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Owen Dunn  
12 Maitland Avenue  
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Dear Mr Dunn

### **Cambridge Fen Road Level Crossing**

Thank you for your letter of 3<sup>rd</sup> February to Jo Johnson about Fen Road Level Crossing in Chesterton, Cambridge. I have been asked to reply on his behalf as the policy lead on level crossings.

I appreciate the concerns raised in your letter, and how this may have been exacerbated by the opening of Cambridge North station. Businesses and communities to the east of the station should not be losing out from the opening of a new station, particularly during peak times when traffic is heightened.

As you can understand, the primary reason for closing the barriers is to ensure the safety of the public. Whilst queues are undesirable, the barriers are an essential piece of protective equipment for level crossing users, and we would not want to increase the frequency that they are open if this was to also lead to an increase in risk.

I recognise that there may be scope for reducing the amount of time the barriers are closed, including the suggestions raised in your letter. I have asked Network Rail to consider these options and to contact you directly, so that you may be able to take these ideas forward.

Yours sincerely

Bertie Bricusse (Railway Industry Competitiveness Division)