

North Area Committee 16th June 2015

Network Rail Q and A

Fen Road Level Crossing

1. What will the new barrier look like?

A. Network Rail - The Barrier will be a single boom across the road, as illustrated below:



2. The travelling community on Fen Road have fears of future safety at Level Crossing.

A. Network Rail are investing in the safety of the Fen Road LX, and are working together with the Local authority to achieve the most suitable solutions. The footpath will extend beyond the level crossing thereby making it safer for pedestrian. The renewal of the Level crossing which is nearing its life expiry date will also increase reliability.

3. Road already very narrow and additional vehicles and parking would limit emergency access. Where will the space be found for additional footpaths?

A. Cllr Manning stated that compulsory purchase would be very difficult but that a negotiated agreement might be possible.

4. Could the temporary closure be achieved at night?

A. Network Rail are seeking the best options to suit all parties, as the project nears the commissioning date, a definitive construction method shall be advised.

5. Why can't the level crossing be replaced by a permanent bridge on Fen Road?
 - A. *Network Rail - This has been examined but is not possible on Fen Road due to the road layout.*

6. If a temporary alternative Level Crossing can be provided for the upgrade of the Chesterton crossing, could this alternative be made permanent and replace it?
 - A. *Network Rail - The Suitable and Sufficient Risk Assessment did not identify an alternative safer Level Crossing, any temporary Level Crossing will have to be ephemeral due to safety.*
 - B. *Cllr Ian Manning – will follow this up with Network Rail to get more details.*

7. Heavy vehicles use Fen Road. Can a permanent alternative route be found elsewhere?
 - A. *Network Rail - After a comprehensive Suitable and Sufficient Risk Assessment was completed, no alternative route was identified.*
 - B. *County Council: we are aware that residents' long term aim is an alternative route, but currently there is no funding to achieve this.*
 - C. *Cllr Ian Manning – as the land around the station is developed, funding may be available to look at this again.*

8. Why not just link Fen Road to the A14 and close the level crossing?
 - A. *Network Rail - The Suitable and Sufficient Risk Assessment considered the option; however the complexities of the interfaces ruled it out as a viable option.*
 - B. *See 7.*

Note: Actions for Members of North Area Committee will be added to the on-going Action Sheet.

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