

Sara Board  
Warwickshire County Council Offices  
Shire Hall  
Warwick  
Warwickshire  
CV34 4SA

15 January 2016

By email only.

Dear Ms Board,

### **Assurances Relating to High Speed Rail (London – West Midlands) Bill**

I am the Director of Hybrid Bill Delivery at HS2 Ltd, which is acting on behalf of the Promoter of the High Speed Rail (London – West Midlands) Bill ('the Bill') currently before Parliament. I am writing to you on behalf of the Secretary of State for Transport to set out the assurances that the Secretary of State is willing to give in order to address Warwickshire County Council's (the Council's) concerns regarding the impact of Phase One of HS2 (known as 'the Proposed Scheme').

Please would you kindly confirm that the detailed wording below is acceptable and that, on the basis of these assurances, the Council will not be appearing in Select Committee on this matter. These assurances will be included in the Register of Undertakings and Assurances maintained by the Secretary of State.

In these assurances:

"the Council" means Warwickshire County Council;

"the Highway Scheme" means the Council's proposal for an improvement of the A46/A452 Thickthorn roundabout in Warwickshire, and an associated upgrade of the A452 between Thickthorn and Bericote Road;

"the HS2 Works" means any road works required at the A46/452 to mitigate the impacts of the Proposed Scheme as a result of the findings of the traffic assessment undertaken in accordance with paragraph 1 of these assurances;

"the Nominated Undertaker" means the relevant nominated undertaker appointed under the Bill as enacted and, in the period prior to the Secretary of State appointing a nominated undertaker and imposing the requirements on it referred to in these assurances, HS2 Ltd;

"the Proposed Scheme" means the construction and operation of Phase One of High Speed 2.

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High Speed Two (HS2) Limited, registered in England and Wales.  
Registered office: One Canada Square, London E14 5AB. Company registration number: 06791686. VAT registration number: 181 4312 30.

#### A46/A452 junction, Warwickshire

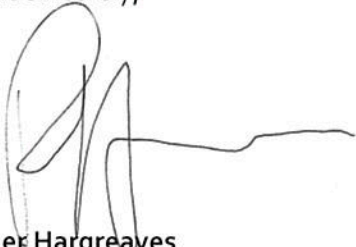
Following recent discussions between the Promoter, Warwickshire County Council and the University of Warwick, the Promoter is prepared to offer the Council the assurances set out below. For the avoidance of doubt, although there are currently no works proposed by HS2 to the A46/A452 junction, in the light of recent discussions the Promoter anticipates that the traffic assessment to be carried out in accordance with paragraph 1 of these assurances may demonstrate a need for works within the existing highway to mitigate the impacts of HS2 construction traffic on this junction.

1. *The Promoter will use reasonable endeavours to complete the traffic assessment which it has agreed to carry out for the A46/A452 junction within 4 months of the date of this letter; such assessment to be carried out to the reasonable satisfaction of the Council.*
2. *The Promoter will require the Nominated Undertaker to cooperate with the Council and/or Highways England in relation to any application for authorisation and/or powers for the Highway Scheme, so far as doing so does not adversely affect the timely, economic and safe delivery of the Proposed Scheme.*
3. *The Promoter, recognising the Council's aspirations for the Highway Scheme to be brought forward, will require the Nominated Undertaker to continue to share with the Council relevant information regarding the design and programme for the HS2 Works.*
4. *In the event that authorisation is and/or powers are sought for the Highway Scheme, by the Council and/or Highways England, the Promoter will require the Nominated Undertaker to engage with the promoter of the Highway Scheme to identify whether, and if so how, the Highways Scheme can be delivered ahead of the HS2 Works without adversely affecting the timely, economic and safe delivery of the Proposed Scheme.*
5. *The engagement referred to in paragraph 4 will include exploring the following:*
  - a. *possible coordination of construction programmes;*
  - b. *opportunities for costs savings for both schemes;*
  - c. *opportunities for utilising shared resources and appropriate contributions to the Highway Scheme as determined by the revised traffic assessment work;*
  - d. *opportunities for reducing, so far as is reasonably practicable, the overall number of construction vehicle movements and the combined impacts of the Highways Scheme and HS2 Works on the local community;*  
  
*and should it not be practicable to deliver the Highways Scheme ahead of the HS2 Works;*
  - e. *opportunities for coordination of the two construction programmes.*
6. *Subject to paragraph 7 below, in the event that the Highway Scheme is constructed and ready to use in advance of the HS2 Works, the Promoter will require the Nominated Undertaker to use the junction provided by that Highway Scheme.*

7. *Paragraph 6 will only apply if the Promoter (acting reasonably) is of the opinion that use of the junction provided by the Highway Scheme during construction of the Proposed Scheme is not likely to give rise to any increase in significant environmental effects above those reported in the Environmental Statement for the Bill, as updated and amended by the Supplementary Environmental Statements and Additional Provisions Environmental Statements.*
8. *In the event that the traffic assessment referred to in paragraph 2 of this assurance does not demonstrate a requirement for works to mitigate the impacts of HS2 at this junction:*
- a. paragraphs 3 to 5 will not apply and*
  - b. paragraph 6 will apply as though the words "in advance of the HS2 Works" reads "in advance of the commencement of use of that junction by Hs2 construction traffic".*

I trust these assurances accurately reflect our recent discussions, whilst also taking account of the possibility that no HS2 Works will be required (although on the information provided, we doubt that will be the case). I am copying this letter to Bob Wilson, University of Warwick, and Alastair Lewis, Sharpe Pritchard, who I understand is acting as your appointed parliamentary agent.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RH' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

**Roger Hargreaves**  
Director, Hybrid Bill Delivery  
High Speed Two Limited

