

SAY "NO" TO HS2

(HIGH SPEED RAIL)

- **WHY?** The business & economic case is flawed
The environmental case is flawed
Will it bridge the north south divide? - No
At £34 billion the cost to every household in the country will be £1,000
At £34 billion the cost to every Parliamentary Constituency will be £51 million
BUT the cost of £34 billion is at today's prices and will escalate due to energy & price inflation and financing costs – it could double, and even treble to take account of increased costs as changes are made to the proposal.
- **BECAUSE** there is a far cheaper less environmentally damaging alternative - Rail Package 2 (RP2) which would benefit more people at a fraction of the cost. This utilises the present rail routes with significant upgrading of trains, track and stations.
- **BECAUSE** the country is facing, and will face, financial restraint and budget cuts for many years to come. I am sure you can think of many other things to spend money on that will be of more benefit to the nation – e.g. NHS, the Armed Forces, schools, education, the elderly, the vulnerable, road infrastructure and the existing rail network, or perhaps opening up some of the routes that were closed years ago – the list is endless!

The Federation of 60 Action Groups along the line (Preferred Route 3) as well as the Alternative Route 2.5, including Bucks County Council (BCC), Wycombe District Council, Hughenden Parish Council, numerous Local Authorities, Chiltern Conservation Board, businessmen, several national newspapers, train experts and all our local MPs, District & County Cllrs and the Hughenden Valley Residents Association (HVRA) all **OPPOSE HS2 OUTRIGHT**.

Please visit www.speenbucks.org.uk (Speen Area Action Group) (SAAG) for all the very latest information about the **PUBLIC CONSULTATION which ends on 29th July 2011**. Please read the **Q & A** section on the SAAG website before completing the Consultation form.

Bucks CC has formed the 51M Group (www.51m.co.uk) with 13 Local Authorities, more are coming on board to give a national profile to the campaign because it will cost every Parliamentary Constituency in the land £51 million to deliver the scheme. HS2 is an unnecessary waste of public funds; some might say an "*expensive white elephant*" (over £1,000 per household) as it is not value for money. This is based on a cost of £34 billion, but with increasing energy inflation and price costs this figure will rise substantially.

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU:

- **Respond to the Consultation by 29th July 2011.**
- Write to your MP, David Lidington with your views to swell his mailbag. Write to other MPs too at www.theyworkforyou.com (click on MPs).
- For those without access to the internet you can reply to Freepost RSLX-UCGZ-UKSS, High Speed Rail Consultation, PO Box 59528, London SE21 9AX or ring 0300 321 1010 to receive a paper copy of the Consultation document free of charge. The Consultation document and supporting material can also be viewed at the Study Centre at High Wycombe and Aylesbury Libraries.
- Also encourage six friends and family who live "off the line" to write to their MPs expressing opposition and ask them to encourage six more friends and family who also live "off the line" to write to their MPs.

Thank you for taking the time to read this very important HVRA newsletter.

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