

THE PROPOSED NETWORK RAIL (SUFFOLK LEVEL CROSSING REDUCTION) ORDER

Network Rail response to OBJ/34 (Mr Crosby) submission on S01 Sea Wall

1. A question was raised on Day 9 of the Inquiry as to the status of 2 potential developments to the North of the railway at S01 Sea Wall, and Mr Crosby subsequently submitted a copy of a letter from James Carlidge MP to Brantham Parish Council, and a short note, regarding the same.
2. Planning permission for the depot was granted in June 2017. A copy of the decision notice is at Tab R of Ms Tilbrook's supplementary appendices (NR-INQ-16). Whilst it has not yet been formally announced as to whether the depot will be progressed by the Train Operating Company Greater Anglia, Network Rail understands that the current situation in regards to the future depot is now unlikely to go ahead in the current franchise. However, Network Rail would highlight that there are a number of key factors, not only the level crossing at Manningtree, which are constraining the potential future depot development and delivery.
3. Network Rail has had to consider numerous factors when assessing options for diversion routes for S01 Sea Wall. The uncertainty over the future depot would not affect the current diversion proposals that NR is seeking within the draft order. Nor was the future depot the main reason why alternative diversionary routes utilising the existing railway underpass were not taken forward following round 1 public consultation. Diversion route options that utilised the existing underpass were discounted due to the potential impacts on wildlife on the peninsula area to the south of the railway.
4. In regards to the future housing development, a copy of the planning permission can be found at Tab Q of supplementary appendices submitted by Ms Tilbrook, (NR-INQ-16). A progress report as to that development is available by way of link from the Brantham Parish website. (<http://brantham.onesuffolk.net/industrial-site-updates/>). A copy of the document accessible from that link is attached to this Note.