

13th November 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

Ravenshall School is a large special school for students with complex learning needs, and we are pleased to offer our support for the Transpennine Route Upgrade (TRU) Transport and Works Act Order (TWAO) submission for Stalybridge to Diggle (Saddleworth).

We recognise TRU as a nationally significant investment that will deliver long-term benefits for communities, the economy and the environment across the North of England. By increasing capacity, improving connectivity and enabling faster, more reliable and more sustainable journeys, the programme will make it easier for people to access jobs, education and essential services. These improvements are particularly valuable to our school community, where enhanced transport links support greater independence, inclusion and opportunity for young people with additional needs, and strengthen the economic resilience of the areas we serve.

We have also experienced the benefits of TRU sustainability and community investment strategy first hand. The project team has demonstrated a genuine commitment to leaving a

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positive legacy by supporting local initiatives. At Ravenshall, TRU's support directly helped us to begin our school farm project and enhance our Forst School area, providing outdoor seating and other practical improvements that have enriched our learning environment. These contributions have had a real and lasting impact – helping our students develop independence, confidence and practical life skills.

We believe the TRU team and programme demonstrates effective partnership working at it's best between major infrastructure projects and local communities. The engagement and support we receive show how national investment can deliver inclusive, educational and social benefits at a local level.

Ravenshall School therefore fully supports the TWAO for the Stalybridge to Diggle (Saddleworth) section and looks forward to seeing TRU continue to deliver tangible benefits for people and places from Manchester to York.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Rik Robinson', with a stylized, cursive 'R' and a horizontal line extending to the right.

Rik Robinson

Headteacher