

Mark Aanensen

From: Raxton, Ian <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 07 August 2018 11:00
To: David Keay [REDACTED]
Subject: Rother Valley Railway

David,

I just wanted to confirm in writing the discussion we had at ORR's office when you visited on 23rd July.

ORR has had a lot of information from the Rother Valley Railway over a number of years, and now that the TWA application has been made it's appropriate for ORR to convene a Panel to consider the specific level crossing issues; for that Panel to assess the proposals properly it is important that we understand what are the current documents representing the scheme.

I passed you a an excerpt from our Level Crossings Policy that lists the things that the Panel will expect to have submitted:

*The information the panel needs **from the proposer** (inspectors themselves are not expected to gather or collate this information) includes:*

- 1. the location of the proposed crossing including photographs and diagrams;*
- 2. the reason for the crossing;*
- 3. information about the proposer of the scheme for a new crossing, the proposed crossing operator and, if applicable, the proposed authorised user(s) of the crossing;*
- 4. proposed timescales for (re)introducing any new crossing;*
- 5. confirmation that there is a right-of-way and whether any relevant authorisations/Orders need to be sought through the TWA procedures;*
- 6. information about the road and rail traffic at any proposed crossing including the results of censuses;*
- 7. details of any liaison that has already taken place with other departments and agencies such as DfT, Highways Agency or local highway authorities, planning authorities and other local bodies and stakeholders plus a summary of the responses/views received;*
- 8. a description of what other options have been considered such as bridges and underpasses and clear explanations setting out why these options are not reasonably practicable alternatives to a level crossing, backed up by evidence from risk assessments;*
- 9. details on the features of the proposed crossing and what protective arrangements would be in place were it to go ahead based on a suitable and sufficient risk assessment (noting that it may be subject to a Level Crossing Order application further down the line);*
- 10. any other information that the panel considers might be relevant or helpful.*

It would be helpful if you could indicate to us when these items were submitted to us, or alternatively drawn up a new pack of material that forms a coherent set of the current proposals.

The current policy is on our website here: [orrs-policy-and-approach-to-handling-requests-for-new-or-reinstated-crossings-on-the-mainline-or-heritage-networks](#) , but we will be replacing that with an updated version shortly that expands on what 'exceptional circumstances' are. Once this is issued I will send you a link to the updated document.

Regards,

Ian Raxton



Eur Ing Ian Raxton
HM Principal Inspector of Railways



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