

Matthew Ellis, Member of Staffordshire County Council for Lichfield Rural East - 7th July 2010

Please see the press release below regarding public meeting(s) being organised by the County to provide information on HS2 and an opportunity for people to give their views. I'm hopeful it will be in the next three weeks and the venues will be around Lichfield. I'll provide further information as to the content, venue and timings in due course. There will also be media publicity to advise of the meeting(s).

Staffordshire County Council is set to announce a public event to allow residents to have their say on Government plans for High Speed 2 (HS2) rail.

The possible route of the rail line was announced earlier this year and currently terminates in the Lichfield area. The principle has been broadly welcomed by the new Government, but a formal consultation has been delayed until next year.

County Councillor Robbie Marshall, Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Infrastructure said: "While it is positive that Government is not rushing into this massive investment it has left some people feeling left in limbo – they have plenty they would like to say, but no proper mechanism for making their feelings felt.

"We want to organise an event to help fill this gap. We will be discussing our plans with Lichfield District Council and all the parish councils affected. It will be a forum for people to meet and air their views. We will be announcing more details shortly.

"The county council has already said that we realise the need for a modern and efficient transport infrastructure and to capture maximum economic benefit for Staffordshire. However this needs to be done with the minimum environmental impact, while recognising that residents need our help."

Regards
Matthew