



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Andrea Leadsom MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

20 July 2011

Dear Andrea,

PETITION ON HIGH SPEED RAIL DATED 14 JULY 2011

We noted with interest the petition presented in the House of Commons recently on High Speed Rail.

It asserts that High Speed Rail will "destroy" thousands of homes and villages.

We would be very grateful if a complete list of the thousands of homes and villages that are to be destroyed by the proposed line could be sent to us, so that we might investigate further. This is, after all, a decision of vital national importance, so we would like to ensure that we are dealing in the facts, and that members of our House and the public are properly informed.

We look forward to hearing back as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Graham Evans MP
Weaver Vale

Greg Mulholland MP
Leeds North West

Gisela Stuart MP
Birmingham Edgbaston

Graham Evans MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

REF. MJP

8 August 2011

Dear Graham

My petition on High Speed Rail was written by residents of South Northamptonshire and others who are deeply distressed about the loss of their communities that would be the result of the proposed route of HS2.

I'm sorry that you are unable to demonstrate any sympathy for their genuine misery.

These are real people, just as your own constituents are real people. My job is to represent their views.

Many homes will be physically destroyed but many more will lose the quality of life that they hold so dear. Not only their surroundings but also the value of their homes will be blighted permanently.

The petitioners are not wealthy people, but are fighting for a way of life.

I note you do not challenge any other part of the petition regarding this project being a waste of taxpayer's money or having no business or environmental case.

I think it better that we focus on whether HS2 offers the taxpayer value for money.

With best wishes for an enjoyable summer recess.

Andrea Leadsom MP