

SCRUTINY COMMISSION FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES	Agenda Item No. 4
16 MARCH 2015	Public Report

Report of the Corporate Director of Growth and Regeneration

Contact Officer(s) – Theresa Nicholl and Victoria Hurrell
Contact Details – 01733 454442/453480

East Coast Main Line (ECML) Level Crossing Closure Programme

1. PURPOSE

1.1 This report is being presented at the request of the Commission to provide an update on the East Coast Main Line (ECML) Level Crossing Closure Programme. A report (attached at appendix 1) has been presented to the Planning and Environmental Protection Committee at the meeting held on 3 March 2015. The Committee resolved that the contents of the report and comments of the Committee are noted. The Committee made the following comment:

- The Committee commented that traffic modelling would be vital to ensure that any diverted traffic would not cause congestion in the surrounding villages. It was suggested that consideration should be given to the access Lolham Bridges, to ensure that the site did not become a ‘dumping ground’.

1.2 This report is for information only to explain the planning process.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The Commission is asked to note the report as an item of information only. Responsibility for commenting on this item lies with the Planning and Environmental Protection Committee.

3. BACKGROUND AND DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL

3.1 Network Rail (NR) proposes to close a number of level crossings on the East Coast Main Line (ECML) between London and Doncaster as part of a programme to make the line more efficient and reliable. The works will help facilitate the introduction of faster trains (125mph) thereby reducing journey times. The programme will also improve rail safety as a consequence of the removal of the crossings.

Within Peterborough, the closure of the following level crossings is proposed;

- Woodcroft (Woodcroft Road to the southeast of Helpston) – shown on plan 1
- Helpston (Glinton Road, Helpston) – shown on plan 1
- Maxey (Maxey Road, Helpston) – shown on plan 2
- Lolham Bridges and Helpston Footpath (north of B1443 and NE of Bainton – shown on plan 3

5. IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no legal or financial implications for the Council as we are not the determining authority and the project is not being funded from the Council’s budget.

6. CONSULTATION

6.1 Network Rail, as the applicant is responsible for undertaking consultations as part of their

preparation for an application to be submitted to the Secretary of State for Transport for determination under the Transport and Works Act. Consultation will be on going up to and following the submission of this application.

7. APPENDICES

- 7.1 Appendix 1 – Copy of the report to the Planning and Environmental Protection Committee.