

HS2 Bulletin

Special Edition – Phase One Royal Assent

The Bill

Royal Assent was granted for the HS2 Bill on February 23, 2017. Following Royal Assent, the Bill is now an Act of Parliament and will provide HS2 Ltd with the powers to construct, operate and maintain Phase One of HS2.

It marks the completion of a process which began in March 2010 when the Government announced its preferred route for a high speed railway (HS2) from London to the West Midlands.

In January 2012 the route was confirmed and the Phase One Hybrid Bill was deposited in Parliament on November 25, 2013.

Since that time, the Bill has passed through both the House of Commons and House of Lords before reaching the statute book 1,187 days later.

The final version of the Bill can be found following the link;

Press release link:

The scheme

High Speed Two is the Government's national high speed railway infrastructure project. HS2 Ltd is the company responsible for designing and building the railway, and for making recommendations to the Government.

HS2 will be built in phases – one, 2a and 2b. Once finished, the railway will connect the cities of Birmingham, Manchester, Leeds and London. It will run services to more than 25 stations across Britain and integrate with the rest of the rail and transport network.

In Phase One, 400 metre-long trains will run at speeds of up to 225mph, with 11 trains per hour in each direction.

It will take 49 minutes to travel from Birmingham to London. An estimated 25,000 passengers a day will use the service rising to 66,000 by 2041.

What happens next

After Royal Assent, the legal powers needed to build and operate the railway contained in the Bill are available to HS2. This will allow them to carry out further site investigations, early works to set out compounds, and carriageway improvements.

The Bill will allow HS2 to compulsory purchase land, modify the infrastructure of statutory bodies such as utility companies, and carry out work on listed buildings. The main civil engineering works will start in 2018.

Phase One milestones

- Spring 2017** – site investigation work
- 2017** – enabling works (surveys, compound building and road strengthening)
- 2018 – 2021** – main construction works and peak traffic pressures
- 2021 – 2026** – reduced intensity construction period
- 2026** – HS2 Phase One opens

The route for HS2 Ltd Phase 2b is currently out to consultation and a decision is due to be made by the Secretary of State by the end of this year.

Key contact details

Construction Commissioner

Gareth Epps

complaints@hs2-cc.org.uk
www.hs2-cc.org.uk

Residents' Commissioner

Deborah Fazen

residentscommissioner@hs2.org.uk
www.gov.uk/government/collections/hs2-ltd-residents-commissioner

HS2 helpline – 020 7944 4908

<https://wcchs2.wordpress.com/>

The register of undertakings and assurances

A register is held which contains all of the undertakings and assurances offered by HS2 Ltd during the parliamentary process.

Undertakings are promises given to Parliament, breaches of which are addressed through Parliament itself, or a joint commitment which has the status of a legally binding contract and is enforceable by the courts.

Assurances are any other unilateral commitments given directly to petitioners or affected parties and are enforceable through the Secretary of State.

The full register is online here:

HS2 Information Paper B4

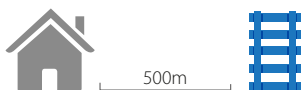
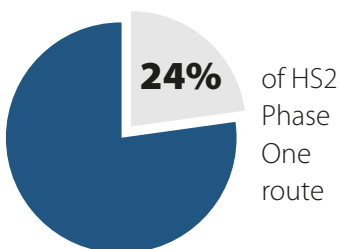
fully explains the definition of undertakings and assurances and the compliance arrangements:

HS2 Phase One Fact Sheet

Warwickshire

53.4km

total Phase one track



13,888

residents live within
500m of Phase One

Route-wide

Route Length:

230km



The Bill in Parliament



3,408

total number of petitions



222 days

in select committees



2,400

assurances offered by HS2

A history of HS2

- March 2010** ● The Government announced its preferred route for a high speed railway (HS2) from London to the West Midlands.
- July 2011** ● Phase One route consultation
- January 2012** ● Phase One route confirmed
- March 2012** ● Community forum meetings along the line
- January 2013** ● Safeguarding consultation
- May 2013** ● Draft ES (Environmental Statement) and route refinement consultation
- July 2013** ● Phase Two route alignment consultation
- November 2013** ● Phase One hybrid bill deposited
- April 2014** ● WCC petition lodged
- April 2014** ● Hybrid bill second reading/select committee convened
- October 2014** ● WCC House of Commons select committee appearance
- January 2016** ● WCC Select Committee appearance (Additional Provisions)
- March 2016** ● House of Commons select committee concludes
- March 2016** ● Bill introduced to the House of Lords
- April 2016** ● House of Lords select committee convened
- April 2016** ● WCC petition lodged
- July 2016** ● WCC House of Lords select committee appearance
- October 2016** ● Transport Secretary confirms government commitment to HS2
- October 2016** ● HS2 announce the HS2 Community and Environment Fund (CEF), The Business, Local Economy Fund (BLEF) and a £30 million road safety fund
- November 2016** ● Phase 2b route announcement
- December 2016** ● Committee heard all the petitions.
- December 2016** ● The House of Lords Select Committee published its findings.
- January 2017** ● HS2 hold Phase 2b information events to support the property and route refinement consultations in Polesworth and Kingsbury.
- January 2017** ● Promoter's response to the Committee's Special Report is published
- January 2017** ● The Bill had its third reading in the Lords on the 31st of January
- February 2017** ● Royal Assent (Phase One) becomes legislation.

Warwickshire County Council's HS2 Project Team

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HS2 in Warwickshire

 @Hs2Wcc