

# **HIGH SPEED RAIL (PREPARATION) ACT 2013**

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## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

### **COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS**

#### ***Section 1: Preparatory Expenditure***

11. **Section 1** provides that the Secretary of State may, with the approval of the Treasury, incur expenditure in preparation for a high speed railway transport network. The network involves the construction of railway lines connecting at least London, Birmingham, the East Midlands, Sheffield, Leeds and Manchester and which connects with the existing railway transport network as well as with such other parts of the transport network (including roads, footpaths, cycleways, airports and light railways) as the Secretary of State considers appropriate. The section therefore authorises expenditure in preparation for the whole of the network which is proposed in the 2012 Command Paper. It also allows expenditure in preparation for potential future extensions to this network.
12. **Section 1** provides examples of the types of expenditure which may be incurred under the new power. The first example is expenditure on preparation for the construction of a railway line and any other infrastructure proposed to be included in the network. The second example is preparation for the provision of services as part of that network. In both cases expenditure may include expenditure incurred on pre-construction activity (such as surveying and design), in acquiring property and in providing compensation in respect of property likely to be affected.