

## Annex A – FOI18- 2104 – Public Interest Test

FOI18-2104	Whistleblowing hotline, Speak Out	
Date:	5 October 2018	
FOI Act 2000 – Section 22: Information intended for future publication		
Factors supporting disclosure		Factors supporting non-disclosure
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Statutory responsibility to release information to the public in a timely manner as outlined in HS2 Ltd's publication scheme.</li><li>The public interest in whistleblowing and the detection of crime and fraud which should be available not just to staff but also to members of the public.</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>HS2 Ltd regularly publishes policies on our website <a href="https://www.hs2.org.uk">https://www.hs2.org.uk</a></li><li>Details of the whistleblowing hotline, Speak Out, will be published shortly.</li><li>As the information is of interest to the wider public it is important it can be accessed simultaneously by the general public rather than piecemeal by disclosure to a small number of individuals under the FOIA. Therefore it is in the wider interest that the same information is accessible to the wider public by adhering to the publication schedule.</li><li>Once published on the HS2 website this information will be freely and easily available to the public.</li></ul>
<b>Conclusion:</b> <p>The information requested will be published in due course and will be freely available to the public through the usual channels such as the gov.uk website. Section 22 of the Act can be considered.</p> <p>As the information is of interest to the wider public it is important it can be accessed simultaneously by the general public rather than piecemeal.</p> <p>For these reasons we believe section 22 applies and the reasons against disclosure outweigh the public interest in releasing information early.</p>		