

19-July-2026

To: HS2 Fol requests

FOUR EIR REQUESTS

Dear HS2,

Please consider these four related enquiries under the Environmental Information Regulations -

CRoW section 85

Section 85 of the Countryside and Right of Way Act 2000 (CRoW Act) (as amended by the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act² in December 2023) requires 'relevant authorities', in exercising or performing any function that affect AONBs in England, to *"seek to further the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty."*

1. Does HS2 Ltd consider that this section applies to the activities of the nominated undertakers in constructing HS2 ?
2. If so, please indicate how the designs specified in applications PL/25/6639/HS2¹ and PL/26/02545/HS2² (on the Bucks planning website) further the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the Chilterns National Landscape

No Net Loss

Your document 'No Net Loss in Biodiversity calculation' stated (in Dec 2015) that *"In line with government policy, HS2 Ltd is seeking to achieve the goal of Phase One of the proposed railway ('the Scheme') resulting in no net loss in biodiversity at a route-wide level."*

3. Is HS2 still seeking to achieve this goal ?
4. If so, please indicate what calculations have been made of the biodiversity which will result from the designs specified in the above two proposals, and which biodiversity metric was employed in this calculation.

Regards,

Dr James Conboy

¹ Leather Lane – Jones Hill Wood

² Wendover dean