## **Extended Tunnel Options**

HS2 Summit 8 October 2014

Alan Goodrum Chief Executive Chiltern & South Bucks District Councils

- HS2's approach to mitigation
- Why a tunnel
- The amendments already agreed
- Extending the tunnel
- HS2 response
- The Green Route Plus

## HS2: Approach to Mitigation

| Avoid      | Designing the Proposed Scheme so that a feature causing effects is avoided (e.g. through changes in alignment)            |  |  |
|------------|---|--|--|
| Reduce     | Designing the Proposed Scheme so that a feature causing effects is reduced (e.g. design changes to reduce visual effects) |  |  |
| Abate      | Abating, either at the railway (e.g. noise barrier) or at receptor (e.g. screening at property,                           |  |  |
| Repair     | Restoring or reinstating a feature after effects have occurred<br>(e.g. to address temporary construction effects)        |  |  |
| Compensate | Compensation for loss or damage.<br>(e.g. planting new woodland elsewhere, or compensation for loss of amenity)           |  |  |

(ES vol.1 Fig 43 Nov 2013)

## Why a tunnel

- The A413 'arterial valley' 'route 3' 'transport corridor'
- Longest surface section
- Greatest length of AONB
- Mitigated by
  - hidden in tunnel (32% AONB @ 2009)
  - shallow or deep cuttings
  - the transport corridor itself

# The amended route 2012 (Mantles Wood)

Claimed Advantages:

- Reduced impacts on the landscape and communities in or around the AONB
- Avoids the aquifer/ground water
- Less spoil
- Savings (£250-300m)

## **Extending the Tunnel Options**

REPA (Intermediate) CRAG (T2, HS2 Reference, Full)

"All performed well on environmental grounds compared with (the HS2 scheme)"

- reduction in landscape and visual, ecological, cultural heritage, noise, community and agricultural impacts on the AONB
- CRAG most potential but:
  - £ cost
  - intervention gap
  - time

