

IN PARLIAMENT

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HOUSE OF COMMONS

SESSION 2013-14

HIGH SPEED RAIL (LONDON - WEST MIDLANDS) BILL

PETITION

Against – on merits – Praying to be heard by Counsel, &c.

To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Parliament assembled.

THE HUMBLE PETITION of:

THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BREAKSPEAR SCHOOL.

SHEWETH as follows:-

1. A Bill (hereinafter referred to as "the Bill") has been introduced and is now pending in your honourable House entitled "A Bill to make provision for a railway between Euston in London and a junction with the West Coast Main Line at Handsacre in Staffordshire, with a spur from Old Oak Common in the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham to a junction with the Channel Tunnel Rail Link at York Way in the London Borough of Islington and a spur from Water Orton in Warwickshire to Curzon Street in Birmingham; and for connected purposes".
2. The Bill is presented by Mr Secretary McLoughlin, supported by the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Secretary Theresa May, Secretary Vince Cable, Secretary Iain Duncan Smith, Secretary Eric Pickles, Secretary Owen Paterson, Secretary Edward Davey, and Mr Robert Goodwill.
3. Clauses 1 to 36 set out the Bill's objectives in relation to the construction and operation of the railway mentioned in paragraph 1 above. They include provision for the construction of works, highways and road traffic matters, the compulsory acquisition of land and other provisions relating to the use of land, planning permission, heritage issues, trees and noise. They include clauses which would disapply and modify various enactments relating to special categories of land including burial grounds, consecrated land, commons and open spaces, and other matters, including overhead lines, water, building regulations and party walls, street works and the use of lorries.

4. Clauses 37 to 42 of the Bill deal with the regulatory regime for the railway.
5. Clauses 43 to 65 of the Bill set out a number of miscellaneous and general provisions, including provision for the appointment of a nominated undertaker ("the Nominated Undertaker") to exercise the powers under the Bill, transfer schemes, provisions relating to statutory undertakers and the Crown, provision about the compulsory acquisition of land for regeneration, reinstatement works and provision about further high speed railway works. Provision is also made about the application of Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations.
6. The works proposed to be authorised by the Bill ("Phase One of HS2) are specified in clauses 1 and 2 of and Schedules 1 and 2 to the Bill. They consist of scheduled works, which are described in Schedule 1 to the Bill and other works, which are described in clause 2 of and Schedules 2 and 3 to the Bill.
7. Your petitioner is The Governing Body of The Breakspear School, Bushey Road, Ickenham, UB10 8JA in the London Borough of Hillingdon. The school represents the interests of its community which consist of pupils, staff, parents, governors and local residents.

The school has 700 pupils between the ages of 3 – 11 years, and 100 members of staff.

The school is located within the CFA6 area of the proposed route of HS2 - South Ruislip to Ickenham, in the school catchment area of Ruislip, Ickenham, Hillingdon and Uxbridge. This area and the wider school catchment areas are linked to several major road systems, including Swakeleys Road, which are designated in the HS2 Environmental Statement as being adversely affected by construction HGVs up to 10 years from the construction work for the tunnelling operations at West Ruislip and construction sites in Harvil Road, Breakspear Road South and Harefield.

8. Your petitioner alleges that the rights and interests of the school's community would be injuriously and prejudicially affected by the provisions of the Bill if passed into law in their present form and they accordingly object to the Bill for the following reasons, amongst others, hereinafter appearing.

Introductory

9. Your petitioner opposes the Bill in principle. Whilst your petitioner acknowledges the principle of the Bill is established at second reading, your petitioner's views on the subject are so strong, they must be recorded in this petition.
10. There are a number of matters which cause great concern to your petitioner, arising from the proposals in the Bill. Most of the points are specific to the area within your petitioner's catchment area and some of the points apply to areas

affecting the wider learning environment or activities areas of the school communities.

General Concerns

11. Your petitioner has identified several specific significant concerns which are set out below. This list is by no means exhaustive, and due to the inadequacy and inaccuracies of the Environmental Statement prepared by HS2, it is inevitable that the construction of HS2 will disrupt the lives of your petitioner in ways which have not yet been considered.

