



Department for Transport

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From the Permanent Secretary

Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown MP

Chair

Public Accounts Committee

19 May 2026

Dear Sir Geoffrey

HS2 Parliamentary Report

The Secretary of State has this afternoon published the latest HS2 parliamentary report and made a statement to Parliament on the reset of the programme.

The parliamentary report covers data reported by HS2 Ltd up to the end of April 2026, and forms part of the government's continued commitment to updating Parliament on a regular basis. We will continue to do so to promote transparency and accountability on the programme.

Over the past year, HS2 Ltd and the government have been working closely on a full reset of HS2 to bring effective oversight, public trust and stricter cost control back to the project.

Today's report sets out the progress made to date, including updated cost and schedule range estimates for the programme. These estimates and their methodologies have been subject to an integrated assurance and approvals process, in line with James Stewart's review and the Office of Value for Money's study on megaprojects, including scrutiny by an independent panel of national and international industry experts. The report can be read in full [\[here\]](#).

Alongside the parliamentary report, the government has also published a summary of my latest accounting officer assessment, which can be found [\[here\]](#). HS2 Ltd's initial findings on simplifying the specification of the railway and its analysis of the estimated costs of cancellation and remediation of HS2 have also been published, and can be found [\[here\]](#) and [\[here\]](#) respectively.

As the reset continues to make progress, the government's focus will remain on the safe delivery of HS2 at the lowest reasonable cost for taxpayers. I look forward to discussing the programme at a future Committee hearing.

Yours sincerely,

Jo Shanmugalingam CB
Permanent Secretary