

Project: The Proposed Network Rail
(Essex and Others Level Crossing Reduction) Order
Prepared by: John Russell
Date: 11/10/2018

- 1.1 I have prepared this note following the evidence presented by Miss Tillbrook on 11th October 2018 regarding the proposed closure reference E38 – Battlesbridge, Essex.
- 1.2 At paragraph 4.48 of my evidence (OBJ/148/019) I state:
"The A1245 carries over 17,000 vehicles per day on average. However the verge is sufficiently wide to provide a good route for pedestrians and for a good width of separation between pedestrians and vehicles to be provided. The proposals include moving the existing vehicular crash barrier to provide protection between pedestrians and vehicles."
- 1.3 My reference regarding moving the existing vehicular crash barrier arose from my reading of the statement on drawing number MMD-367516-E38-GEN-005 (contained in NR12 and NR26) as follows:
"Existing vehicle crash barrier to be amended"
- 1.4 During the course of Miss Tillbrook's evidence it became apparent to me that I was mistaken in my reference to the crash barrier being moved and that the statement on drawing number MMD-367516-E38-GEN-005 referred only to gaps being provided in the vehicle restraint system (VRS).
- 1.5 The absence of a physical barrier between pedestrians and live traffic on the A1245 raises a concern regarding the safety of pedestrians walking adjacent to the carriageway alongside a high speed road (85th percentile speeds of 57.5mph and 54.6mph respectively for southbound and northbound traffic) that carries traffic volumes of up to 20,000 vehicles per day.
- 1.6 I would therefore ask to replace paragraph 4.50 of my proof of evidence with the following:
"This proposed diversion route is considered acceptable subject to:
 - ▶ *a mechanism to ensure retention of a grass verge or footway; and*
 - ▶ *a separation distance of 1.5m being provided between the kerb of the carriageway and the edge of the footway / footpath in accordance with the requirements of paragraph 7.22 of TA90/05 of DMRB (copy provided). This would require a minimum verge width of 3.5m which is the 2m "footpath" width referred to on drawing number MMD-367516-E38-GEN-005 plus 1.5m separation distance."*