

**THE PROPOSED NETWORK RAIL (ESSEX & ORS LEVEL CROSSING REDUCTION)**  
**ORDER**

**“Suitable and convenient”**

1. It is common ground between Network Rail (NR), Essex County Council and the Ramblers’ Association (RA) that section 5(6) is silent on the qualifications which attach to s.5(6)(a), that is as to the form of the alternative right of way to be provided.
2. It is common ground that the statutory test should be read with the guidance contained within Annex 2 to the DfT ‘A Guide to TWA procedures’ (June 2006) which states at page 105 that:

“If an alternative is to be provided, the Secretary of State would wish to be satisfied that it will be a convenient and suitable replacement for existing users.”

3. It is common ground between the parties that those words are being used in the context of guidance and should not be construed as if they were a statute. The words should be given their ordinary, common sense meaning having regard to the statutory scheme and policy guidance of which they form part.
4. The 2011 edition of the Concise Oxford English Dictionary defines the terms “suitable” and “convenient” in the following way:

Suitable                    right or appropriate for a particular person, purpose or situation

Convenient                fitting in well with a person’s needs, activities and plans  
   involving little trouble or effort

5. RA point to the slightly wider definitions in the OED as attached.
6. NR’s position is that in considering whether an alternative route is suitable and convenient, this needs to take account of the purpose and use of the existing route, its local environment, and relationship with the wider PROW network. It has looked at the function served by the existing PROW, having regard to the origin and destination points, desire lines, and whether the route is (e.g.) a utility route or a leisure route.
7. ECC and RA agree that those are all matters to be taken into account. They consider, however, that the factors to be considered should also include the quality of experience of using the route (i.e. enjoyment of the route).
8. In the view of RA, there can be no exhaustive list of the relevant factors to be considered in assessing an alternative route’s suitability and convenience for existing

users as the assessment will be case-specific. However, RA highlight the following factors as being particularly relevant:

- Length of the route;
- Maintaining desire lines to users' destination or destinations,
- Accessibility of the route, including the gradient of the route and any obstacles (such as stiles, gates or steps) included in the route;
- Scenic views and "quality" of the route, including the setting of the route (for example, does the route take walkers through fields, or towns or alongside busy roads);
- Safety of the route;
- Surface of the route,
- Directness of the route;
- Width of the route, including the sense of space that walkers would experience along the route (for example, is the route surrounded by fencing or, by contrast, across an open field); and,
- Risk of flooding.

9. ECC and NR agree that there is no exhaustive list of all relevant factors to be considered, that the assessment will be case specific. ECC agrees that all of the factors above are potentially relevant. NR agrees that all of the factors above are potentially relevant, save (1) scenic views and "quality" of the route, including the setting of the route; (2) directness of the route, insofar as it extends beyond (i) length of diversion or (ii) maintaining desire lines to users' destination or destinations; and (3) width of the route in the wider sense suggested by RA, namely including the sense of space that walkers would experience along the route.

#### Comparative?

10. Further, whilst NR accepts that in deciding whether an alternative route is 'suitable and convenient', the alternative must be considered as against the existing route (as explained in para 6 above), NR's position is that s.5(6) does not require a comparative exercise to be undertaken as to whether the proposed route is (e.g.) "nearer or more commodious"<sup>1</sup>, or "will not be substantially less convenient"<sup>2</sup> than the existing PROW.
11. RA however considers that the word "replacement" included in the Guidance, read alongside "convenient and suitable" and the reference in the procedures to "existing" users, suggests a comparative meaning. RA note that the concise OED (2011) defines "replacement" as:

Replacement      a person or thing that takes the place of another

12. ECC agrees that the test does not require assessments of "nearer or more commodious", or "will not be substantially less convenient" (as contained in the

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<sup>1</sup> The test in s.116 HA 1980

<sup>2</sup> The test in s.119 HA 1980

Highways Act 1980) than the existing PROW, but does take the view that the word “replacement” suggests a comparative meaning. The comparison to be made will be specific to each site, and should take into account factors described in paragraph 8 above.

#### Public Enjoyment?

13. Nor does NR accept that in considering whether the proposed diversion is “suitable and convenient” that this is subject to any overarching requirement to take account of the “public enjoyment of the footpath as a whole”: cf. the test in s.119 HA 1980.

RA consider that the “public enjoyment of the footpath as a whole” should be a factor to consider within the “suitable and convenient” test.

#### Existing Users?

14. The parties are also not in agreement as to the meaning of “existing users” within the TWA guidance.
15. NR has looked at existing use and users of the PROW having regard (*inter alia*) to constraints which exist on the existing PROW. It does not agree that “existing users” requires the decision maker to have regard to any person who might be legally entitled to use the route (but for whom the route is not usable due to, e.g., accessibility constraints), or who might, theoretically, do so in the future (e.g. following construction of a new development in the area). In the previous inquiry into the proposed Suffolk Order, Suffolk County Council’s position was that “existing user” means any person who uses the PROW at the time and any person who might reasonably be expected to use the PROW, considering its location and purpose. NR was, and remains, content with that formulation (subject to its more detailed position set out earlier in this Note). For the avoidance of doubt, NR would not rely on there being no existing users of the crossing due to it being temporarily closed under a TTRO or unlawfully obstructed to conclude, without more, that provision of an alternative right of way was not required.
16. ECC agree with this position on the meaning of existing user.
17. The RA view is the term existing users must to some extent be taken to include all those with a legal right to use the route and those who might be disposed to use it.

