



Department
for Transport

Rt Hon Owen Paterson MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

From the Secretary of State
The Rt. Hon. Chris Grayling

Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR

Tel: 0300 330 3000
E-Mail: chris.grayling@dft.gsi.gov.uk

Web site: www.gov.uk/dft

Our Ref:

Dear Owen,

27 September 2017

**HIGH SPEED 2 (HS2) RAILWAY: ISSUE OF SAFEGUARDING DIRECTIONS
FOR PHASE 2A AND PHASE 2B**

I am writing to let you know more about plans for the High Speed Two (HS2) railway in your constituency. In July, the Government announced the section of the high speed rail line between the West Midlands and Crewe – known as Phase 2a – that it intends to construct in the 2020s subject to Parliamentary approval of a hybrid Bill. More information is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/high-speed-rail-west-midlands-to-crewe-bill>

Today, I have revised the safeguarding directions for Phase 2a to reflect the Bill's limits and protect the land required for the construction and operation of the high speed train line. These changes will mean that some properties currently within safeguarding will no longer be affected, while others will be newly brought into scope. This has also resulted in an update to the discretionary property schemes that apply to those affected by this phase of HS2. This includes the extension of zoned discretionary schemes which apply to properties within 300m of the Phase 2a track as it enters and leaves tunnel portals, as confirmed in the Government consultation response document, *High Speed Two Phase 2b: Crewe to Manchester, West Midlands to Leeds and beyond*, published on 17 July 2017. Extension of these schemes for properties affected along Phase One and Phase 2b will be confirmed later this year.

There has also been a change to the boundary location between Phases 2a and Phase 2b at Crewe. This is due to the extension of the tunnel south of Crewe and relocation of the tunnel portal 2.1km further south of Crewe, as confirmed in the Government route refinement consultation document, *High Speed Two Phase 2a: West Midlands to Crewe Government Response to the*

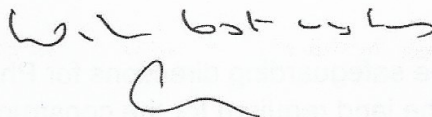
Design Refinement Consultation. I have therefore also issued revised safeguarding directions for Phase 2b today to reflect this boundary change.

I recognise that for constituents who live along the line of route there will be concern over how HS2 will affect their homes, communities and businesses. HS2 Ltd has written to all properties affected now by these updates informing them how the changes may affect them, and where they can seek further advice and help.

My Department and HS2 Ltd will continue to work closely with those affected communities and their local authorities up and down the line of route, and I expect people to be treated with fairness, compassion and respect.

Should you or your constituents have any questions or concerns about today's announcements, please contact the HS2 Helpdesk on Freephone 08081 434 434 or email HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk. There is also a Freephone mini-com number (08081 456 472) for callers with hearing and speech difficulties. Alternatively, for more specific issues you may wish to contact the HS2 MP's hotline on 020 7944 0200 or email MPHotline@hs2.org.uk.

If you would find it helpful to have more information on today's announcement or HS2 more generally please contact my office.



Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRANSPORT