

9. Measham, Leicestershire

The River Mease through Measham is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) - perhaps the only SSSI/SAC so directly impacted by HS2 on the Eastern leg. Special consideration should be given to this area to bring forward the 2018 Design Panel recommendations and look for other opportunities (such as measures to support the adjacent Ashby Canal restoration) to offset the impact of the proposed rail line. A few miles further north, a significant railhead is planned. Both the impact during construction, and thoughtful restoration (back to farmland, or enhanced perhaps to include accessible open space) should be considered.

In closing, I can confirm that the County Council and its partners stand ready to work with HS2 Ltd and any new delivery body set up to implement the Integrated Rail Plan. However, to minimise the negative impacts of the project there needs to be a far greater degree of openness, willingness and timeliness on working together to develop solutions on these issues that are agreeable to all parties.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Spencer', written in a cursive style.

Councillor Simon Spencer
Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport & Infrastructure
Chair of East Midlands, HS2 Mitigation Board