



Councillor Ray Oxby
Leader, North East Lincolnshire Council
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Route Managing Director, LNE & EM
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22nd January 2019

Dear Councillor Oxby,

I wanted to write to you, as Network Rail's Route Managing Director covering North East Lincolnshire, in relation to Suggitt's Lane Level Crossing which is located on the road of the same name in Cleethorpes.

As you will be aware, the safety of passengers, members of the public and staff is Network Rail's top priority. As part of work to improve safety on our railways, since 2010 we have closed over 1,000 of the highest risk level crossings across the network.

At Suggitt's Lane Level Crossing there have been sustained high levels of misuse, behaviour which is very dangerous and which has specifically included 15 near misses being recorded in the last 10 years.

Suggitt's Lane is a particularly heavily used level crossing – our latest census recorded over 570 pedestrians and cyclists using it each day. Alongside this, over 50 freight and passenger trains traverse the crossing every day at speeds of up to 60mph.

As a result Network Rail is proposing to close this level crossing to improve the safety of the railway in North East Lincolnshire.

Whilst I appreciate that this crossing is frequently used by many of your residents, and provides a through route to Cleethorpes Promenade, we must prioritise the safety of the public at all times and recent behaviour at this level crossing has not been acceptable.

I do recognise though the potential impact which the proposed closure of the crossing at Suggitt's Lane could have on the local community unless it is managed collaboratively and involves local stakeholders from the outset. As a result I would welcome the opportunity for a senior member of my team to brief you in more detail on what we are proposing.

Whilst there are no public or private rights of way over this level crossing, meaning that Network Rail has no legal obligation to provide a diversionary route over the railway, we are keen to work with

stakeholders to make sure that adequate arrangements are in place into the future.

As part of this, in advance of any closure, Network Rail will also hold a public information event in Cleethorpes for members of the public who would like to discuss the plans in person with representatives from my team.

Please do get in touch with me directly in order to arrange the meeting I've referred to above, assuming it is of interest.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob McIntosh', written over a diagonal line.

Rob McIntosh

**Route Managing Director, LNE & EM
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited**