

From: [REDACTED]
To: [TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE](#)
Subject: Network Rail Stalybridge to Diggle TWA Order
Date: 14 November 2025 11:02:28

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Good morning

I wish to object to the proposed closure of Public Right of Way 209 Saddleworth as part of this scheme.

While I accept the proposal to close the pedestrian level crossing over the line at Moorgate,

I object to the closure of this footpath on the following grounds:

1. Footpath 209 in an ancient highway of local historic significance as part of a network of routes from at least the 16th century
2. A Network Rail survey has shown the path to have a very high pedestrian usage.
3. In 2022 a footbridge at the site of the pedestrian crossing was favoured in their Diversity Impact Assessment.
4. Network Rail had planning permission for such a footbridge.
5. Network Rail abandoned the the proposal for a footbridge in 2024 on the grounds of a cost increase from £1.2m to £4.5m . This cost increase has not been substantiated and the stated cost is way in excess of the cost of other footbridges currently being built.
6. The proposed alternative route via Footpath 244 does not pass the test of being "suitable and convenient" since:
 - a. It has 65 steps
 - b. It has an unsafe exit on to Oldham Road where there is no footway
 - c. Public Sector Equality Duty has not been complied with as the impact of this diversion on mobility impaired people has not been considered
 - d. No risk assessment has been carried out

In short I believe the installation of a footbridge in place of the Moorgate level crossing is the right answer to the problem.

Thank you

David Shipp

[REDACTED]