"convenient"

# THE OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY

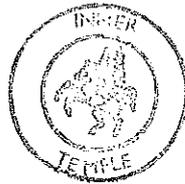
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veniencer. rare. One who accommodates conveniences. TELE Tailor No. 199 P2 Honest Coupler the pier. [But some later edd. read conveyancer, in the sense.]

ency (kən'vi:niənsi). [f. as CONVENIENCE a later suffix -ENCY. Formerly more than convenience, but now little used.] CONVENIENCE 1. Obs.

BYAN Chron. I. xli. (R.), More to the conveniency and agreement of other cronyclers. 1581 SIDNEY trie (Arb.) 41 That imitation wherof Poetry is, hath conveniency to Nature of all other. 1668 HOWE shicour (1825) 42 The things spoken... have a real and conveniency in nature with one another. 1708 BERLAYNE St. Gt. Brii. II. i. ii. (1743) 329 If this ncy was not a sufficient testimony, the inscriptions would put it beyond all dispute.

CONVENIENCE 3. Obs. Migr. Perf. (W. de W. 1531) 143b, By this... the conveyency how our exercysc... may be to a buylding. 1541 Act 33 Hen. VIII. c. 37 Such roial... ought of all conveyency in reason to be nd set forth with the name and title of an honour. 1601 Def. Aunsw. iii. Wks. 1851 I. 369 The [equity, reasonableness, and conveniency of this 1661 FULLER Worthies (1840) III. 320 Moved [his marriage]... by the conveniency of her years. RIDGE Syst. Agric. vii. §5 (1681) 124 This way is t conveyency to be used when the Stock is too big t.

conveniency of: what is accordant to or in nce with. Obs. NORTON Caluin's Inst. II. xvi. 243 It was against ncie of reason, that he should be fearful for the of his soule. 1624 LD. KENNINGTON in Ellis Orig. III. 174 No further to oblige himself... then stand with the... conveyency of his state.

CONVENIENCE 4. Obs. BRINGTON Commandm. vii. (1637) 58 Tricking and our selves above conveyencie, is a dangerous just. 1656 FINETT For. Ambass. 2 His Majesty... to perform all things with conveyency.

CONVENIENCE 5. BRAYTON Poly-ob. xi. Notes 181 Conveniency of 1683 TRYON Way to Health 309 If conveyency it, go to Bed and keep your self warm for an hour. JACKY Journ. thro' Eng. I. 230 What adds to the well as Conveniency of these Offices, is, that they nto St. James's Park. 1772 HUTTON Bridges 3 The ncy of the passage to and from the bridge. 1816 E Trau. II. 30 It is probable that such conveyency presenting itself first suggested the idea. ith qualifying words expressing the in or purpose for which a thing is tent.

JOHNSON Kingd. & Commu. (1603) 7 The plaine by reason of the fruitfulness, doth minister... nce to joyne their forces. 1625 K. LONG tr. Argenis III. x. 183 They should returne... into the nce for the more conveyency of lodging. 1669 E Syst. Agric. xi. §2 (1681) 232 The Forewheels are a Waggon... for its conveyency in turning. 1721 Daggenh. Breach 122 Water enough for the ncy of Ships to lie afloat. 1817 COLENDGE Biog. 7) I. 270 The conveyency of the scholastic phrase push the kind from all degrees.

convenient occasion, opportunity. Obs. HOWELL Lett. I. xxvi. 51 There will be conveyency tek of receiving and sending. 1659 B. HARRIS Iron Age 61 Their sudden submission, gave the s conveyency to hasten to the relief of the Duke. MATT City & C. Build. 10 If they should want a ncy of communicating the same to their urs. 1834 LAMB Lett. to Manning in Talfourd Life have no conveyency of doing it by this.

CONVENIENCE 6. Obs. F. GREVILLE Sidney (1652) 64 To weigh the wisdom in even scales with mortal conveyency or ncy. 1654 SELDEN Table-T. (Arb.) 40 Churches art for the conveyency of men to Worship in. 1657 LL Sp. 13 Apr. (1871) V. 19, I cannot, with ncy to myself, speak out. 1728 MORGAN Algiers I. Consulting the Conveniency of the worst of Infidels. RISE Amer. Geog. II. 425 Narrow causeways... for ncy of foot passengers.

me or occasion convenient to a person. Alcoran 28 You shall do well to stay their ncy. 1693 LUTTRELL Brief Rel. (1857) III. 144 The ncy their first conveyency intend to make a descent and. 1739 tr. Duhamel's Husb. I. ix. (1762) 52 As conveyency invites you. 1813 SCOTT Nigel v. [He] wait his royal conveyency for payment.

convenient thing; = CONVENIENCE 7. convenient state or condition of matters; antage. Obs. WILKINS New World I. (1684) 8 Neither are there Rivers, or any other conveyency for Habitation. CITY Pol. Arith. I. (1691) 17 Wherefore to have the of abounding in Seamen, is a vast Conveniency. FACILIERS Fires Impr. 53 Another conveyency will you will hinder the Smoak... from being beaten o your Room. 1779 J. MOORE View Soc. Fr. (1789) § A stranger may fairly avail himself of every ncy arising from their obliging manners.

with defining words connected by of. Obs. BOUNT Boscobel II. (1680) 24 [To] stay there some pre the conveyency of a transportation could be 676 RAY Corr. (1848) 123 Wanting the conveyency to assist me in such an undertaking. 1749 FIELDING (1775) 194 This room wanted the conveyency of 1798 PENNANT Hindoostan I. 8 The Chinese is... got the conveyency of the river Ilak for part of may.

c. pl. Material arrangements or appliances advantageous to life, personal comfort, ease of work, saving of trouble, etc.

