TMP draf	t		review 1			review	2		
Enabling Works Local TMPs prepare/con	sult						_		
Main Civil Works Local TMPs		outline	e	complete			consult		
Station Civil Works Local TMPs?									
Route Management Improvement and Safety Plan									
Lorry routes - main planning application	ROMIS								
	Pre-app consu	ilt 👘		L					
		Appl	lication			_			
Lorry routes - supplementary application									
Local Traffic Liasion Group Meetings									
Discuss areas at highways sub group									
Establish as required									

#### **SCHEDULE 17 PROCESS - Deemed Planning Approval**

Schedule 17 Construction Routes- Application process



October-December 2017: Publication of the draft Route Management Improvement and Safety Plan (ROMIS)

- The ROMIS will:
  - Set out the routes to be approved for use by HS2 construction traffic
  - Consider what physical changes are necessary along the routes to enable use by Large Goods Vehicles
  - Confirm the measures that have been considered related to safety and maintaining the free flow of traffic at construction site access points and mitigated against as appropriate
  - Confirm the measures undertaken to facilitate delivery of our agreed the Assurances and Undertakings (e.g. junction improvements)

January 2017: Submission of formal application for lorry routes

- HS2 Ltd will submit a formal application seeking approval of the use of lorry routes through Buckinghamshire (Sch.17 Hybrid Bill);
- All Routes will be submitted as a single application to the Planning Portal
- It is expected that the application will consist of:
  - A list of roads for proposed use, along the shortest travel routes
  - A covering letter;
  - A plan showing the proposed routes;
  - A written statement describing each site
  - Details of the proposed works at the site
  - A summary of the LTMP
- We will have 8 weeks to respond to the application.

# Formal approval process

- We may refuse HS2 proposals but only on the grounds that they should be modified in the interests of:-
  - Preserving the local environment or amenity
  - Preventing or reducing prejudicial effects on road safety or on the free flow of traffic in the local area
  - Preserving a site of archaeological or historic interest or of nature conservation value and having reasonably capability of being modified
- If we refuse an application on these grounds above, we are then obliged to submit an alternative routing proposal to HS2 Ltd.
- If HS2 Ltd disagree with the submitted alternative, the application will go to arbitration and the Secretary of State will make the final decision.

# HS2 and Road Space Management Team (Street Works)

Current core objectives:

- Manage the network as Highways Authority
- Maintain movement of traffic through Buckinghamshire
- Seek to avoid, eliminate or reduce network congestion when disrupted.

#### During HS2 construction:

- We are expecting a minimum 33 additional street works applications per month (5000 over 5 years) – <u>excluding</u> enabling and assurance works
- HS2 notifications will inevitably lead to conflicts with other planned works collaborative working is essential between Streetworks, BCC HS2, HS2 Contractors, Statutory Undertakers, TfB and BCC works promotors.

# **Approval processes**

Current rules	Rules under the HS2 Bill					
- All notices to follow NRSWA and EToN regs	- Many regs are disapplied by the Bill					
- BCC can: Recover Permit Scheme admin costs	<ul> <li>All submissions have 'deemed approval' – BCC's formal approval for street works is not required</li> </ul>					
Refuse applications and request revisions Enforce disciplinary measures and fines	- BCC are unable to serve fines					
	- If minded to refuse an application, BCC must suggest an alternative proposal					

- The HS2 programme will be regularly updated and submitted to the Traffic Liaison Group which has BCC representation.
- For new phases of works a 3 day notice will be given.

# **Temporary Works**

- The construction of HS2 will involve numerous temporary highways works across Buckinghamshire – including temporary road widenings and construction of temporary bridges.
- Following Royal Assent we will receive a Consents and Approvals register and a Programme of Works. This will enable us to understand when applications will be coming forward.
- On receipt of an application the Council will have 28 days to respond.
- Our consent cannot be unreasonably withheld. If the Council and HS2 cannot agree then the application will go to arbitration.

# The Temporary Works consents BCC will need to give:

*Temporary Accesses* – we can only suggest HS2 Ltd use an alternative access on the grounds that it will:

- Prevent/reduce injury to a local amenity; or
- Prevent/reduce prejudicial effects on road safety or free flow of traffic

*Trial Holes* – HS2 Ltd require our permission to make trial holes in a carriageway. We can reject a proposal but not unreasonably so.

*Temporary Interference:* HS2 Ltd require our permission. Approval cannot be unreasonably witheld but can be conditioned in the interests of public safety and/or convenience.

*Certification of temporary Highways Works:* the construction or alteration of a highway must be completed to the reasonable satisfaction of the Highway Authority. The Highway Authority must certify this in writing.

# **Permanent Works**

- Permanent Highways structures will be built across Buckinghamshire as part of HS2 – including new roads, bridges and accesses.
- The approval process for Permanent works is similar to that for Temporary works.; following Royal Assent we will receive a Consents and Approvals register and a Programme of Works which will enable us to understand when applications will come forward.
- On receipt of the application the Council will have 28 days to respond.
- Consent cannot be unreasonably withheld.
- If the Council and HS2 cannot agree then the application will go to arbitration.

# SCHEDULE 4/STREETWORKS PROCESS



# Summary

- As a Qualifying Authority, we have grounds on which to refuse applications for HS2 lorry routes and permanent and temporary works.
- However if we are minded to refuse, we must submit an alternative proposal to HS2 Ltd with <u>their</u> agreement.
- If HS2 Ltd do not agree with our submitted alternative, the application will go to arbitration and the Secretary of State makes the final decision.
- Collaborative working is essential between ourselves, TfB, the District Councils and other stakeholders to:
  - Maximise successful negotiation in the pre-application stages
  - Ensure that any alternatives that are put forward at submission stage are robust and widely supported.