

**From:** [Maya Howcroft \(Huddersfield Unlimited\)](#)  
**To:** [TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE](#)  
**Cc:** [hugh](#); ["David Wyles"](#)  
**Subject:** Network Rail Huddersfield to Westtown TWA Order  
**Date:** 17 May 2021 10:24:11  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)

---

**For the attention of the Rt Hon. Grant Shapps MP**

Dear Secretary of State,

I write on behalf of Hugh Goulbourne of Huddersfield Unlimited and David Wyles of the Huddersfield Civic Society, representing a working group whose aim is to lobby for the needs of businesses in and around Huddersfield on all matters transport related. Our aim is to inform and support key stakeholders such as Kirklees Council and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority in policy planning and implementation, with a view to catalysing medium and long term economic regeneration.

By way of a brief introduction to our organisations, Huddersfield Civic Society strives to stimulate public interest and pride in caring for our town, its buildings and culture, the improvement of its environment, infrastructure and amenities, and the promotion of a vibrant and attractive place to live and work. Huddersfield Unlimited was borne of a need to act as a voice for business, working collaboratively with our local authority, university, and the Mid Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Having assessed Network Rail's Huddersfield to Westtown TWA Order application, we would like to offer our support, contingent upon the following conditions, which we submit for consideration in the hope they will be taken forward for further discussion over the coming months as part of the public inquiry process.

**A. Climate Change and Economic Recovery:**

In order to ensure that the TWAO proposals maximise carbon reduction, enhance biodiversity and stimulate economic recovery we request the following from Network Rail:

- a. A roadmap for all upgrade work packages for a rolling programme of electrification along the entire Transpennine Route from Manchester to York.
- b. A set of detailed proposals and specifications for all station upgrades along the route in Kirklees, including stations at Marsden, Slaithwaite, Dewsbury and Batley.
- c. A set of detailed proposals to ensure that all stations are compliant with national and West Yorkshire active travel policies.

**B. Huddersfield Station:**

- we note that the proposals for Huddersfield station include blocking up a current unused passageway under the station, the lengthening of the current pedestrian subway and the construction of a new pedestrian overbridge. These proposals therefore provide potential for future cross-station passage by pedestrians but also could be built in ways that result in barriers to future pedestrian passage from the St George's Square area across to the Station Warehouse area. Such cross-station passage is a key requirement for future regeneration of this 'Station Gateway' area of Kirklees Council's 'Huddersfield Blueprint' plans and we ask that it be included in these plans to redevelop Huddersfield station.
- we note that inadequate car parking provision is currently a major barrier to rail travel from Huddersfield station and ask that, in order to facilitate increased rail usage at Huddersfield

station, the plans should be revised to incorporate a substantial increase in car-parking provision available for rail users. This has happened as part of major improvements to Leeds and Wakefield Westgate stations and contributed significantly to the subsequent increase in patronage at those two stations.

- we ask that new direct access from the north side of Huddersfield station (the side where a new platform is being constructed) should be included in the plans for Huddersfield station. This would significantly encourage and facilitate additional rail usage by users of car parking, or other activities, to the north of the station, as per the 'Station Gateway' elements of Kirklees Council's 'Huddersfield Blueprint' plans. We note that the 'new' south-side entrance provided at Leeds station when its additional platforms were constructed was a significant contribution to the subsequent regeneration of the area south of Leeds station.

C. John William Street bridge works:

- to avoid the proposed works to widen the rail bridge over John William Street resulting in further isolation of the eastern end of Huddersfield town centre by dark underbridge pavements, we ask that improvements, including good underbridge lighting, are included in the planned bridge works, taking as example the improvements made to the 'Dark Arches' under Leeds station some years ago.

D. Deighton station:

- in view of the proposed construction of a new bridge across the rail tracks to a new Leeds-bound platform close to the Birkby-Bradley Greenway, we ask that the plans be amended to include access to the bridge and platform directly from the Birkby-Bradley Greenway in order to encourage rail-users to reach the station on foot or by bicycle directly from this popular route, ie without having to use the longer way round to the proposed new station access road.

We trust that we will have an opportunity to make a more detailed set of verbal submissions with respect to the above to the inspector who will be overseeing the formal inquiry and look forward to hearing from you again in due course.

Any correspondence relating to this matter should be addressed to:

Hugh Goulbourne  
Huddersfield Unlimited  
C/O 3M Buckley Innovation Centre  
Firth Street  
Huddersfield  
HD1 3BD

Yours sincerely,

Maya Howcroft

Project Administrator  
Mobile: 07775 992109  
Email: [maya.howcroft@huddersfieldunlimited.co.uk](mailto:maya.howcroft@huddersfieldunlimited.co.uk)



***Think before you print! Do you really need a hard copy of this message?***

*Mid Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry Limited: 1st Floor, Unit 3, Longbow Close, Bradley Road, Huddersfield, HD2 1GQ. A Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered in England No.914. [www.mycci.co.uk](http://www.mycci.co.uk). Disclaimer: The information contained in this email is confidential and may be legally privileged. It is intended solely for the addressee. Access to this email by anyone else is unauthorised. If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, copying, distribution or action taken or omitted to be taken in reliance on it, is prohibited and may be unlawful.*

---

This email has originated from external sources and has been scanned by DfT's email scanning service.

---

---