1712 ADDISON Spect. No. 441 P3 The Blessings and Conveniences of Life. 1751 JOHNSON Rambler No. 177 P2, I furnished a large room with all conveniences for study. 1781 GIBBON Decl. & F. III. 202 The ancients were destitute of many of the conveniences of life, which have been invented or improved by the progress of industry.

d. A particular convenient appliance or article; a utensil; formerly, esp. a conveyance or vehicle; = CONVENIENCE 7 d. arch.

1660 Trial Regic. 109 Having a conveyency out of my house into a Gallery. 1679-88 Sec. Serv. Money Chas. & Jas. (Camden) 16 For providing ships and conveyencies to transport horses to Tanger. 1703 J. SAVAGE Lett. Antients liv. 138 Thy Helmet I believe thou wear'st... for a conveyency to drink out of in a Tavern. 1717 Mrs. CENTLIVRE Bold Stroke for Wife v. (D.), I remember thou didst come up in the leatheren conveyency with me. 1725 Lond. Gaz. No. 6423/3 A large Diamond Ring, with another Conveniency set with Diamonds. 1756 NUGENT Gr. Tour IV. 36 The next thing is, to get you a conveyency to carry you abroad. 1875 EMERSON Lett. & Soc. Aims i. 10 This magnificent hotel and conveyency we call Nature.

e. transf. of a person. arch. 1728-9 MRS. DELANY in Life (1861) I. iii. 192, I did make a conveyency of him, for by his means I found my Lady Carteret. 1841-4 EMERSON Ess. Ser. II. viii. (1876) 191 The uninspired man certainly finds persons a conveyency in household matters.

†7. Means of living conveniently, a competence.

1628 PRESTON Effect. Faith (1631) 155 He will leave a conveyency for his posterity if he can.

convenient (kən'vi:niənt), a. and sb. [ad. L. convenient-em agreeing, consistent, accordant, fitting, suitable, becoming, pr. pple. of convenire to come together, meet, unite, agree, fit, suit, etc. (There was also an OF. convenient in 15-16th c.)]

†1. Agreeing (in opinion); in accord. Obs. 1485 Sc. Acts Jas. III (1814) 178 (Jam.) Sa that... the princez that suld be the parti, be greable and convenient.

†2. Accordant, congruous, consonant (to). Obs. 1526 Pilgr. Perf. (W. de W. 1531) 45b, Eche of these peticions be conveyent and agreeynge to some gyfte of y' holy goost. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON Catech. (1884) 3 To our office maie convenient and consonant. 1654 Burton's Diary (1828) 1. 55 It may seem not altogether so equitable and convenient to reason.

†3. Agreeing with or consonant to the nature or character of; in accordance with; in keeping with; befitting, becoming (to or for a thing or person). c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1830) xi. 230 It is conveyent to a god, to ete no mete. c 1450 Cr. of Love 786 Her nose directed straight... With form and shape thereto convenient. 1538 STARKEY England I. i. 8 The best kynd of lyfe and most convenient to the nature of man. 1542 UDALL Eram. Apoph. 144 Of apparell and of demeanure nothing comely ne conveyente for one that should be a manne. 1631 WEEVER Anc. Fin. Mon. 250 Interred in... a place of Saint Maries Church convenient for so worthy a person.

†b. Of befitting size or extent; commensurate, proportionate (to). Obs. c 1386 CHAUCER Frankl. T. 550 Hise proporcionables conuenientz for his equacions in euery thyng. 1578 LYTE Dodoens v. xxiv. 581 The roote is long, and of a convenient thickness. 1588 A. KING tr. Canisius' Catech. 186b, The reward of eternal lyf convenient to the merit. 1677 HALS Prim. Orig. Man. I. i. 3 Suitable at least in a convenient degree to the worth of the Faculty.

†4. Suitable, appropriate; a. to or for a purpose, etc. Obs. c 1374 CHAUCER Boeth. III. xi. 97 Nature yeueth to euery thing what pat is convenient to hym. 1548 HALL Chron. 124 A place most mete and convenient for to abide battail. 1577 B. GOOGE Herebach's Husb. iv. (1586) 184b, Shut them [bees] up with foode convenient for them. 1590 SHAKS. Mids. N. III. i. 2 Here's a marvailous convenient place for our rehearsall. 1611 BIBLE Prov. xxx. 8. 1703 MOXON Mech. Exerc. 169 Pieces of Wood, of a Substance convenient to the light or heavy work they intend to Turn. 1790 ANNA M. JOHNSON Monmouth I. 186 [A place] convenient to the purpose of holding our secret consultations.

