



Department
for Transport

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From the Secretary of State
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Dear John,

I have today announced to the House the launch of a consultation on additional assistance for people near the HS2 Phase One route, between London and the West Midlands. This follows the commitment I made in April in setting out my decisions on property compensation for the HS2 Phase One route.

The new consultation builds on what I announced in April and sets more details of two proposals:

- An '**Alternative Cash Offer**' that would give rural owner-occupiers within the Rural Support Zone a choice between selling their home to the Government for what it would have been worth had there been no plans for HS2 and remaining in their home and receiving 10% of that value. We would apply a minimum payment of £30k and payments would be capped at £100k. This scheme would launch by the end of 2014 and last until one year after the trains start running; *and*
- A '**Homeowner Payment Scheme**' that would give rural homeowners outside the Voluntary Purchase Area but within 300m of the line the opportunity to share in the benefits of HS2 as it would run near them but will not provide them with a direct benefit. We are proposing to taper payments as follows: Owner occupiers between 120m and 180m of the centre line of the railway would receive £22,500, those between 180m and 240m £15,000 and those between 240m and 300m £7,500.

Full details are available here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/hs2-property-consultation-2014>. The consultation will close on 30 September 2014 and I would urge you and your constituents to respond.

y-e
Patrick

THE RT. HON. PATRICK McLOUGHLIN