

**Brenda Taplin**

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**From:** Brenda Taplin  
**Sent:** 27 February 2018 18:04  
**To:** Brenda Taplin  
**Subject:** FW: Newmarket Railway Crossing Closure - The Weatherby Crossing

**From:** Caroline Watson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 27 February 2018 02:19  
**To:** Joanna Vincent <[joannavinc@personaassociates.co.uk](mailto:joannavinc@personaassociates.co.uk)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Newmarket Railway Crossing Closure - The Weatherby Crossing

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** 27 February 2018 at 02:15:27 GMT  
**To:** [transportandworksact@dft.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:transportandworksact@dft.gsi.gov.uk)  
**Subject:** Newmarket Railway Crossing Closure - The Weatherby Crossing

To Caroline O'Neill

Re: Statement of Case. Weatherby Crossing, Newmarket.

I am writing in response to the proposed closure of The Weatherby pedestrian railway crossing in Newmarket, an action I have only recently been made aware of, with Network Rail's case, rather belatedly being available to view.

I understand the Government are pushing to close a number of level crossings nationwide, many of which are in East Anglia, with Network Rail emphasising 'safety' as its reason for closure.

My family and I have been residents of Newmarket for over 25 years and have used this pedestrian level crossing since 1994, because it provides a safer route to the centre of town. I recently moved to Hertfordshire but visit my Mother every week and continue to use the crossing.

It provides my Mother who is a senior citizen and myself [REDACTED] access to local amenities, Doctor's, Hospital, recycling site, etc as we are both medically unfit to drive. Additional family members also use the crossing on route when visiting my Mother for her care needs on a daily basis. It allows a safer journey eliminating additional stress negotiating busy roads, uneven pathways and difficult lengthier journeys. We are one of approximately 400 pedestrians who also use this route daily. Furthermore, a number of elderly residents in the immediate vicinity who would find the journey into town too far for them, which results in the elderly becoming isolated and less independent.

We want to be able to continue to cross the railway because of all of the above, it is a worry for us to think of my Mother having to take a much longer journey to access all of the

necessary local services and becoming isolated from the town, likewise for myself and family helping with our daily needs.

Whilst we appreciate Network Rail's duty to reduce the level of risk that level crossings pose, it's difficult to recall the last time there was a safety issue at this particular crossing, as there are a limited number of train services using these tracks. However, there is always a level of risk involved whenever pedestrians and transport vehicles cross paths.

Therefore, I would like to suggest that a walkway bridge suitable for people, prams, trolley's and mobile scooters would be an acceptable alternative to the present level crossing.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Watson



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