

Proposed Network Rail (Essex and Others Level Crossing Reduction) Order

Joint Statement on behalf of

Network Rail Infrastructure Limited and Essex County Council

There are 44 crossings in the County of Essex affected by the proposals in the draft Network Rail (Essex and Others Level Crossing Reduction) Order ("the draft Order"). The Order, if made, will authorise Network Rail Infrastructure Limited ("Network Rail") to carry out the construction of the works described in Schedule 1 to the draft Order and other works to the highway network. Essex County Council ("the Council") is responsible for the maintenance of the highway, including the public rights of way network within the County of Essex.

Network Rail and the Council have entered into an agreement that addresses the concerns of the Council regarding the implementation of the proposals.

The agreement covers, inter alia, the following subject matter:

- continuing liaison between the Council and Network Rail;
- arrangements for agreeing the design and approval of the works authorised by the Order in respect of each crossing, including submission of a Schedule of Works for each crossing by Network Rail for approval by the Council;
- arrangements governing the construction of those works, site inspections, and the programme information to be provided to the Council by Network Rail;
- arrangements relating to certification of the works by the Council, including detailed asset information to be provided to enable accurate amendment by the Council of the legal asset records;
- the payment of commuted sums to be paid by Network Rail to the Council, including the scope of such payments and how they are to be calculated;
- confidentiality and non-disclosure provisions relating to the content of the Agreement.

To address particular concerns raised by the Council the agreement includes a requirement for the approval and construction of any works altering the existing highway to be undertaken before the related crossing can be closed.

On the basis of this Agreement, the Council withdraws its general objections to the Order.

Network Rail Infrastructure Limited

Essex County Council

26 September 2018