



## KEGWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

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### **High Speed Two Phase 2b West Midlands to Leeds Route Refinement Consultation Question 5 – Route along A42 around East Midlands Airport**

‘The Secretary of State is minded to move the route on the approach to East Midlands Airport so that it follows the eastern side of the A42 more closely before passing east of the runway and to the east of the M1’”

Kegworth Parish Council does not support the proposal for the following reasons.

1. The HS2 line will run parallel with the M1 directly under the approach to East Midlands Airport and only 300 metres from the end of the runway. In 1989 a Boeing 737 crashed into the M1 embankment short of the runway. 47 people died and 74 sustained serious injuries. The longer 400 metre trains will have 1100 seats adding immensely to the numbers of people at risk if ever there were a similar disaster. On 5 March 2017 The M1 was closed near East Midlands Airport because of a ‘Jet2 Emergency.’ Although stated as ‘precautionary’ the risk was sufficiently high to anything under the flight path including the proposed route for HS2 to warrant the closure. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-derbyshire-39172427>
2. Planning is approved for two developments with a total of 260 houses rising, with a new application, to 300 dwellings. The developments contain provision for two adult and two junior football pitches, a pavilion, car parking, a children’s’ play area and allotments. HS2 runs through the middle of these developments potentially eliminating them and blighting the land until final decisions on the route and compensation to the Kegworth Parish Council are determined. There are no obvious alternative sites in Kegworth. There will also be a loss to the council of about £30,000 per annum from precept.
3. The route approaches the A6 at the entrance to Kegworth on a bank and crosses the A6 on a bridge. This blights the appearance of the entrance to Kegworth.
4. We have increased concern about noise, pollution and increased traffic in addition to the M1, East Midlands Airport, the coming East Midlands Gateway and now HS2. The area is so congested that any traffic incident produces a gridlock through the village and approach roads.
5. Kegworth is at the centre of much construction work and associated disruption from East Midlands Gateway, Kegworth bypass and Kegworth Village Centre alterations until 2020. HS2 will cause further disruption from 2023 with no direct benefit to Kegworth residents.
6. There is much concern about property valuations with reports of cancelled viewings since the announcement of HS2 and a purchaser renegotiating downwards an agreed price even though the property was outside the compensation area.