

Report on Businesses and Jobs at Risk from the proposed re-routing of HS2 East of Measham

Mapa HS2Action is a community group formed in December 2016 following a large public meeting called to discuss the proposed re-route of HS2 to the East of Measham. The overall goal of the organisation is to be a voice for all those concerned about the impact of HS2 on Measham, Appleby, Packington and Austrey. This voluntary organisation has the support and committee representation from the 4 Parish Councils affected by this section of the route.

One of the stated reasons for the proposed change of route was the potential impact the proposed route on businesses (see HS2 route refinement consultation document). HS2 had made no assessment of businesses affected by their proposed change to the route so Mapa has undertaken its own survey. This has involved numerous visits and discussions with business owners. The figures reported here come directly from the owners themselves.

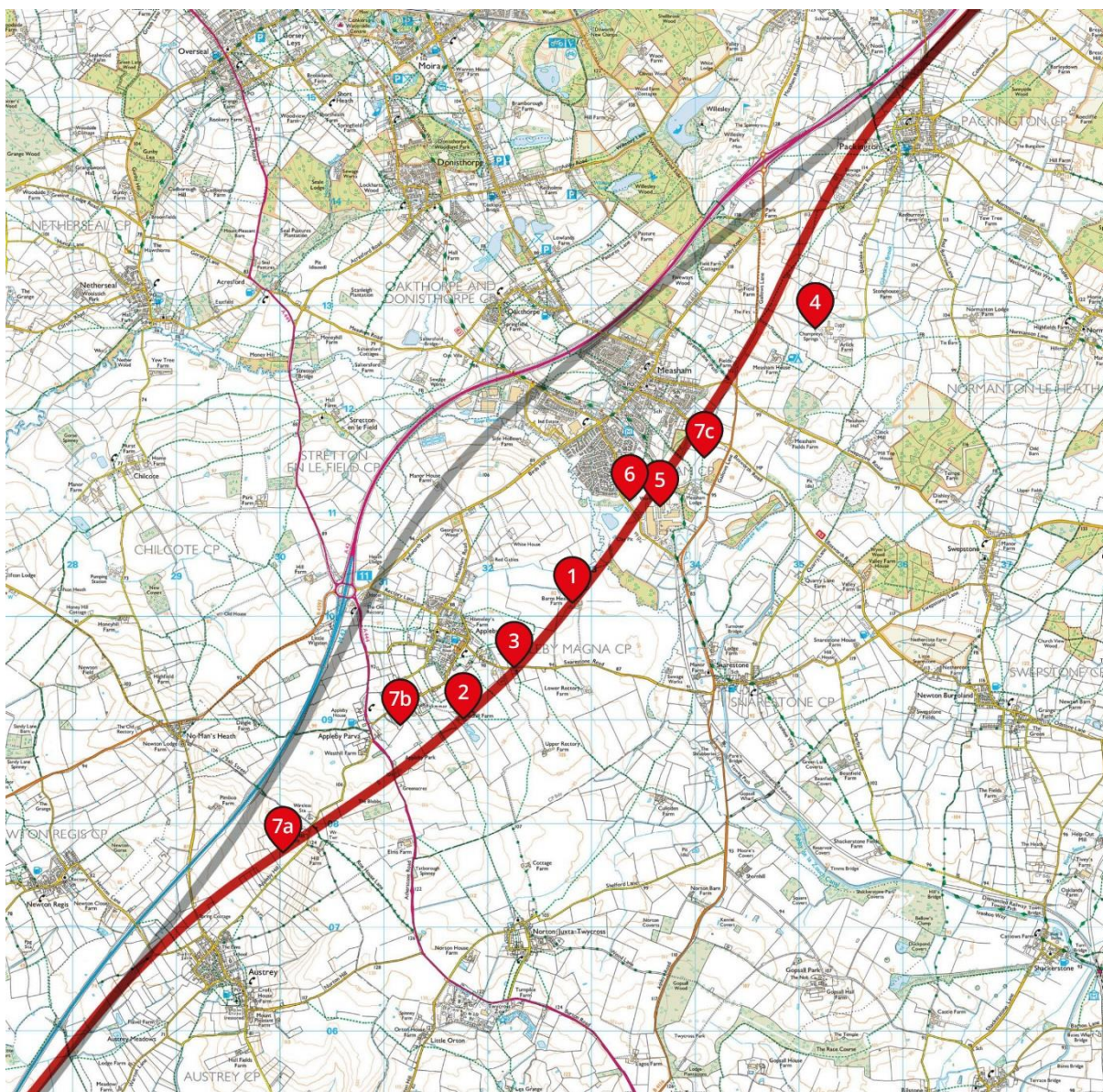
Businesses are only reported here if they are very directly affected by route – in most cases by the track going through their business premises. We would expect that more businesses will be impacted by the line and its construction. We are also continuing to identify more businesses and jobs who will be affected.

