



Martin Vickers MP  
House of Commons  
London  
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Andrew Haines  
Chief Executive  
Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd  
Waterloo Station General Offices  
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London  
SE1 8SW

1 May 2019

Dear Mr Vickers,

### **Suggitt's Lane Level Crossing**

I'm following up on our conversation from 24 April at the Rail in the North APPG. It was helpful to hear first-hand local concerns about the closure of Suggitt's Lane level crossing and I'm sorry this has caused so much upset in your constituency.

I have heard the strength of local opposition to our decision to close Suggitt's Lane level crossing and agree that, especially for residents with access needs, it is now particularly difficult to cross the railway in the area. As was discussed with the Rail Minister, we are wholly committed to listening and working with both North East Lincolnshire Council and community representatives to identify options for an accessible route that all residents can use. The option we are currently exploring is making the nearby bridge on Fuller Street accessible. We have approached the council, who own the bridge, to offer our support to make this happen.

Closing Suggitt's Lane level crossing was not a decision we took lightly but one necessary to keep your constituents and our passengers safe. Rob McIntosh's team carried out several reviews, each of which concluded it was necessary to close the crossing because of repeated incidents of accidental and deliberate misuse. I know Rob's letter goes into the detail of these and I hope that has helped.

Following this, we held a public information event for the local community to explain why we had to close Suggitt's Lane level crossing. I appreciate that your constituents would have liked more notice ahead of the closure and I can see that we could have done more to communicate this clearly.

I hope my response shows that I have taken your concerns very seriously. I have asked Rob to continue to keep you updated as we make progress.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Haines', written in a cursive style.

Andrew Haines  
Chief Executive