From: Millard, Paul
To: Roberts, Ali

Cc: <u>Banks, Mark; Davey, Kate; Roscoe, Vicky; Braine, Ben;</u>

Subject: WEST15 closure of level crossing

Sent: 03/07/2025 09:37:05

Good afternoon Ali,

Thank you for sending me a copy of this consultation. I'm afraid I cannot support this closure in its current form, it appears that no thought has been given to improving the alternative routes that the public would have to use. Improvements would be required to the likely alternate routes that the public will have to use (including dropped kerbs and tactiles perhaps even a pedestrian refuge island). The crossing in its current form is as safe as it can be. I am not aware of any accidents at this level crossing. Rather than closing this crossing Network Rail should be looking to improve it with a bridge. I understand that money is earmarked for a road bridge with a footway further to the West than the current crossing and that if this is not delivered then the money can be used to fund a Footbridge instead. I would suggest that the crossing is kept open until a bridge has been provided over the railway line and the access to that bridge is safe and suitable to all users.

Network Rail have made the crossing as safe as they can with a deck, Visual and audible warnings as such I would suggest that we keep a watching brief for now and relook at this in 18 months.

For now, I object to the stopping up of WEST15 on the following grounds, Loss of connectivity to the Public Rights of Way network, inconvenience to users of the crossing with the increase in distance required to get around the closure. Lack of Highway improvements to cope with the extra use.

Kind Regards Paul

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