

From: [REDACTED]
To: [TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE](#)
Subject: Network Rail Stalybridge to Diggle TWA order objection to footpath closure moorgate
Date: 20 December 2025 10:40:05

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

I sent my email on the 19th as you can see below but there was a typo in the address and noticed it this morning.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED]
To: "Transportinfrastructure@dft.gov.uk.uk"
<Transportinfrastructure@dft.gov.uk.uk>
Cc:
Sent: Fri, 19 Dec 2025 at 23:02
Subject: Network Rail Stalybridge to Diggle TWA order objection to footpath closure moorgate

Network Rail Stalybridge to Diggle TWA Order Objection to Footpath Closure (Moorgate)

Kathleen Webb

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
As a resident on [REDACTED] Uppermill

I wish to understand how the full impact of the transpennine upgrade and seek reassurance.

More transport trains: frequency? Day and times? Noise?

Faster passenger trains: what speed will the trains be running on the section of the track that runs parallel to den lane where there are rows of houses? I would like to hope that it will be at the same speed as today as this is a residential area.

I also wish to object to the closure of Footpath 209 (Moorgate crossing), for the following reasons:

Footpath 209 is part of an ancient highway and historic packhorse route across Saddleworth and beyond. It dates from at least Saxon times, but more likely it is much older than this. It is vital that we protect our ancient and historic pathways for current generations and those still to come.

The footpath also cuts through the beautiful Uppermill conservation area, leading to both Ladcastle and Moorgate quarries. There is a site of special biological interest in Moorgate quarry (Moorgate Quarry Nature Reserve). The quarries are frequently used by local people and visitors to the area. If the footpath is permanently closed, it will become difficult to access these areas and they will be lost.

The current footpath is good underfoot. It is frequently used by walkers, runners and

cyclists. The footpath was shown to have a very high pedestrian usage in a survey conducted by Network Rail. The footpath gives safe and immediate access to all the facilities in the village of Uppermill. The businesses in Uppermill make a high contribution to the Oldham Borough economy.

Network Rail originally proposed to install a footbridge over the railway at the top of Dark Lane. Planning permission was granted by Oldham Council for the proposed footbridge in 2022. Since then, Network Rail has said that the cost would be too high to justify it. However, Footbridges, are being installed in neighbouring Tameside, so this would seem unfair to Uppermill and those that use the path regularly.

The alternative Footpath 244, which is being suggested by Network Rail is not safe to use. It is steep and slippery because it is usually wet with water draining down the hillside. Underfoot it is rocky and there are steep steps, which are difficult to negotiate. It exits direct on to the busy main road leading into Uppermill. Locals view it as unusable and unsafe. It is especially unsafe for elderly users and children.

With this in mind, installing the footbridge would seem like the only safe and fair alternative for all the people who use Footpath 209. It would ensure that people can continue to use our ancient footpaths and enjoy the lovely countryside and nature around the Ladcastle and Moorgate quarry areas and Uppermill in general, whilst also taking account of public safety on the railway.

[Yahoo Mail: Search, organise, conquer](#)