

**From:** [Efi Llewellyn](#)  
**To:** [Roberts, Ali](#)  
**Subject:** Level crossing closure at Westbury high speed line, objection.  
**Sent:** 29/06/2025 15:29:30

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Good afternoon,

I am writing to you in regards to the proposed closure of the pedestrian crossing on the Westbury high speed line, which connects the Oldfield Park area with the new Spinnaker Estate, with objections.

I read in the proposal about the pedestrian bridge / road bridge which the developers for the Spinnaker estate put money towards, which as I presumed it is mentioned in the article for the closure, was what Network rail were banking on to be used as mitigation. I raise two queries to this, one being most of my research about this bridge is that the council are still £1m short for it and are hoping for the remaining money to fund said bridge from the development proposed on Penleigh farm. This is still a very long way off, so a proposed bridge cannot be used as mitigation when there's no confirmation of it being built, and it being publicly known that there isn't funds for it at the moment. Likewise, if Network rail were hoping for this proposed bridge to mitigate this closure, I'm not sure why Network Rail aren't contributing to this, as it's your equipment it's bypassing.

Secondly, the high levels of a chance of a fatality. The Spinnaker estate was in development plans for years, so I believe now the estate is finished and all homes purchased from the developers, is never a time to close a railway crossing which hasn't seen any injuries or deaths. The pathway underneath station bridge is truly horrendous, and to push a pushchair, walk a dog or walk to school that way is impractical and also dangerous due to the poor condition of the pavement alongside the narrowness of the path. As Winter comes, and the weather is wetter and darker, this proposed reroute is much more dangerous due to the lack of visibility of drivers, as well as space from the road. The level crossing currently provides a safer route than the proposed reroute. To be able to go ahead with this closure, you surely must have a degree of responsibility to ensure the reroute is safe, considering the whole proposal of closure is due to safety, and currently it is not. With the high levels of traffic that you have said are crossing the crossing, putting that high level under the bridge isn't appeasing that situation at all.

Anybody who purchased a property in Spinnaker will have done so with the understanding of a level crossing being there. They should be aware of that risk that comes with crossing the track, and there's just as much risk of the lake, if not more from the lake by those who are encumbered as you stated. Likewise; for those who have chronic illnesses in the spinnaker estate, asking them to walk to the end of the estate, adds an extra 10-15 minutes to go to the Oldfield/ Leigh Park area where Westbury Group Practice is, and likewise, for those in Leigh Park and Oldfield, this crossing gives them more time and a more convenient route to get to the station.

Finally, with the fact that Network Rail are also responsible for Westbury railway station, I do believe that there are matters which have a stronger urgency to attend to and money spent better at the station, such as to fix the lift which has been in and out of order for months now, leaving platform 2 and 3 inaccessible, as well as looking at the horrific condition of the station approach road, as these are both accessibility issues which are in need of fixing, much sooner over a level crossing which may have issues in the future but currently hasn't had anything.

Kind regards.

Sent from my iPhone