

**From:** Siobhan <  
**Sent:** 01 September 2018 22:54  
**To:** TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT  
**Subject:** Footpath Cranfield Road, Woburn Sands

Subject: Network Rail East West Rail TWA Order

Secretary of State for Transport,

Please accept this correspondence as an objection to the application for an order to be made under the Transport and Works Act 1992 by Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd in relation to East West Rail Bicester to Bedford Improvements.

My objections are:

- The pedestrian crossing between Cranfield Road and the recreation ground is heavily utilised by pedestrians as this is the main route to the park, a lower and middle school, a pre school, local shops, library, bus stops etc. Network Rail intend to close the pedestrian crossing proposing local residents, including groups of children, cross a main road with no crossing facilities, no pavement to one side of the road, next to moving traffic. Initially Network Rails scope of works included a footbridge which has subsequently been scrapped.

As residents on the Cranfield Road side of the tracks we use the footpath on at least two occasions every day during the week and several occasions over the weekend. For a large number of children this is the access route to the local schools and to the village park. We access the village by foot and bicycle using this path and any action to prohibit or otherwise block this is totally unacceptable. The path could be made safer by gates or by visible and audible warnings. Full closure without provision for pedestrians is contrary to our rights to enjoy the local amenities of the village we have been born in and grown up in.

If it is the case that there is insufficient room to create an overpass then I would suggest a pedestrian underpass or reconsideration regarding upgrading this area of line. You simply cannot deny such a large part of the village pedestrian access to all of the schools and amenities especially when schools are actively promoting walk to school initiatives.

- Information regarding the change of scope was released 3 days after local schools closed and our objection period ends 2 days after the school term commences, meaning that the amount of 'passers by' to witness/review the information was greatly diminished as were the chance of objection. One might consider that this was a purposeful action and with this in mind I invite an extension of consultation to ensure fairness to the community and to avoid negative accusations.

I trust that you will give reasonable and favourable consideration to my comments and ensure that provision remains for a safe pedestrian crossing from Cranfield Road into the wider village of Woburn Sands.

Regards,

Siobhan Turney

Woburn Sands,