



Leicestershire UKIP Group



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Leicestershire UKIP group comments to Cabinet report - HS2 consultation response on implications for Leicestershire – Agenda Item 5

The proposed cabinet response to the HS2 consultation is weak and does not represent the majority view of the Leicestershire residents. It will cost the Leicestershire residents £435m based on the current estimate with little or no benefit to. We are all aware that as the government continue to pursue this white elephant the costs will escalate.

It is time for the County Council political leadership to get off the fence and support the STOPHS2 campaign as it is clear that there is no business case, no environmental case and no money to pay for it. The case made by KPMG for HS2, as identified by the treasury select committee, is flawed as the benefits were essentially made up, HS2 will also be a disaster for the environment destroying wildlife reserves along its route.

What is the point of a very fast train that only goes from Leeds to Birmingham, Birmingham to London and back again, that the average person will not be able to afford. If you add stops on to the route it will no longer be a high speed train.

UKIP requests that the Cabinet for the sake of the Leicestershire taxpayer amends its recommendations.

Suggested recommendation;

It is recommended that Leicestershire County Council strongly opposes HS2, agrees to join the STOPHS2 campaign and makes the case to the government to instead invest in local lines that will bring economic benefit to Leicestershire.

David Sprason CC
UKIP Group Leader