

# **HIGH SPEED TWO ECOLOGY TECHNICAL GROUP (Phase 1) TERMS OF REFERENCE**

## **Purpose**

The purpose of the High Speed Two Ecology Technical Group is to provide the means for engagement, consultation and information sharing in order to achieve the best possible outcome for ecology.

The Group has a focus on the Environment Statement and the Hybrid Bill.

## **Objectives**

The objectives of the Group are to:

- Discuss route-wide ecological principles and practices that could be applied at the Project level to enable the best possible outcome for ecology
- Facilitate the integration of ecological matters into other aspects of the design process
- Enable engagement with relevant stakeholders, including the HS2 Environment Forum
- Through promoting the principles of 'avoidance, mitigation, compensation and enhancement' to secure a net gain for nature
- Ensure that lessons learnt and achievements in Phase 1 are applied to Phase 2
- Act as the ecological sector's focal point for engagement with HS2 Ltd and any other key stakeholders such as DEFRA and Department for Transport
- Produce a set of ecological principles to inform the Environment Statement
- Scrutinise and coordinate responses to the draft Environment Statement to see improvements to the final Environment Statement
- Seek to inform the Hybrid Bill

## **Membership**

Members of the Group comprise:

- Non-governmental organisations
- Local authorities
- Statutory bodies

## **Individual roles**

- Chair – David Lowe, Warwickshire County Council
- Deputy Chair – Lesley Davies, Aylesbury Vale District Council
- Secretariat – AVDC
- Web enabler - National Trust

## **Outputs**

- Minutes will be taken, shared and placed on the web enabler's website
- Any letter, reviews or papers will be placed on the web enabler's website once agreed by the group

## **Terms of Reference Review**

- These Terms of Reference will be revised at a time as deemed appropriate by the Group

**HIGH SPEED TWO ECOLOGY TECHNICAL GROUP**

**17<sup>th</sup> June 2013**