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Your Ref: TR020001-002404
Our Ref: CIRIS 64841

Ms Sian Evans
Case Manager
The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol BS1 6PN

11th December 2023

Dear Ms Evans

**Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project
Planning Act 2008 – Section 91
Application by London Luton Airport Limited for an Order granting Development
Consent for the London Luton Airport Expansion
Issue Specific Hearing 8 on Environmental Matters Wednesday 29th November 2023
Agenda Item 3 – Health and Community, Actions 17,18**

Actions 17,18

At Issue Specific Hearing 8 (ISH8), the following actions were assigned to UKHSA for
Deadline 6:

- Action #17 Submit a copy of the Euston Station HS2 condition in relation to health monitoring.
- Action #18 Provide a suggested form of drafting regarding a potential health monitoring requirement

Action #17

UKHSA is aware of two HS2 conditions in relation to health monitoring.

HS2 Phase I

HS2 Phase One register of undertakings and assurances

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/high-speed-rail-london-west-midlands-bill-register-of-undertakings-and-assurances>

Assurance # 2109

“The Promoter can confirm that it will conduct an assessment of compliance with noise thresholds six months after the start of main construction works. Furthermore, the Promoter will commence a survey within six months of the start of the works to consider health impacts experienced by residents that are attributed to noise from the construction of HS2. The results of this latter survey may be used to review the criteria of noise mitigation, noise thresholds and construction hours.”

HS2 Phase II

House of Commons Select Committee on High Speed Rail (West Midlands - Crewe) Bill
Second Special Report of Session 2017–19

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmhs2/1452/145202.htm>

72. We heard from several petitioners that their mental health has been affected by this project. We asked HS2 to provide information on the impacts on mental health of those affected by the scheme. This had also been a concern of the HS2 Phase 1 (London - West Midlands) Bill Committee. We were disappointed that we did not receive a more comprehensive, better executed response including data gathered from HS2 Phase 1 project. The report did not contain sufficient proposals or plans about this issue.

73. As the report did not contain this information, we direct HS2 to commission an ongoing epidemiological report to address community health and wellbeing. The report should establish a baseline from which quantitative analysis can be conducted. The baseline will be a useful tool from which to monitor the impact of large construction projects on community mental health and well-being, and the Committee appointed for Phase 2B will be able to have a clearer overview of impact. What is required is a quantitative analysis of the impact of the project on the community affected by the disruption to their usual environment.

74. Communities can build and rebuild links but they need help to do so and it is for this reason that we make this recommendation. HS2 should draw on international best practice in this area.

In December 2022, HS2 Ltd published HS2 Mental Health and Wellbeing Progress Report, which can be found at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1121356/CS1792_Mental_Health_and_Wellbeing_Progress_Report_templated.pdf

This report summarises the progress on both requirements. Briefly, a “Euston SCS Study” is underway to satisfy HS2 Phase 1 Assurance #2109, and a “Large-scale quantitative epidemiological study” is underway to satisfy the request by the HS2 Phase 2a Commons Select Committee.

Action #18

Suggested form of drafting regarding a potential health monitoring requirement

The Promoter will commission an ongoing epidemiological monitoring campaign to address community health and wellbeing as a result of the construction and operational aspects of

the Scheme. The purpose of the campaign is to provide quantitative and qualitative analysis of the health and wellbeing effects on the community experiencing changes to their usual environment due to the Scheme, and inform changes to mitigation strategies if necessary.

The campaign should include

- a cross-sectional social survey to measure community health and wellbeing (including noise -related effects, quality of life and mental wellbeing) in a representative sample within the ES study area – this should be repeated every 3-5 years;
- a before-after investigation of the effectiveness of the noise insulation scheme to protect health and quality of life in a representative sample of those eligible for noise insulation.

The Promoter should draw on national and international best practice in this area. An advisory board should be setup to oversee the design and implementation of the monitoring campaign; membership should include public health representatives from neighbouring local authorities, and representatives from local community groups.

Findings from the campaign should be published including, if necessary, a response from the Promoter specifying any additional action to be taken with timescales for implementation to improving and maintaining the benefits from using infrastructure and minimising the negative impacts. The findings should inform the evidence base for key decisions on future growth linked to the Green Controlled Growth programme.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

On behalf of UK Health Security Agency
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Please mark any correspondence for the attention of National Infrastructure Planning Administration