

12 Maitland Avenue
Cambridge
CB4 1TB

3rd February 2018

Jo Johnson MP
Department for Transport
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London SW1P 4DR

Re: Cambridge Fen Road level crossing

Dear Mr Johnson,

I live in Chesterton, Cambridge, and would like to draw to your attention the problems associated with the level crossing on Fen Road. (OS Grid Reference TL474602) Fen Road is the only road access to a number of small businesses and minority communities, so when the barriers are down substantial queues can build up. The barriers are often closed for over five minutes and longer closures of up to fifteen minutes are frequent. In one hour in December I found the barriers were closed for a total of 45 minutes.

The problems appear to have become worse since the opening of Cambridge North station, which has increased the number of trains which cross the level crossing. Although like most in Chesterton I welcome the new station, and hope for more services to call there, I think we need to take action so the businesses and communities to the east of the railway are not shut out of Cambridge.

I and other residents have attempted to raise this with Network Rail, without success. Could you please ask Network Rail to:

- Assess whether they can change the way the crossing is signalled or operated to allow the barriers to be opened more frequently
- Consider what changes may be made to the timetable to improve the situation
- Investigate options for providing alternative road access to the area and potentially closing the level crossing

I'd be happy to meet someone from the DfT or Network Rail to discuss these issues.

Yours sincerely,

Owen Dunn

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