†b. Suitable to the conditions or circumstances; befitting the case; appropriate, proper, due. Obs. c 1391 CHAUCER Astrol. II. §4 Wher-fore me semith convenient... to make of it special declaracioun. 1450-1530 Myrr. our Ladye 20 Sett in trew and conuocynente termes, without erreure or darkenes. 1547 Act i Edu. VI. c. 3 §16 To punish... with chaining, beating, or otherwise, as shall seeme to them convenient. a 1593 H. SMITH Term. (1866) II. 139 It was convenient Christ should visit sinners for their speedy conversion. 1653 WALTON Angler 59 Put them into a convenient quantity of the best butter. 1670 DK. RICHMOND in Marvell's Corr. Wks. 1872-5 II. 299, I thought convenient to advise you, that I intend to prosecute this business. 1703 MOXON Mech. Exerc. 106 When the piece Q, is set to its convenient height. 1741 WESLEY Wks. (1830) I. 309 Many were destitute of convenient clothing.

†c. Of time; Due, proper. Obs. 1415 in York Myst. Intro. (1885) 34 And that euery player... be redy in his pagiaunt at conveyant tyme. 1549 LATIMER Ploughers (Arb.) 20 So must he at all times convenient preache diligentlie. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON Catech. (1884) 35, I sal gif yow rayne in tyme convenient.

†5. Morally or ethically suitable or becoming; proper. Obs.

a 1400 Cov. Myst. (Shaks. Soc.) 149 It is not convenient a man to be Ther women gon in travalyng. 1497 Bp. ALCOCK Mons Perfect. D'ijb, All other of them lyved in a conveyent chastyte. 1511-2 Act 3 Hen. VIII. c. 23 §5 It is not convenient nor standing with good and indifferent ordre that the said sir Robert should be Auditour and Juge of hymself. 1611 BIBLE Eph. v. 4 Neither fithnesse, nor foolish talking, nor testing, which are not convenient. 1684 tr. Agrippa's Van. Artes xviii. 62 She sang and danc'd more exquisitely than was convenient for an honest woman. 1727 SWIFT Gulliver I. iv. 56 And which is the convenient end, seems... to be left to every man's conscience.

6. Personally suitable or well-adapted to one's easy action or performance of functions; favourable to one's comfort, easy condition, or the saving of trouble; commodious. (The current sense.) 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) Dictes 2 Take therwith gretter acquyntaunce at som other conveyent tyme. 1535 COVERDALE Ps. lxxiv. 2 When I maye get a conveyent tyme I shall iudge accordinge vnto righte. 1548 HALL Chron. 247 And so by conveniente journeyes came to the towne of Edenborough. 1697 DRYDEN Virg. Georg. I. 258 Delve of convenient Depth your thrashing Floor. 1721 Col. Rec. Pennsylv. III. 120 To come with all convenient speed. 1732 BERKELEY Alciph. I. §1 A convenient house with a hundred acres of land. 1749 F. SMITH Voy. Disc. N.-W. Pass. II. 277 It would be very ill convenient to his Men, to be out all Night in the Frost, upon a cold Beach. 1828 SCOTT F. M. Perth vii, A very convenient arrangement for mutual support. 1868 FREEMAN Norm. Conq. (1876) II. viii. 205 It had once been convenient to forget, it was now equally convenient to remember.

7. colloq. and dial. a. Within easy reach; easily accessible; 'handy'. 1848 THACKERAY Van. Fair iii, Heretics used to be brought thither convenient for burning hard by.

b. Conveniently near; near in place or time to. (Ireland and U.S.) 1849 POLK cited in Bartlett Dict. Amer. 1865 Dublin Even. Mail Feb., It was convenient to five o'clock when I got home. 1880 Antrim & Down Gloss., Convenient, near. 'His house is convenient to the church'. 1883 Daily News 22 Jan. (Dublin Conspiracy), At the College rail, convenient to Clarendon's Riding School.

† Formerly often compared by -er, -est. 1644 NYE Gunnery (1670) 37 If you find it more convenient to use the plumb line then the Index. 1669 STURMY Mariner's Mag. IV. 201 Although it is the nearest way, it is not the convenientest way for Seamen. 1741 RICHARDSON Pamela (1824) I. i. 233 He will have larger panes of glass, and convenienter casements.

B. sb. †1. ? Agreement, accord. Obs. 1398 TREVISA Barth. De P.R. II. x. (1495) 37 The joynture and conveyente of domes of god. Ibid. viii. xxviii. 340 A body that is blisful and a nother that is not blisful may be toggyders in the same stede and place without conveyent.

†2. pl. ? Proprieties; formalities. Obs. 1649 G. DANIEL Trinorch. Hen. V, cccxviii, A Prince is Synwe-Shrunke, And Cramp't, betwixt a Title, to keepe warme And Cold Convenients.

†3. A mistress, concubine. Obs. 1676 ETHEREGE Man of Mode III. iii, Dorimant's Convenient, Madam Lovel. 1688 SHADWELL Sqr. Alsatia II. i. 1708 MOTTEUX Rabelais (1737) V. 217 Concubines, Convenients, Cracks.

conveniently (kən'vi:niəntli), adv. [f. prec. + -LY.] In a convenient manner, in accordance with convenience. †1. Congruously, harmoniously. Obs. 1398 TREVISA Barth. De P.R. II. x. (1495) 37 Saddle setes ben conuenable and conueniently joynd. 1477 NORTON Ord. Alch. v. in Ashm. (1652) 59 Conjoyne your Elements... With all their Concordes conveniently.

