



MOSSLEY TOWN COUNCIL - TWA/25/APP/02/OBJ213

RE: PROPOSED NETWORK RAIL STALYBRIDGE TO DIGGLE [SADDLEWORTH] ENHANCEMENT ORDER

PUBLIC ENQUIRY STATEMENT OF CASE

SUMMARY

Fundamentally, Mossley Town Council is fully supportive of the TransPennine Upgrade Project and see it as a very positive and exciting future development for Mossley. We have and will continue to work proactively and positively, as a statutory body, with both the TRU Team and residents and the wider community, to ensure that the scheme is delivered and completed successfully. We recognise that with such a significant scheme there will be many, many issues to work through, and we will do our utmost to be a part of successfully addressing these whilst maintaining and representing the interests of Mossley residents to the best of our ability.

In the context of the position we have outlined we have submitted and placed on record a number of constructive and reflective representations in response to the impact of the TWAO works which will effect and impact upon Mossley directly.

OBJECTION

Mossley Town Council has also submitted a major and principled objection to the proposal within the TWAO to use in any way a specific location in Mossley to facilitate access for the building of the new station.

The location is: Mill Lane, Archer Street and Brookfields

As identified in NR12 – Route Drawing 08 within the TWAO application.

STATEMENT OF CASE

Mossley Town Council now seeks to make the case for this objection in person at the public enquiry. The case will be made by the Chair of Mossley Town Council, Councillor Dave Jones, who will address, evidence and quantify the following key points:

1. That, even without any further external pressures, the unique geography and situation of this location makes it one of the most risky and dangerous places in Mossley, and as thus it gives rise to the constant monitoring of concern and worry.
2. This location has been passionately and vociferously defended by Mossley residents and Mossley Town Council for over 10 years against attempts to use it as an access road to develop inappropriate housing on the Brookfields area. This is a watershed piece of land in terms of overdevelopment in the town, and we will not yield to this new attempt which ignores our serious and legitimate concerns.

3. Bringing any heavy construction traffic onto Mill Lane, passing Milton Primary, and on to Archer Street contradicts the duty of care owed to pupils and residents.
4. Any introduction or increase in heavy vehicle movements, would coincide and conflict with the busiest times of day for children walking, cycling, and being dropped off.
5. Mill lane is a very steep narrow road. Its lower section becomes one way and cannot safely accommodate larger vehicles because of the low bridge. At the top of Mill Lane there are completely blind spots, Cars are meant to stop and give way but have to edge forward at its steepest part to get onto Carrhill Road. It is a very dangerous junction fraught with risks and danger.
6. This is already a very restricted and dangerous area for children when they are trying to cross the road. These physical constraints make it impossible for construction traffic to use the road safely without creating significant risks and danger.
7. Construction traffic could obstruct or delay emergency vehicles accessing the school or nearby homes.
8. As recently as February 2026 we have had civilians slipping and cars colliding as a result of surface water on Mill Lane. The ongoing risk of this is significant and serious.
9. There are no safe stopping, passing or turning spaces. The width of the road means large vehicles would struggle to navigate without mounting pavements or reversing—both unacceptable and very dangerous near a school. Life endangering.
10. Existing congestion: Mill Lane is already very heavily congested during school drop-off and pick-up times. It is impossible to safely accommodate additional traffic.
11. There would be a significantly negative Impact on children's health: Increased noise and reduced air quality from heavy vehicles would affect classrooms and outdoor areas.
12. There would be significant disruption to walking routes: Mill Lane forms part of the main safe and well-established walking route used by pupils and parents. Construction activity and traffic would seriously compromise this and endanger life.
13. A much safer alternative access point already exists. There is no reason, no reason at all in fact, why all necessary work could not be accessed from the Manchester Road side of the railway track.

Mossley Town Council will present this case with validity and integrity.

MOSSLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Tuesday 17 February 2026