



Department for Transport

Local Authority Funding

Bushra Shafi, DfT

- Warwickshire raised issues around Local Authority funding at the Select Committee in October 2014.
- DfT and HS2 Limited have been working with DCLG to clarify our position.
- Information Paper C13: Local Authority Funding and New Burdens Arising from HS2 sets out our policy.

Summary of Assessment

- The New Burdens Doctrine was used to carry out the assessment:
‘A new burden is defined as any policy or initiative that increases the cost of providing local authority services. The New Burdens Doctrine requires that the net additional costs of all new burdens placed on local authorities by central Government is assessed and properly funded.’
- DCLG concluded that areas where Local Authorities consider new financial burdens are placed on them they should provide HS2 Limited with evidence to support their claim for additional funding.
- If the evidence meets the New Burden Doctrine’s criteria, then the LAs will be reimbursed.

Activities which will be funded

Activity
Early discussion on preliminary route design and technical input into the ES
Technical and spatial data for environmental docs at HS2 Ltd's request
Technical input into the production of technical docs
Attendance at the Planning Forum and Sub Groups
Early discussions on design works; e.g. road layouts, flood risks and monitoring of construction activity at the request of Hs2 Limited
Approvals for conditions of planning permission under Schedule 16
Highway authorities consenting activities
Preparation and development of the Traffic management Plans, at the request of HS2
Attendance of local highway authority officers at Traffic Liaison meetings.
Discussion with environmental health practitioners on Section 61 of the Control of Pollution Act
Time spent by environmental health practitioners on handling and monitoring consents sought by HS2 under Section 61 of the Control of Pollution Act
Early discussions on the design of drainage, flood defence and water proposals subject to approval under Schedule 31 of the Bill
LAs time spent on processing drainage, flood defence and water resource approvals
Engagement on Archaeological Investigations specified with heritage Memorandum and CoCP
Agreement of scope and methodology of heritage deeds required by Schedule 17
Responding to other specific requests for info from HS2 and DfT where a fee has been agreed

Activities not funded

Activity	Justification
Answering queries from members of the public about HS2 following the route announcement – up to Royal assent	HS2 Limited have been specifically resourced and established to provide this advice. Should a LA be contacted they should direct these calls to HS2 Limited.
Responding to public consultations relating to the HS2	This falls within the established duties and responsibilities of the LA.
Engaging with members of the public and interest groups to seek views on HS2 in its administrative area (pre and during construction)	HS2 Limited carry out engagement with stakeholders along the line of route. There is no expectation that LAs should or would carry out their own consultation. This would duplicate work, which HS2 are carrying out.



Activities which require evidence based assessments

- Answering queries from members of the public about HS2 during the construction phase.
- Investigation/Enforcement of breaches of planning, highways and environmental health controls following concerns raised by members of the public (preliminary site investigations and construction phase).

Summary

- We expect the involvement of Local Authorities to evolve over time.
- The SofS will require HS2 Limited to maintain dialogue with LAs and to re-assess whether there are any burdens, which are not currently identified, for which local authorities should be reimbursed.