

Bucks Free Press

John Bercow MP hits out at HS2

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By Neil Phillips

SPEAKER of the House of Commons John Bercow has spoken out against the controversial HS2 project today.

In an interview with ITV news the Buckingham MP, who serves Princes Risborough, called the scheme a “wretched unnecessary project that has no case and we don’t want it.”

Although his role as Speaker is independent he has voiced his objection to the £32bn scheme that would see a High Speed rail link from London to Birmingham cleave through the Chilterns.

Mr Bercow, who called the project a “wasteful white elephant” said the Government had produced no business or environmental case and it would not benefit his constituents, describing the scheme as “all pain and no gain”.

He told ITV the Labour Government was misguided to propose the scheme and the current Coalition Government misguided to pursue it.

A Judicial Review into the project, which heard 15 local authorities present their case against the plan, was held at the High Court in December, and its outcome is expected to be revealed this month.

The Department for Transport says HS2 will improve links between cities, drive regeneration, tackle overcrowding and stimulate economic growth.

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