2. In accordance, in harmony; in accord with premises or facts, accordingly. Obs. 1509 HAWES Past. Pleas. XI. xxxii, It shall hym proouffyt yf he wyll apply... To doo the rather ful conveniently. 1530 RASTELL Bk. Purgat. II. xii, The soule conveniently must be infynyte. 1827 C. BRIDGES Exp. Ps. cxix. (1830) 184 [God] acts conveniently with his own nature.

†3. Fittingly, suitably, appropriately. Obs. 1447 BOKENHAM Seyntys (Roxb.) 8 Conveniently this virgine glorious May to a margaryte comparyd be. 1495 Act 11 Hen. VII. c. 39 Revenues to maynteyn honorably and conveniently the astate of a Duke. 1596 SHAKS. Merch. V. II. viii. 45 Such faire ostents of loue As shall conveniently become you there. 1653 WALTON Angler 49 My Hostis... is both cleanly and conveniently handsome. 1663 GERBIER Counsel 9 That the Staires may stand conveniently to the Stories.

†4. With ethical or moral propriety. Obs. 1568 GRAFTON Chron. II. 205 And they concluded, y' the king might conveniently ayde her with Golde and Sylver.

5. In a way that affords ease or comfort, or obviates difficulty; commodiously. 1633 J. DONE Hist. Septuagint 62 With a Chimney, very properly and conveniently built. 1798 SOUTHEY Elog. i, A carriage road That sweeps conveniently from gate to gate. 1837 HALLAM Hist. Lit. IV. II. §4 They could not conveniently be wanting. 1871 RUSKIN Manera P. Pref. (1880) 26, I have now, more conveniently, divided the whole into six chapters.

b. In a way that fits one's purpose or desire. 1685 STILLINGF. Orig. Brit. I. 47 So very conveniently [he] finds him in Britain when St. Paul wrote his Epistle to the Romans.

6. With personal ease, facility, or comfort; readily; without trouble or difficulty. 1509 FISHER Fun. Ser. C'tess Richmond Wks. (1876) 297 Vysyting them as often as she conueniently myght. 1523 FITZHERB. Husb. §22 An housband can not conuenientlyc

"suitable"

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*Prepared by*

J. A. SIMPSON *and* E. S. C. WEINER

VOLUME XVII

Su—Thrivingly



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Gd. Society iv. 174 The shawl is affronted with the gown; the bonnet is made to suit with both.

†b. to suit to: = 13, 14, 17 a. Obs. 1632 SIR T. HAWKINS tr. Mathieu's Unhappy Prop. 241 Time cooperateth with his industry, and fortune sutes to his vigilance. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT Trav. 211 Her [sc. the dodo's] legs suting to her body. 1653 H. MORE Antid. Ath. ii. xii. §1 If I should pursue all that suits to my purpose it would amount to an intire Volume. 1690 T. BURNER Review Theory Earth 29 note, A Text, that does not suit to their own Notions. 1790 DRYDEN Sigism. & Guisc. 44 She cast her Eyes around the Court, to find A worthy Subject suting to her Mind. 1802-12 BENTHAM Ration. Judic. Evid. (1827) II. 136 Such solicitations as it suited not to him to make.

†c. To be fitted or adapted for. Obs. 1793 [EARL DUNDONALD] Descr. Estate Cutross 5 The bands of Iron Stone are numerous, ..suting partly for Forge and partly for Melting Iron.

†d. To act in accordance with, conform to. Obs. rare.

1647 N. BACON Disc. Govt. Eng. i. xvi. (1739) 32 In matters of Action, [they] would suit with the occasion. Ibid. kv. 136 Two Ordinances made by the King, and such Lords as suted to the King's way. a 1660 Contemp. Hist. Irel. (fr. Archael. Soc.) i. 176 Taffe was condemned by the Council, (as ..suting to their factious principles) to marche with his armie.

e. To dress oneself up in clothing designed for a specific task or purpose.

1959 J. BLISH Clash of Cymbals viii. 191 We should suit up at the half-hour. 1967 Boston Sunday Herald 30 Apr. 1. 22/2 Jim Lyle headed for the flight line to suit up for a routine mission aboard one of the giant radar picket planes. 1975 'A. HALL' Mandarin Cypher xi. 170 'Time to suit up, isn't it?' ..I got into the wet-suit. 1978 G. A. SHEEHAN Running & Being xv. 206 He will suit up and get out on the roads.

suitability (s(j):u:tə'bi:liti). [f. next + -ITY.] The quality or condition of being suitable; an instance of this. Const. to, for, or inf.

1681-6 J. SCOTT Chr. Life II. iv. §2 Wks. 1718 I. 273 ff. ..we can discover a World of mutual Suitabilities of this to that, ..it will be a sufficient Argument that they all proceed from some wise Cause. 1718 DE FOE Pam. Instruct. (1841) II. 2. 1. 15 What suitability can there be in two tempers so extremely opposite? 1853 F. W. NEWMAN Odes of Horace I Its suitability as a first piece is our excuse for presenting it quite out of chronological order. 1865 DRICKENS Mur. Fr. II. xvi. It was a marriage of pure inclination and suitability. 1867 MILL. Subj. Women (1869) 170 The suitability of the individuals to give each other a happy life. 1912 Times 19 Dec. 19/2 The suitability of the greater proportion of Rhodesia for the breeding of stock.

suitable ('s(j):u:təb(ə)l), a. (adv.) Also 6-8 sut(e)able, 7-8 suiteable. [f. SUIT v. + -ABLE, after agreeable. Earlier synonyms were suit-like, suitly.]

