

Coleorton Parish Council

Response to HS2 Draft Equality Impact Statement

1. Introduction

Coleorton Parish Council wish to put forward this response to the Draft Equality Impact Statement to be considered by HS2. The current route was announced in July 2017 and is now nearer the village than the previous design of 2013. While we are not in the direct path of the railway, we will still be subject to some significant impacts. Our priorities are:

- To ensure that traffic disruption is minimised during the construction period, particularly when the A512 is realigned
- To ensure that groups with protected characteristics are not impaired and particularly that unimpaired access is maintained to Ashby

We are aware that although the final route of Phase 2b is not officially confirmed, it is unlikely that there will be any significant changes made now, and it is safest to assume that the published route will stand. We have compiled the following using our local community knowledge and the information that has already been provided about the HS2 project.

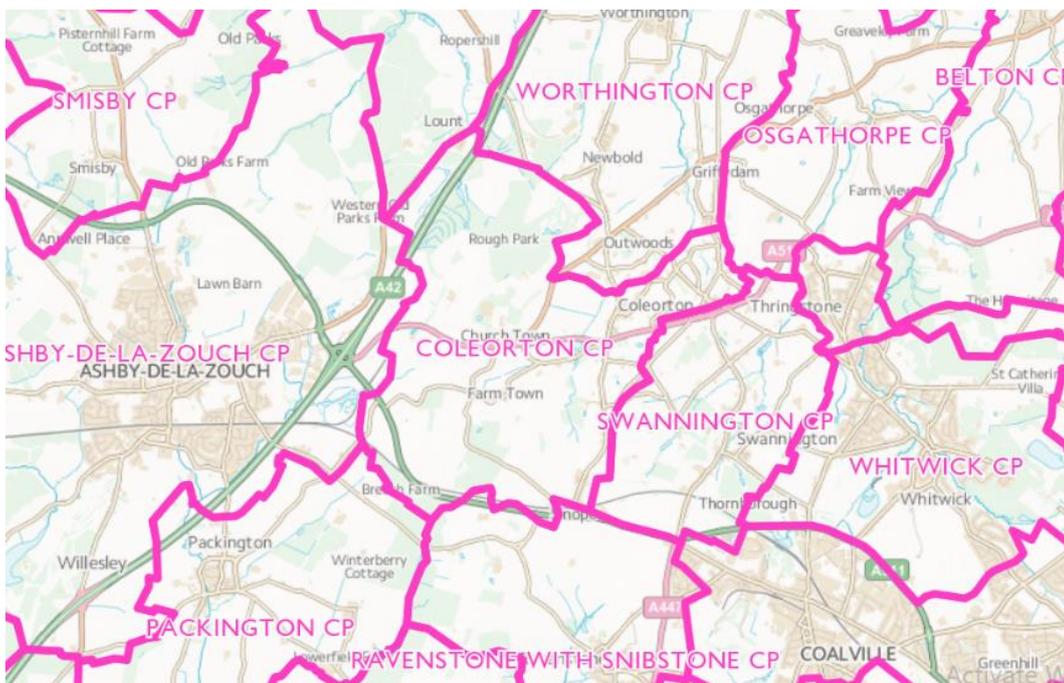


FIGURE 1 COLEORTON PARISH MAP

2. Traffic and transport

One of our principal concerns is traffic disruption during the construction period. The roads which will affect us are:

- The realignment of the A512 from Ashby. This is the main road from Ashby to Coleorton and is an important link. We must be sure that during construction of the new road, the old road remains fully open and access is not affected. The A512 is a busy road and an accident blackspot, particularly the right-angled turn in and out of the Coleorton Hall estate
- The realignment of Melbourne Road, which is another route into Coleorton. The works on this section of road extend west and will cross over HS2. We are aware that building this road could be a lengthy process and it is important that, if this road is closed for any period of time, access to Ashby Road is not restricted at the same time or the village will become cut off
- The use of Melbourne Road for construction traffic. There is a high risk that contractors will use roads within the Parish. Contractors must be aware that Coleorton is not to be used as a rat run outside the normal construction traffic routes.
- B587 Nottingham Road in Lount, between A511 Ashby Road and Melbourne Road
- B5324 Rempstone Road from A511 to Top Brand
- Melbourne Road in Coleorton

Access to Ashby is critical for residents of Coleorton. Unimpaired access must be maintained to Ashby throughout the construction phase. The following groups with Protected Characteristics maybe particularly impacted:

- children who attend the Ashby secondary schools in particular,
- older people or disabled people who may require medical facilities in Ashby,
- people who may attend places of worship in Ashby

Children who attend Ashby secondary schools

A very high proportion of children resident in Coleorton attend the Ashby schools.

Older and disabled people who require medical facilities in Ashby

Many people depend on access to Ashby for their medical needs so this should not be impaired during the construction phase.

People who attend places of worship

Some residents of Coleorton may attend places of worship in Ashby. St Mary's Coleorton is part of a the Flagstaff Family of churches servicing Ashby and Breedon.