

To the people of Agden, Broomedge, Lymm East, Heatley, Warburton, Dunham, Partington, Rixton-with-Glazebrook, Culcheth and Lowton:

DO YOU KNOW HOW THE HS2 'GOLBORNE LINK' WILL AFFECT YOU?

What is the Golborne Link?

The proposed HS2 line to Manchester branches out into a spur to the West Coast Main Line which would run right through all our communities from Agden up to Golborne.

What was the original reason for it?

It was originally designed to avoid congestion at Crewe, to provide a depot at Golborne and a link to the West Coast Main Line for trains to Scotland.

What has changed?

In 2014 the Chair of HS2, Sir David Higgins, announced plans to create both an HS2 station and a depot at Crewe with a direct connection to the West Coast Main Line for trains to Scotland. So there is no longer any reason for the link to Golborne and it could be removed entirely from the plans.

Serious Concerns

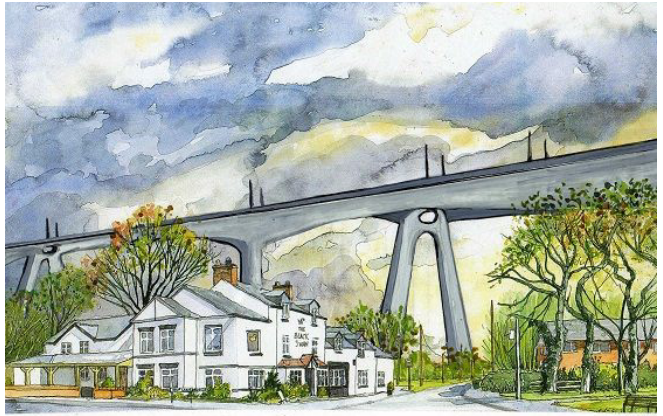
From 2013 onwards the Golborne Link has been opposed by local MPs, councils and residents who raised serious concerns about the damage it would cause to the communities along its length. In 2014 Sir David Higgins, in his report Rebalancing Britain, admitted that these concerns are valid, and that this section of the line needs rethinking.

BUT NOTHING HAS YET BEEN DONE TO REMOVE THIS LINK FROM THE PLANS AND THE WHOLE AREA REMAINS BLIGHTED.



A devastating impact

The route would cause noise pollution over a wide area and viaducts which would be impossible to disguise. In particular an enormous viaduct over the Manchester Ship Canal would dominate the surrounding villages.



Loss of jobs, businesses and homes

Over 700 local jobs would be lost. The route would destroy farms in Agden and Warburton, the Taylor Business Park in Culcheth, and an industrial estate in Lowton. It would ruin homes and communities and devastate the remaining green belt between Warrington and Manchester.

Are there alternatives?

Yes, the West Coast Main Line could be selectively upgraded between Crewe and Wigan. This would provide the extra capacity needed for HS2 trains, and conventional trains, both passenger and freight, at much lower cost than the exorbitant £2 billion estimated for the Golborne Link.

WHAT CAN YOU DO ABOUT THIS?

1. Write to your MP.
2. Make it clear to your election candidates, both local and national, that the Golborne Link is a major issue for you, even if they are ignoring it.
3. Use your vote thoughtfully.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD IN THE FIGHT TO SAVE YOUR COMMUNITY!

Produced by the Golborne Link Alliance, representing community groups in Lymm, Agden, Warburton, Rixton-with-Glazebrook, Culcheth and Lowton.

For more information see our full appraisal of the route "The Golborne Link - impacts and alternatives" on www.warringtonstophs2 and www.lendf.co.uk