#### (ES vol 2 CFA9 Nov 2013)

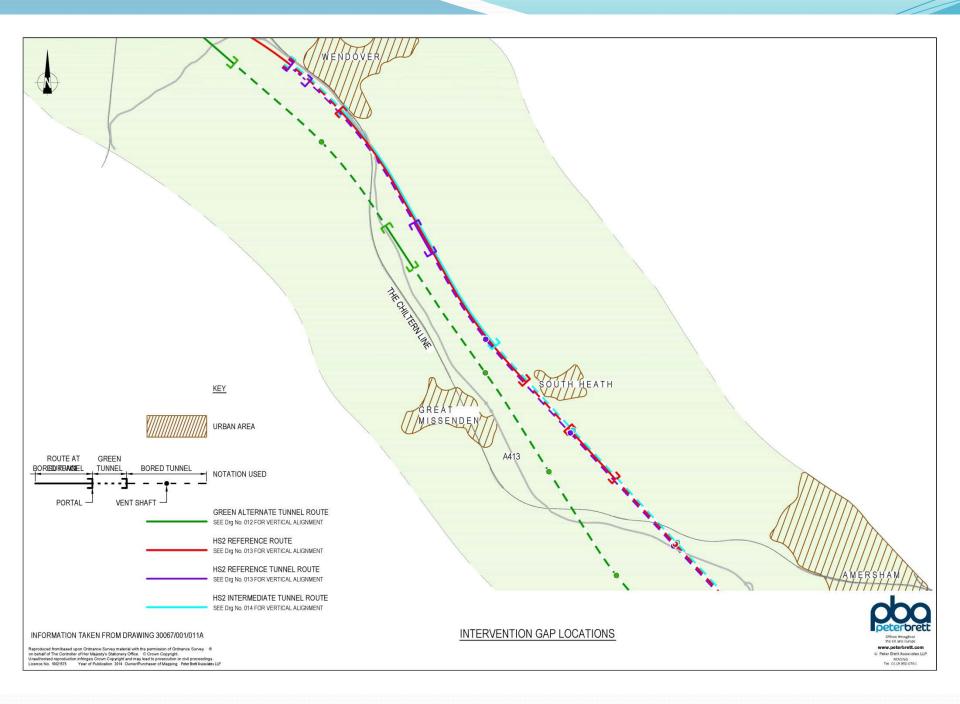
## Going Underground: The Green Route

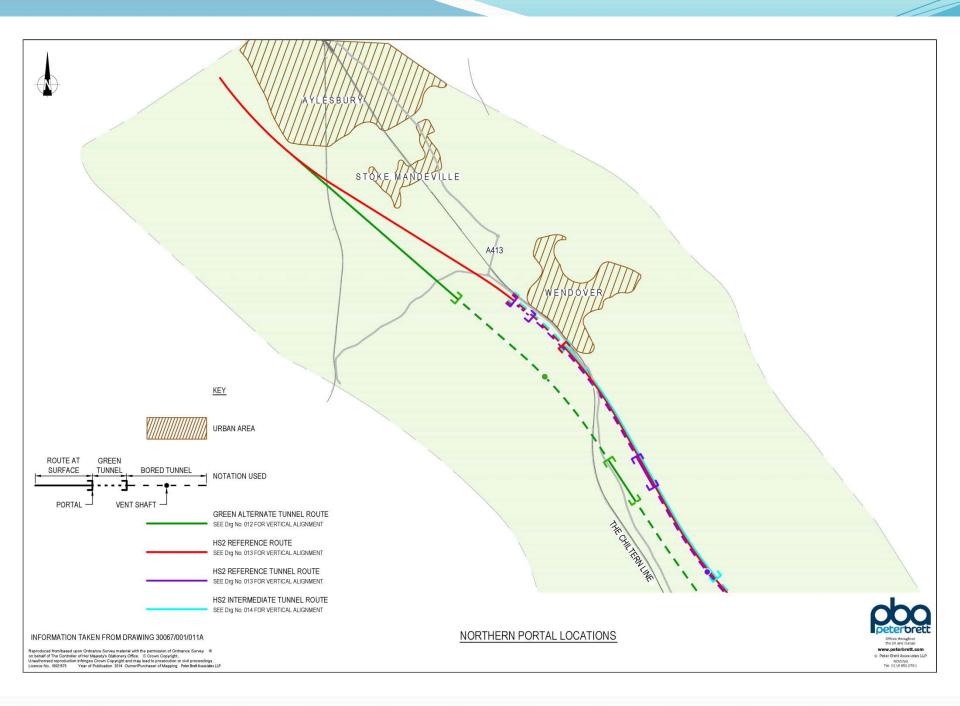
- 1) Protect the AONB
- 2) Mitigate the impact on our communities
- 3) Provide a better engineering solution

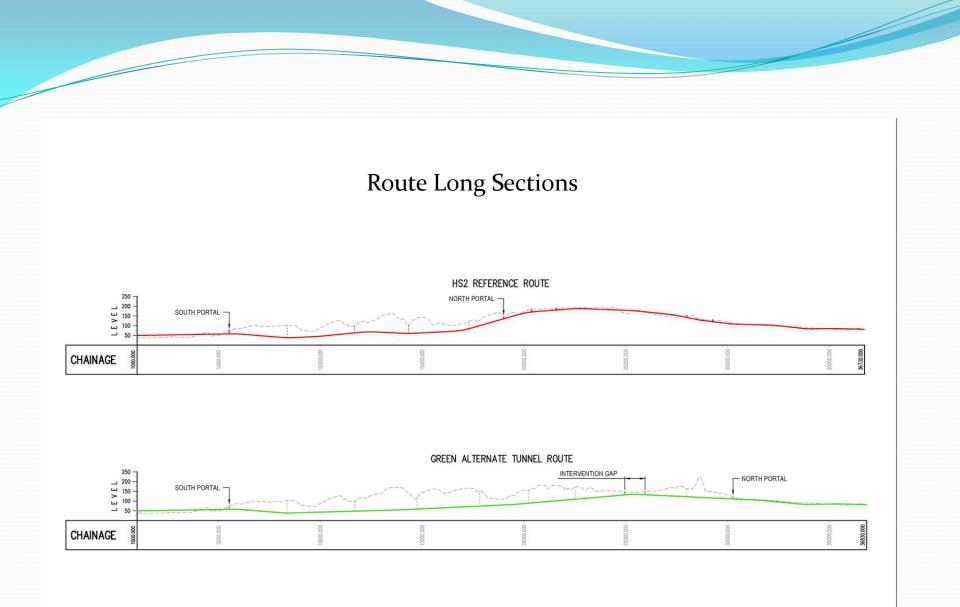
<u>Co-operative effort</u> AVDC, BCC, CCB, CDC











## **Going Underground: Comparisons**

|  | HS <sub>2</sub> Proposal | REPA <sub>1</sub> | CRAG     | Green                |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------|----------|----------------------|
| Length km                                | 13.4                     | 15.8              | 23.7     | 24.7                 |
| Northern<br>Portal                       | Little<br>Missenden      | Leather Lane      | Wendover | South of Nash<br>Lee |
| Distance from<br>(m) Wendover<br>Station | 160                      | 160               | 160      | 880                  |
| Climb (m)                                | 149                      |                   | 129      | 106                  |
| Cost (+£m)                               | 0                        | 130               | 310      | 370                  |
| %  |                          |                   |          | 1.5/2                |

1 Latest figure provided by REPA 16.9km in length

## Meeting with Sir David Higgins:

"radical alternative"

- New consultation, environmental statement, amendments – add five years - £ billions to the cost
- 2) £ cost: tunnels x 6 surface
- 3) Other tunnels wanted: Leeds: Sheffield
- Agreed to examine, but look at more than one scheme

### The Green Route +

- Cost and construction time
- 'Safety in railway' tunnels EU regs
- Sensitivity of northern portal
  - appearance
  - noise
  - residential properties
  - Nash Lee Road
- Parallel work on environmental impact
- Risk
- Target: end of November