

**From:** [Lewis, Cllr James](#)  
**To:** [TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE](#)  
**Cc:** [Millar, Cllr Michael](#); [Harland, Cllr Mary](#)  
**Subject:** Network Rail (Leeds to Micklefield Enhancements) Transport and Works Act Order  
**Date:** 24 August 2023 11:05:18

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Secretary of State for Transport  
c/o Transport Infrastructure Planning Unit  
Department for Transport, Zone 1/18, Great Minster House  
33 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 4DR

Sent by email.

Councillors James Lewis, Mary Harland & Michael Millar. Kippax and Methley ward, Leeds City Council.

Postal address: 4th Floor East, Civic Hall, Leeds LS1 1UR

We are the Leeds City Councillors representing Kippax and Methley ward which includes the village of Micklefield.

Our objection is to the proposal within the application to extinguish the existing Public Right of Way (Definitive Bridleway Micklefield 8) by the closure of Peckfield Level Crossing without the provision of bridge at this location.

We are objecting on the following grounds:

We believe that the current usage counts set out in section 4.8 of the Planning Statement document NR13 are not a compelling argument to extinguish the Public Right of Way in perpetuity. Regardless of methodology or findings we do not believe that potential future usage has been considered at all by the applicant in the option selection and therefore the case hasn't been made to extinguish the public right of way. We don't accept the implicit argument in the applicant's statement in para 4.8.7 that the legal basis and purpose of Public Rights of Way are diminished if the main use is by local people or dog walking.

The former colliery site is allocated in the council's Local Development Framework for employment use (E3B:6 Peckfield Business Park, Micklefield) and currently has the capacity for significant extra development. We know that the current level crossing is used by residents to access their employment at the existing site and we believe that this could increase once the site is fully developed, para 3.2.5 of the planning statement notes that the site is only half developed.

The housing site to the south of Pit Lane (Leeds LDF site ref HG2-125) is not yet fully built out and could be the potential source of future journeys as Lower Peckfield Lane and the New Path (Definitive Footpath Micklefield 16) provide an attractive traffic-free walking route to the village's main facilities such as the GPs, school and shop.

The applicant has included 2 bridge options in para 4.8.1 to replace the level crossing (Option 4: New ramped bridge and Option 5: New stepped bridge) therefore we conclude that these are technically feasible options that can maintain the existing public right of way and allow for the existing level crossing to be closed.

We support the proposal to upgrade Lower Peckfield Lane.

Councillor James Lewis  
Kippax and Methley Ward  
Leader of the Council  
Leeds City Council

Tel: [REDACTED]

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