

**HS2:
PREPARING EVIDENCE
for a Select Committee Appearance**

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Introduction



- Aims and objectives
- Liaising with other petitioners
- The evidence
- Witnesses



AIMS AND OBJECTIVES (1)



Context

- The onus is on a petitioner to prove that they are unreasonably affected by the bill
- The Bill is approved in principle at second reading, and the principle cannot be challenged
 - The House of Commons may give an instruction to the Select Committee as to what should be considered to be the principle of the bill
 - The Crossrail Bill Select Committee (First Special Report paragraph 28) expressed the view that future hybrid bill committees should be allowed to decide what is the principle of the bill without an instruction

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES (2)

- What can you ask the committee to do?
 - Amend the Bill
 - Amendments which limit powers
 - Amendments which extend powers (additional provisions)
 - Invite the promoter to give an undertaking/enter into an agreement
- Petitioners can only be heard on matters included in their petition

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES (3)



Specific objectives

- Tunnel
- Changes to station design

Etc...



AIMS AND OBJECTIVES (4)

Concerns of general application

- Noise
- Vibration
- Air pollution
- Dust

Etc....



Aims and Objectives (4)

- Decide on which petitioning points to present to the committee



Liaising with other petitioners

- General Issues –
 - Lead local authority on certain environmental issues
- Specific issues
 - Liaison between local authorities and local interest groups

Evidence (1)

- Be clear on what you are asking the committee to do
- Explain why you are asking them to do it
 - What is the problem
 - How will the action sought overcome the problem
- Show that there is no realistic or practical alternative way of overcoming the problem
- Establish that there is no technical impediment to any change requested
- Identify the cost of any change

Evidence (2)

- Identifying the problem
 - Demonstrate the problem (how the petitioner is unreasonably affected)
 - E.g. severance
- Technical evidence
 - Seek to avoid the need to call technical evidence by agreeing that any change promoted is technically feasible
 - If agreement cannot be reached, keep the evidence as simple, clear and focused as possible

Evidence (3)



- Identify the solution
 - E.g. adverse landscape impact overcome by tunneling
 - Increased passenger capacity at a particular station
 - Provision of noise attenuation measures

Etc.....

Evidence (4)

- Proofs of evidence (for internal use only)
- Exhibits
 - Power point slides (for distribution)
 - Identify the witness
 - Identify the petitioner
 - Set out what the petitioner is asking the committee to do
 - Identify the problem
 - Identify the solution

Witnesses



- Knowledge
- Experience
- Expertise
- Ability to communicate complex issues in a simple and clear way
- Sufficient seniority
- Limit numbers





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