Specific Concerns

Construction Traffic

12. Your petitioner is gravely concerned about the inadequacy of measures proposed to mitigate the effects of construction traffic throughout Ickenham. The siting of three construction sites in Ickenham up to 10 years with other constructions sites in nearby Harefield will cause significant disruption and congestion to Ickenham suburban roads by HGV traffic; these roads are already heavily congested by local traffic and through traffic from commuters across north west London. The school is located off Swakeleys Road, which is already heavily congested during morning and evening peak times and has been identified as being adversely affected in the Environmental Statement. Your petitioner is concerned that there will be adverse effects to school staff travelling to the school and parents taking children to the school by car, foot or local bus service U1.

Air Pollution

- 13 Your petitioner is concerned that the HGV traffic from the 3 major construction sites in Ickenham up to 10 years will create additional toxic emissions on Swakeleys Road , a roadway already exceeding minimum EU standards for health. Breakspear schoolchildren cross this road to walk to school.
- 14 Your petitioner requests your honourable House to require that HS2 re evaluate the use of Ickenham roads by HGV traffic and prepare alternative proposals for consultation.
- 15 Should your honourable House not find in favour of eliminating HGV traffic from Ickenham your petitioner requests that the nominated undertaker be required to mitigate by amending the Code of Construction Practice to strictly enforce the measures such as but not restricted to the following:–

Restricting HGV movements inside peak hours throughout Ickenham and prohibiting HGV movements near school routes for 30 minutes before and after the start and end of the school day (during term time).

Ensuring that the school communities and the local community have safe access to their education institution and local facilities by ensuring the pedestrian crossing in Swakeleys Road are accessible, not restricted and kept in full working order. The Nominated Undertaker to ensure that in the event of any of the existing crossings being temporary closed that an alternative safe replacement crossing is provided.

Noise

16. Your petitioner understands from the Environmental Statement that there will be significant adverse noise impacts in Bushey Road as a direct result of the overground high speed railway in Ickenham..

17. Your petitioners wish to ensure that the Nominated Undertaker should provide a detailed site specific noise mitigation plan along with the provision of adequate compensation measures.

Environment

18. Your petitioner' staff and pupils make extensive use of the recreational and educational facilities afforded by the London Borough of Hillingdon and the Colne Valley and are very concerned about the following impacts of the high speed railway:

The loss of the Hillingdon Outdoor activity Centre which provides leisure and educational facilities

Adverse effects on the ecology in particular on the bat and owl populations by construction and train operation.

Adverse effects on the local landscape by the dumping of materials

19 Your petitioner requests your honourable House to require that HS2 re evaluate the extension of the tunnel beyond the Colne Valley.

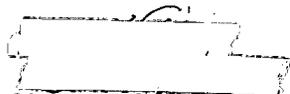
20 If the Hillingdon Outdoor Activities Centre (HOAC) is forced to close, your petitioners wish to ensure that the Nominated Undertaker will identify and implement an equivalent site for HOAC within an area of five miles of its existing location in Harefield,

21 There are other clauses and provisions of the Bill which, if passed into law as they now stand will prejudicially affect your Petitioners and their rights and interests and for which no adequate provision is made to protect your Petitioners.

YOUR PETITIONERS therefore humbly pray your Honourable House that the Bill may not be allowed to pass into law as it now stands and that they may be heard by their Counsel, Agents and witnesses in support of the allegations of this Petition against so much of the Bill as affects the property, rights and interests of your Petitioners and in support of such other clauses and provisions as may be necessary or expedient for their protection, or that such other relief may be given to your Petitioners in the premises as your Honourable House shall deem meet.

AND your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a name, is written over a rectangular area that has been redacted with a white box.

Chair of Governors

On behalf of The Governing Body of The Breakspear School

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PETITION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF BREAKSPEAR SCHOOL ICKENHAM

AGAINST, by Counsel, & c

Barbara Glen

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