



## HS2 Phase 1 – How to give Evidence to the Select Committee

Thank you to all of you who came to the meeting on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September to hear from Alastair Lewis the NFU parliamentary agent; on how to prepare and give evidence to the Select Committee. We thought the meeting was very useful and learnt a lot in regard to how the NFU is going to have to give evidence.

Please find attached the presentation from Alastair Lewis which gives you a step by step guide on how to prepare and give your own evidence in regard to your individual business circumstances. The presentation from Louise Staples which highlights the dates for when the NFU is meeting with its barrister, James Findlay QC who has been instructed by the NFU to help with the preparation of evidence. This will enable the NFU on your behalf to give the best possible evidence on the petition points submitted. The NFU are likely to be giving evidence the week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

The presentation also includes three of the NFU petition points with the problem, solution and evidence highlighted for each point.

A statement was given by the Select Committee on 10<sup>th</sup> September after hearing evidence on the Curzon Street station the announcement says “we think there is a case for more consultation with major landowners and other stakeholders. We therefore invite HS2 to develop proposal in collaboration with local interests.” The full announcement can be found [here](#).

### HS2 Information Papers

Alastair Lewis in his presentation mentioned the HS2 Information Papers (IP) and in particular made reference to the IP: Rural Landowners and Occupiers Guide which can be found [here](#). Further reference was made to IP: Compliance with Undertakings and Assurances which can be found [here](#).

### London office

**It will be possible for you and your agent when giving evidence to the Select Committee to use the London office as your base. If you would like to do this then please e-mail [Louise.Staples@nfu.org.uk](mailto:Louise.Staples@nfu.org.uk) to inform us of the day that you are giving evidence and then we can make arrangements with the London office.**

### Media

The meeting on Friday was covered by Midlands Today, radio Coventry and Warwickshire and radio Oxford.

#### NFU KEY CONTACTS

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## HS2 Update Phase 1 and Phase 2

The presentation also has an update on ground investigation work, in particular boreholes and trenches and when this work is likely to start. New access agreements for investigation works will be sent out, likely to be in the New Year. Access and survey payments will be paid.

The NFU, CLA and CAAV attended the HS2 NGO meeting last Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September. This meeting is attended by National Trust, Woodland Trust, Wildlife Trust, RSPB, CPRE, Ramblers and Bucks County Council. Along with the HS2 staff presenting, Robert Goodwill MP was present and taking questions. He was appointed as Parliamentary under Secretary of State at the Department for Transport in October 2013. Notes on this meeting are also included in the presentation from Louise Staples.

HS2 are stating that there will be an announcement at the end of the year in regard the Phase 2 route and an announcement from David Higgins in regard to a report that he is preparing on the connection from Birmingham to Crewe.

## Attachments

1. Presentation - Alastair Lewis – The Select Committee Process
2. Presentation – Louise Staples – HS2 Phase 1 –Evidence on Petition Points and Update
3. The NFU Petition points highlighted in brief.

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