In the following passage suitable may be an early example of this word, or may have arisen from a misreading of semable as suitable:-

1513 DOUGLAS Æneid I. Prol. 394 Rycht so, by about speche oft in tymes, And seutable [Camb. MS. semabill] wordis we compile our rymes.]

†1. Of furniture, dress, features, etc.: Conforming or agreeing in shape, colour, pattern, or style; matching, to match. Const. to, with. Obs.

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind. i. lxxvi. 155 His Shoes ..were all beset with Aglets of golde, and his Cap covered over with Buttons suitable to the same. 1584 in Scott's Kenilw. Note K. A crymon sartin counter-pointe, .. A chaise of crymon sartin, suitable. 1594 FLAT Jewell-Bo. i. 21. I had an old wainescot window, that was peeced out with new wainscot by a good workeman, and both became verte suitable and of one colour. 1614 MARKHAM Cheap Husb. II. 110 The colour being suitable with the colour of the feathers on his head. 1625 in Rymer's Fœdera (1726) XVIII. 237/2 The Bason enamelled ..and the Layer [sc. ewer] suitable, having forty eight small Dymonds in the Bason. 1634-5 BRETON Trav. (Chetham Soc.) 49 Four dainty suitable quarters in the court. 1635 STAFFORD Fem. Glory 3 Her visage long, and her nose stufed. 1656 HEVLIIN Surv. France 98 The beds are all suitable one to the other. c 1710 CELIA FIENNES Diary (1888) 300 The doores to them [sc. cupboards] made suitable to ye wainscote.

†2. Of persons, actions, qualities, conditions, institutions: Conforming or agreeing in nature, condition, or action; accordant; corresponding; analogous; occas. congenial. Obs.

1592 GREENE Upst. Courtier Dj. Every serulle drudge must ruffle in his silkes, or else hee is not suitable. 1617 MOHYSON Itin. II. 88 This is a pleasant towne for seate if the inhabitants were suitable. 1647 N. BACON Disc. Govt. Eng. i. viii. 25 Had not Bishops been somewhat suitable the Roman Cleave had not been like it self. 1649 Bp. REYNOLDS Hosea iii. 19 God sets every blessing upon our score, and expects an answer and returne suitable. 1667 MILTON P.L. II. 639 In his face Youth smil'd Celestial, and to every Limb Suitable grace diffus'd. 1718 STEELE Fish-pool 193 The ..painful way, in which fish ..are conveyed in Well-boats, must have suitable unhealthy effects. 1748 MELMOTH Fitzob. Lett. lxvii. Certain suitable feelings which the objects that present themselves to his consideration instantly occasion in his mind.

†b. Const. to, with. Obs. 1586 SIDNEY Arcadia III. xi. §5 The matter of your letters so fit for a worthy minde, and the manner so suitable to the nobleness of the matter. 1597 HOOKER Eccl. Pol. v. xlix. §1 A worke most suitable with his purpose—who gaue himselfe to be the price of redemption for all. 1620 T. GRANGER Div. Logike 42 Ouid describeth the figure of mans body suitable to his reasonable soule. 1638 SLINGSBY Diary (1836) 6 His disposition is not suitable with ye rest of his fellow servants. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE Presid. Ep. i. viii. §1. 33 They have left us relations suitable to those of Ehan. 1711 SHAFESB. Charac. I. 33 Those Measures of Offence

and Indignation, which we vulgarly suppose in God, are suitable to those original Ideas of Goodness which [He] .. has implanted in us.

†c. Of two or more things: That are in agreement or accord. Obs.

1605 CAMDEN Rem., Names (1623) 45 Destinies were superstitiously by Onomantia deciphered out of names, as though the names and natures of men were suitable. 1640 F. ROBERTS Clavis Bibl. 303 The suitable wickedness of Priests and people. 1684 BUNYAN Pilgr. II. 135 Gaius and they were such suitable Company, that they could not tell how to part.

3. That is fitted for, adapted or appropriate to a person's character, condition, needs, etc., a purpose, object, occasion, or the like. Const. to, for.

1607 SHAKS. Timon III. vi. 92 What is amisse in them, you Gods, make suitable for destruction. 1621 SANDERSON Sermon. Ad Pop. iv. (1632) 364 Worthy of all ..civil respects suitable to his place and person. 1653 HOLCROFT Procopius. Goth. Wars I. 10 Senseless fears not suitable to the occasion. 1672 PETTY Pol. Anat. (1691) 78 There are 750,000 in Ireland who could earn 2s. a week. ..if they had suitable employment. 1711 STEELE Spect. No. 113 P4 As soon as I thought my Retinue suitable to the Character of my Fortune and Youth. 1798 S. & Ht. LEE Canterb. T. II. 120 A suitable match for their daughter. 1812 New Botanic Gard. I. 59 The most suitable season for transplanting the roots. 1815 ELPHINSTONE Acc. Canbul (1842) II. 215 As it was always a distinct government, ..it seemed more suitable to treat of it separately. 1822 SCOTT Nigel vi. A dress ..more suitable to his age and quality than he had formerly worn. 1860 TYNDALL Glac. II. iii. 246 A suitable atmosphere enveloping the most distant planet might render it ..perfectly habitable. 1893 J. A. HODGES Elem. Photogr. vii. 54 To make several experimental exposures on suitable subjects.

