

1. Petitioner information

In the box below, give the name and address of each individual, business or organisation submitting the petition. Please note that addresses here will be provided to the Bill's promoter, but will be redacted in the version of the petition published on the Parliamentary Website.

The Islamic Center,
271 Burton rd,
Manchester
M20 2WA

Represented by Tracey Pook: Admin Officer

In the box below, give a description of the petitioners. For example, "We are the owners/tenants of the addresses above"; "My company has offices at the address above"; "Our organisation represents the interests of..."; "We are the parish council of...".

We are a place of Worship, commonly known as MIC & Didsbury Mosque.

The Manchester Islamic Centre has been established since 1967 and we serve the Muslim community across Greater Manchester and beyond.

We are also a valued Community centre for the local area and a designated evacuation centre.

2. Objections to the Second Additional Provision to the Bill

In the box below, write your objections to the Second Additional Provision to the Bill and why your property or other interests are **directly and specially affected**. Please number each paragraph.

Only objections outlined in this petition can be presented when giving evidence to the Committee. You will not be entitled to be heard by the Committee on new matters not included in your written petition.

MIC & Didsbury Mosque fundamentally objects to the current HS2 proposal. The reason for our objection are as follows,

The plan shows that the main access to the center through two major roads, Barlow Moor Road and Burton Road, will be subject to frequent closure, thereby, causing major disruption to the Centre or complete closure at times. There is also a possibility that the construction work would disrupt the supply of utilities (gas, water, electricity).

The closure or disruption of services at the Centre would adversely impact the thousands of community members who benefit from the Centre on a daily and a weekly basis. Below is a list of services that the center provides to the community:

1. The Centre is a very busy community hub heavily used throughout all times of the day.
2. The Centre is visited by about three thousand people every week.
3. The Muslim community performs its five daily prayers in the Centre and there are no alternative places of worship nearby that may be used.
4. The Centre offers weekly Friday sermons attended by about 1500 worshippers.
5. During Ramadan the center welcomes around a 1100 worships every day for iftars and Taraweeh (night prayers) over the 30 days of Ramadan
6. Eid prayers are attended by around 5000 worshippers throughout the morning.
7. Saturday, Sunday and evening school catering for about 600 students, age 5 to 16 years old, that rely on the center for their Arabic and Quranic teaching.
8. Daily adult Ladies' Quran school catering for more than 200 women, organized by Al Manhal school.
9. Daily Social Islamic services are being offered at the center.
10. Weekly Social gatherings for mothers, toddlers, elderly and youth take place at Centre.
11. Weekly social dinners for the community.

Centre is open to all when needed as an emergency shelter, food supplies, local community meetings, NHS partnership, GMP and Manchester City Council meetings.

12. Finally, the center is not only used by the community, but is also a workplace, with 50+ employees, who would potentially be out of work with the closure of the center.

Furthermore, should the college opposite closes, such would deprive the center from using its car park facilities which provides over a hundred car park spaces which the center uses for its worshippers during peak hours of attendance: every Friday and every night of the month of Ramadan, consequently disrupting the streets of the local residents.

Also, the center intends to rent some of the college's facilities to accommodate weekend and evening classes for the growing Quran school.

MIC & Didsbury Mosque also supports the local community, the Community groups which will be affected and those residents which this plan will greatly affect.

What do you want to be done in response?

In the box below, tell us what you think should be done in response to your objections to the Second Additional Provision to the Bill. You do not have to complete this box if you do not want to.

You can include this information in your response to section 3 'Objections to the Second Additional Provision to the Bill' if you prefer. Please number each paragraph.

We ask if the vent shaft should located elsewhere [nearby]: -

- a. The vent shaft should be in a brownfield site.
- b. The vent shaft should be outside the flood plain or only require minor works to protect the shaft from flooding.
- c. The vent shaft should be located next to a classified road.