From: [redacted]
To: TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE
Subject: Network Rail Stalybridge to Diggle TWA Order
Date: 18 December 2025 20:37:02

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For the Secretary of State for Transport c/o Transport Infrastructure Planning Unit, Department for Transport, Great Minster House, 33 Horseferry Road, London, SW1P 4DR

Sirs,

I am an enthusiast walker all over the northwest of England and have been for the past 40 years since moving to the Manchester region.

I object to the closure of Footpath 209 for the following reasons.

I have found that a walk is attractive if it conveniently goes between a point of interest, such as a village with facilities, and out to countryside without unpleasant detours. FP209 does that, connecting Uppermill with Colt Hill Lane and open country. It is an ideal route for friends and groups such as I lead occasionally and Uppermill is a lovely starting or ending point with good public transport.

I have considered the proposed diversion of the route onto Footpath 244 and it is considerably less attractive. It diverts walkers onto a busy road with only a narrow footway. Then up alongside a residential property, then to a tunnel under the railway (always undesirable given anti-social behaviour). And finally, a section of narrow Ladcastle Road that doesn't have good visibility or a footway for the pedestrians.

The existing crossing is not at all unusual for walkers but if it has to be altered then the obvious solution is pedestrian traffic signals such as at Disley, just west of the entrance to Lyme Park, connecting from the A6 to the North Cheshire Way going southwards.

Alternatively, a footbridge (no difficulty for countryside walkers) which would obviously be more expensive but a small addition to the Transpennine Route Upgrade.

In all the proposed closure of the railway crossing would be a disbenefit to walkers and the businesses providing refreshments in Uppermill. I therefore oppose it.

Yours faithfully, Donald Wagstaff

[redacted]

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