

Brief for Scrutiny

Topic to be Scrutinised	
High Speed 2 Ltd's (HS2) proposals insofar as they may affect the Borough, following a now closed consultation on the Government's proposed high speed rail strategy and the recommended route from London to the West Midlands, and the submission by comments by the Borough Council in response to that consultation.	
Questions to be Addressed	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) What information is available on the HS2 proposals and in particular any proposals north of Birmingham/Lichfield? (2) What further consultation by the Department for Transport is expected to be undertaken, on what and when? (3) What information might the Council require to come to a considered view upon any further proposals and be able to engage more effectively in such a consultation? (4) What is the position of other adjoining Councils with respect to HS2? (5) Are there future opportunities for collaborative working with other Councils with respect to HS2? 	
Outcome	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) To develop expertise and knowledge in this area prior to any further consultations being undertaken by Department of Transport. (2) To provide support and information for Cabinet Members. 	
Background Materials	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Report to Cabinet 20 July 2011 on High Speed 2 consultation. (2) Minute of Cabinet 20 July 2011. (3) Response dated 27 July 2011 of this Council to the above consultation. (4) Material available on HS2 website. 	
Evidence and Witnesses	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Officers from Economic Regeneration and Planning Services. (2) Persons with expertise in Transport planning matters. 	
Method of Scrutiny	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Task and Finish Group. 	
Timetable	
Start Date:	Date of meeting to be arranged during January 2012 (assuming that the government decide in December 2011 to go ahead with the proposal and they indicate that they are planning to have informal and formal consultations on route and station options north of Birmingham/ Lichfield from mid 2012 onwards).
Dates of Meetings:	To be agreed.
Draft Report.	2 weeks from date of final Scrutiny Task and Finish meeting.
Final Report.	3 weeks from date of final Scrutiny Task and Finish meeting.
Constraints	
Officer and Member availability/capacity.	

Decisions by Government following the recent consultation which closed at end of July 2011.

Members to Undertake the Scrutiny

Chair of Economic Development and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
Other Members to be selected by the Economic Development and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Support

Relevant Executive Director
Relevant Heads of Service
Relevant Business Managers
Democratic Services Team

Newcastle Borough Council Corporate Plan Priority area(s)

- Creating a cleaner, safer and sustainable Borough.
- Creating a Borough of opportunity.
- Creating a healthy and active community.

Brief Approved by Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

Signed:
Date: