

Sulgrave Parish Council – HS2 Residents Communication Strategy – November 2017

Background:

Following the recent HS2 information event there is a clear need to increase the level of engagement with the residents of Sulgrave. In particular there is a need for the Parish Council to actively act as a conduit for information.

Note, responsibilities are delegated to a specific councillor these are in brackets.

Objective:

The objectives of the policy are:

- To ensure residents of Sulgrave are informed of developments of HS2 as it moves through detailed design and construction.
- To represent residents' concerns to HS2 and Contractors to as far as possible mitigate impacts of the scheme on the village and escalate issues.
- To be seen as a source of reliable information for residents to raise concerns.

The Parish Council Will:

- Place HS2 as a standing item on the Parish Council Agenda, to ensure any updates or information are presented to all meetings and ensure residents have an opportunity to ask questions of the Parish Council (Chair).
- Regularly make contact with HS2 and Contractor Liaison Staff to pro-actively seek updates on the project (HS2 Liaison Cllr).
- Commit to organising a second information event once the Contractor is able to provide more detailed proposals and information than was available at the October 2017 event and identify the appropriate time for follow up events will also be identified as the project develops (Chair).
- Ensure that the Parish Council is represented at local liaison events, for example the Northamptonshire Liaison Group and that minutes from these groups are made available via the website (HS2 Liaison Cllr). This activity may be delegated between councillors as required to balance workload and individual availability. The Parish Council may nominate a villager to attend on behalf of the Parish Council if required.
- Use a range of media (print, notice boards, website, facebook, twitter etc) to disseminate information. The PC shall decide on a case by case basis whether information is to be simply made available or actively publicised. This will depend on the nature of the information (Communication Cllr).
- Where residents do not have access to online resources, offer the opportunity for information to be provided in hard copy. A register of residents wishing to receive information will be maintained (Communication Cllr).
- Maintain up to date information regarding HS2 on the Parish Council notice board. Generally as a minimum the latest drawings, subject to space limitations (Communication Cllr).

- Provide a summary of HS2 developments in the monthly newsletter. As a minimum this shall be alongside a general update. More significant developments will be publicised with individual notices (Communication Cllr).
- Consult with residents regarding proposals for and the development of applications to the HS2 Community Fund (HS2 Liaison Cllr).
- Set up a specific website page for HS2 to act as a single source of information for residents (Communication Cllr).