

From: [REDACTED]
To: [TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE](#)
Subject: Network Rail Stalybridge to Diggle TWA Order
Date: 20 November 2025 22:51:13

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Sent from my iPad

Dear Sir/ Madam,

I am writing to express my objection to Network Rail's proposed closure of Footpath 209 at Moorgate Level Crossing and replacing it with the dangerous alternative of Footpath 244.

Even with the modifications to Footpath 244, proposed by Network Rail, this footpath is unfit for purpose - it will still be highly dangerous to all users. The fact that it exits onto the busiest main road in the area (the A670) with nothing to protect the walker from heavy traffic is highly dangerous, even with a 20 mph speed limit.

I am a fit and active [REDACTED] year old, who has lived in this area all my life. I regularly walk and enjoy the network of local footpaths with my family.

For a number of years I lived close to the bottom of Footpath 244, where it meets the main road (A670).

Despite being an active walker I never knew that hidden Footpath 244 existed. I never witnessed anyone using it; we all used the beautiful and historic Footpath 209.

I am a retired primary school teacher. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] safely planned, risk assessed and led numerous school trips, including days out with my pupils walking local footpaths.

Even with Network Rail's proposed modifications, Footpath 244 would not meet the safety requirements of a risk assessment. The proposed 63 steps at the top of Footpath 244 could be managed by primary school children, with great care.

However, the exit of Footpath 244, onto the A670 is, in my estimation, a " death trap".

The hidden exit of Footpath 244 leads directly onto the busy main road (A670), where there is no pavement. A safety barrier is not possible because Footpath 244 comes down a drive from a private house at that point. Even with a speed limit of 20 mph, a death or serious injury could occur, as the exit is hidden and so close to busy traffic.

I would never lead a party of primary school children, (or anyone else, for that matter) this way.

The safe alternative would be a footbridge where Footpath 209 crosses the railway. This would provide a perfect walking route to the nature reserve and recreation area of Moorgate Quarry.

This safe alternative of constructing a footbridge where Footpath 209 crosses the railway line, was originally proposed by Network Rail in 2022. While I am certainly in favour of the upgrade of the railway line, safety should be the number one consideration of all concerned.

Please, please take note of my appeal for safety. I strongly object to Network Rail's current proposal.

Yours faithfully,
Catherine Fletcher

[REDACTED]