†4. = SUABLE a. Obs. rare. 1555 BRADFORD in Foxe A. & M. (1570) III. 1838/1 The wife is no suitable person but the husband.

5. Comb., as suitable-sized adj. 1892 E. REEVES Homeward Bound 337 A fixed price for five years for all the suitable-sized mutton they can grow.

B. as adv. = SUITABLY. Const. to. 1584 in Scott's Kenilw. Note K. A square stoole and a foote stoole, of crimson velvet, fringed and garnished suitable. 1631 MAY tr. Barclay's Mirr. Mindes I. 189 Italy ..is now bounded, (more suitable farre to the intention of Nature,) by the enclosure of those lofty Alpes. 1655 Theophaia 16 He ..ever framed his discourse suitable to his company. 1664 in Extr. State Papers rel. Friends (1912) III. 224 That see wee may steare our course suitable to your Commands. 1748 HARTLEY Observ. Man I. ii. §5. 235 Where a Person mis-spells suitable to a Mispronunciation. 1796 Mrs. E. PARSONS Myst. Warning I. 31 To see her dear children clothed, and attended suitable to their father's birth.

'suitableness. [-NESS.] The quality or condition of being suitable; suitability; †conformity.

1613 PURCHAS Pilgrimage (1614) 425 That suitableness of their Law to their lawlesse lusts of Rapine and Poligamie. 1668 WILKINS Real Char. IV. i. 388 These Grammatical Particles are here contrived to such a kind of distinct suitableness, so as each of the several kinds of them, hath a several kind of Character assigned to them. 1748 HARTLEY Observ. Man I. iv. §6. 496 The great Suitableness of all the Virtues to each other. 1839 HALLAM Hist. Lit. III. vi. §95. 614 The superiority of the original, except in suitableness for representation, has long been acknowledged. 1875 JOWETT Plato (ed. 2) III. 691 The suitableness of its pastures to every sort of animal.

b. With a and pl. 1586 SIDNEY Arcadia II. xxix. P5 For a testimonie of constancie, and a suitableness to his word. 1658 BAXTER Saving Faith 12 The men ..trie not their acts by a suitableness to the object. 1664 SOUTH Twelve Serms. II. (1697) II. 91 He, who creates those Sympathies, and suitablenesses of Nature, ..and ..brings Persons so affected together. 1709 T. ROBINSON Vindict. Mosaic System 55 Bearing such a Suitableness and Harmony with the more refined Sense ..of the Soul of Man. 1880 Mrs. WHITNEY Odd or Even? II. 17 It was no use to try to carry out a fancy or a suitableness.

suitably ('s(j):u:təb(ə)l), adv. Also 6 sutetably, 7 suitably. [f. SUITABLE a. + -LY.]

†1. Chiefly const. to: In agreement, conformity, or correspondence; agreeably, correspondingly, according. Obs.

1577 STANVHURST Descr. Irel. 1/2 in Holinshed, My course pack threede coule not have bene suitable knt with his fine silke. 1654 WHITLOCK Zootomia q In Life Hee is a true Actor. ..that lives his part Suitably, to strut in Rags, or Crawl in Robes, equally transgress Decorum. 1686 HORNECK Crucif. Jenu xxiii. 785 They should perform the task suitably to their leisure. 1729 BUTLER Sermon. Wks. 1874 II. Pref. 14 Brutes, ..act suitably to their whole nature. 1749 Power Numbers in Poet. Compar. §2 note, Diversifying the Harmony of the Numbers, by a judicious Mixture of them, suitably to the Nature of the Subject.

2. In a suitable or fitting manner; appropriately, fitly.

1681 S. FELL in Jral. Friends' Hist. Soc. (1912) July 136 Words will rise most suitably to answer the matter in hand. 1709 STEELE Tatler No. 4 P2 These different Perfections are suitably represented by the last great Painter Italy has sent us. 1770 Boston Gaz. 26 Nov. 3/1 These ..may suitably employ our minds at the approaching solemnity. 1828 SCOTT F.M. Perth v. Never was kiss so well bestowed, and meet it is that it should be suitably returned. 1875 JOWETT Plato (ed. 2) V. 241 Every melody is right when suitably accompanied.

†'suitage. Obs. [f. SUIT sb. or v. + -AGE.] The performance of suit by a tenant.

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM Art of Survey III. v. 72 C Confinage shewes to what Lord, ..&c. the Service of Suitage ..is due.

suitcase ('s(j):u:tkeɪs). [f. SUIT sb. + CASE sb.] 1. A small portmanteau designed to contain suit of clothes. Hence more generally, a piece of luggage in the form of an oblong case, usu. with a hinged side and a handle, for carrying cloth and other belongings.

1902 Times 8 May 15/1 Captain Clive ..sent on his suitcase and other luggage by another train. 1942 W. FAULCONER Go Down, Moses 235 The boy waked him at last and got him and the suitcase off the train. 1981 D. M. THOMAS W.H. Hotel IV. 1. 133 She realized they were travellers, for they were weighed down by rucksacks and suitcases.

