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Dear David Emms, Aaron Heer and Alasdair Hassan,

HS2 Ltd Attending Select Committee

I am writing to thank you and your team for attending Buckinghamshire Council's Transport, Environment & Climate Change Select Committee on Thursday 30 March 2023.

The Committee appreciated the opportunity to hear about the progress being made with the works however there were a number of concerns that Members robustly expressed which included the inadequate Pothole Fund, impact to Highways and need for preventative maintenance, HGV movements and driver behaviour, and ecological impact. I trust that comments from the Select Committee will be taken into consideration as the project develops.

As you will recall, there were lines of questioning that HS2 Ltd's representatives were unable to answer in full, and you undertook to provide written responses to the Select Committee. Therefore, the Committee await your response via return letter on the following:

1. Please provide further details on the response provided by Simon Matthews to the question asked regarding HS2 works and Wendover groundwater.
2. Since your attendance at TECC last year, how many trees have been removed by HS2 in Buckinghamshire?
3. Of the trees you have planted, how many have perished and required re-planting?
4. Further details regarding water management and drainage systems in the River Great Ouse catchment.
5. What further information can you provide on the progress of the Calvert Infrastructure Maintenance Depot (IMD)?
6. How much has been spent on the HS2 internal site access roads?

Given the time constraints, Members were unable to ask a number of questions they wished to ask at the meeting. I would therefore be grateful for your response to the following:

7. Given the approvals programme frequently slips, has HS2 adequately resourced its contractors to adhere to the programme?

8. HGVs parking in laybys was highlighted at the meeting, are there adequate contingency plans in place for instances when incoming vehicles exceeds compound capacity?
9. What refused planning applications have been appealed against by HS2 Ltd (if any)?

A copy of the minutes from the meeting will be available on the Council's website once published:
<https://buckinghamshire.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=343&MId=17617>

Please ensure that your response to the questions and further information to be circulated to the Select Committee are sent to Chris Ward (Senior Scrutiny Officer) so that this can be shared with Members. A copy of this letter and your reply will be appended to the minutes of the meeting.

Once again, I thank you for attending our Select Committee meeting and look forward to welcoming you and your team again for our annual update on the project in 2024. I will ensure the meeting is a single-item agenda dedicated to the HS2 works.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Bill Chapple OBE
Chairman of Transport, Environment & Climate Change Select Committee
Buckinghamshire Council