Summary conclusions from the Survey

- This new route will affect at least 28 businesses, ranging from one or two person firms to three substantial employers employing over 100 people
- These 28 firms currently employ 635 people.
- Three of the firms have already gained planning permission to expand employment opportunities for 131 more people.
- This makes 766 existing or planned jobs at risk from re-routing HS2 to the East of Measham. This can be contrasted with the 425 jobs which were said to be at risk from the previous route.
- These 28 firms generate annual economic activity worth £69,381,000
- It is estimated that over 41% of this economic activity, £28,651,200, supports the local economy and is spent within 30 miles of location of the 28 firms.
- This potential loss of local economic activity, worth £28.6m, can be contrasted with LCC's claims that HS2 will bring £44m worth of benefits to Leicestershire
- There will be a loss of local premises that have incubated small businesses and allowed them to grow through the policy to support the re-use of redundant farm buildings. If these buildings are demolished because of HS2, the lack of such buildings will restrict the growth of future local employment.
- Many of these businesses, and the jobs they support, depend on their location for their business model (e.g. Forterra's access to clay reserves or Champney Springs' tranquil location) or are small businesses for whom re-location could well threaten viability. In these cases, mitigation and compensation do not address their concerns.

In conclusion, the choice of the route to the East of Measham will not conserve jobs but rather will put 766 jobs at risk in 28 businesses which form part of a diverse and resilient local economy.

Map showing location of businesses impacted and jobs at risk from the proposed HS2 route to the East of Measham



For key to numbers shown on map, description of businesses and impact see the following summary table.

MAPA HS2 Action Business Survey Summary Table

Location and Key Features	Impact and details
1. Barns Heath Farm, Appleby Magna	Proposed line goes directly through this property
Description	Over a 30 year period this farm has used redundant farm buildings provide a location for a range of developing businesses.
Number of businesses	11 including rebuilding classic sports cars, architect practice, and a new biomass fuel supplier
Number of jobs	128 existing plus planned potential for 18 more
Turnover	£5.83 million
Economic Activity within 30 miles	£2.76 million
2. Redhill Farm, Appleby Magna	Proposed line goes directly through this property
Description	Also based on farm diversification this location is also host to a range of businesses
Number of businesses	4 including a major civil engineering company undertaking canal & river projects and a micro-brewery
Number of jobs	130 plus planned potential for 80 more.
Turnover	£25.285 million (based on 3 of the 4 businesses)
Economic Activity within 30 miles	£2.7 million
3. Equestrian businesses, Appleby Magna	In one case line goes directly through property in others so close to line that owners believe not compatible with working with highly strung horses
Description	Closely located, synergist businesses.
Number of businesses	3 including horse breeding and racing stables
Number of jobs	9
Turnover	£532,000
Economic Activity within 30 miles	£242,000

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Location and Key Features	Description and details
4. Champney Springs Health Resort, Measham	Proposed line goes through access road and owners believe proximity to line is incompatible with leisure business focused on a tranquil countryside retreat
Description	89 bed hotel and health resort
Number of businesses	1
Number of jobs	225
Turnover	£6.2 million
Economic Activity within 30 miles	Not known
5. Forterra Building Products	Proposed line goes through part of the site
Description	Brickworks adjacent to proven clay reserves on which business depends
Number of businesses	1
Number of jobs	130
Turnover	c. £30 million
Economic Activity within 30 miles	£22.5 million
6. David Wilson Homes	Current site (Nursery Fields) too close to line to be viable
Description	Local house builder currently working on site in Measham affected by re-route
Number of businesses	1
Number of jobs	Not known how many directly working on this site
Turnover	1 £300K house already abandoned. Potentially 18 more planned houses will not be built
Economic Activity within 30 miles	Third of building costs spent locally so £100K already lost
7. Additional small businesses	Properties directly impacted by proposed line
Description	Variety of smaller businesses that would have particular difficulties relocating
Number of businesses	3 in Austrey (7a on map), 1 in Appleby (7b – land divided by track), 3 in Measham (7c)
Number of jobs	13 with planned potential of 40
Turnover	£1.234 million
Economic Activity within 30 miles	£338,000z

Based on research carried out by Mapa HS2 Action involving visits and interviews with business owners. All figures supplied by businesses themselves. Data as of 17 February 2017.