2. Phr. to live out of (or from) a suitcase (to suitcases): to move between temporary accommodation, esp. hotels and boarding houses; to be a wanderer, to have no fixed abode. 1946 L. DURRELL Let. 25 Sept. in Durrell & Miller Private Corr. (1963) 229. I can't tell you what wonderful peace and quiet it is, having a house of your own after so many years living from suitcases in hotels. 1960 J. WEIGHTMAN tr. J. Montherlant's Sel. Essays 181 To live for years on end out of a small suitcase ..seemed so much part and parcel of my everyday life. 1969 Photoplay Jan. 69/1 'It never occurred to me it would take ten years to settle down', Audrey said recently, after ten years of living out of suitcases. 1975 E. ELEGYON Shirmish xiii. 132 He had spent the greater part of his life living out of a suitcase.

3. a. attrib. Designating devices small or compact enough to be fitted into a suitcase, usu. in connection with secret or criminal activities, as suitcase bomb, radio, etc.

1954 Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch 25 Mar. 16 (headline) Now the 'suitcase A-bomb'. Ibid. 16/2 All of which mean that a 'suitcase atom bomb' is no longer a figment of the imagination. 1972 T. ANDIES This Suitcase is going to Explode xiii. 134 Suitcase bombs have been discussed in public. Ibid. xvii. 188 Very damning stuff—such as the plan for constructing a suitcase nuclear bomb. 1974 L. DEIGHTON Spy Story xix. 207 Our boy with the suitcase radio set came in five by five. A powerful signal.

b. Comb., as suitcase farmer N. Amer. a farmer who is resident on his farm for only a small part of the year (see quots.).

1941 R. DILLER Farm Ownership, Tenancy, & Land Use 'Suitcase farmer' is a term used of farmers on the Great Plains who put in a crop of wheat in the fall and come back to harvest it the next summer, after having spent the winter in their permanent homes elsewhere. 1956 Saturday Night (Toronto) 13 Oct. 15/1 The wheat-marketing problem means the end of the 'suitcase farmer', who has become accustomed to spend only a few weeks on his land each spring and summer for seeding and harvesting. 1970 DUCKHAM & MANSFIELD Farming Syst. World II. 31 (1971) 'suit-case' farmer moves seasonally between his several farms.

'suitcaseful. [f. prec. + -FUL.] As much as a suitcase will hold.

1928 Daily Express 11 Aug. 5/1 Sand tray with which little ones can play by an open window. If it is possible to persuade a friend to bring back a suitcaseful of shore sand, so much the better. 1965 J. FLEMING Nothing is Number 1 v. 83 He ..brought back a suitcaseful of these books. 1972 SHERWOOD Hour of Hyenas xvi. 189 If you'll let me have two suitcaseful of guns that madam lent you.

suite (swi:t). Also 7 suite. [a. F. suite: see SUIT sb.]

1. A train of followers, attendants, or servants; a retinue. Also ellipt. (colloq.) = members of the suite.

1673 DRYDEN Marr. à la Mode v. i. A person who makes so grand a figure in the Court, without the Suite of Princes. 1752 CHESTERT. Lett. (1792) III. 261, 'I have secured you a place in the Suite of the King's selectest Ambassador. 1766 G. WILLIAMS in Jesse Selwyn's Contemp. (1843) II. 32 Lord Lincoln ..set out immediately with his whole suite for Jack Shelley's. 1788 BASSETT Childr. Theopis (1792) 80 Like the suite of the morning which Guido drew dancing. 1817 M. CUTLER in Life (1888) II. 353 Breakfasted ..in company with the President and suite. 1877 FROUDE Short Stud. (1893) IV. 1. 18. 'Turning' ..to the young lords in the archbishop's suite. 1881 LADY DUFFERIN Viceroyal Life India I. 205 He and his wife and two 'suite' came to breakfast.

2. a. A succession or series; in earlier use often applied to a series of publications; now chiefly said of series of specimens.

1722 RICHARDSON Statues in Italy 151 Here is a Suite of Emperors; Busts, Antique. 1761 T. WARTON Life Balfour 94 The following suite of letters, written by himselfe .. Vice-chancellor. 1770 EARL MALMESBURY Diaries & Letters I. 53 A continued suite of childish amusements. 1881 GIBBON in Life & Lett. (1880) 262 Another reason, .. must ..pin me to Bentinck-street, is the Decline and Fall .. have resolved to bring out the suite in the course of next year. 1805-17 R. JAMESON Charac. Min. (ed. 3) 127 The suite of crystals of a mineral species. 1824 W. IRVING in Life & Letters (1862) II. 152 Mr. Galignani calls ..about my editing .. of English authors. 1833 LVELL Princ. Geol. III. Pref. 2. Suites of shells common to the Sub-appeanine beds and the Mediterranean. 1845 S. JUD Margaret i. 111 ..laughter exposed a suite of fair white teeth. THACKERAY Virgin. xxx. There is nothing so flattering in the world as a good suite of trumps. 1864 J. C. ARKENTON Stanton Grange 295 A suite of tree-sparrows's eggs; not more than 20 in number. 1874 WESTROFF Prec. Stone 3 colour suite [of diamonds] is, however, extensive.