

Statement

White Rose Centre LC

With the provision of the existing Whistle Boards on both rail approaches, this level crossing complies with the ORR's Railway Safety Principles and Guidance document for level crossings insofar as the Warning Time for a crossing user is greater than the Crossing Time.

The level crossing itself however shows very little evidence of use. A footbridge, which already carries public footpath rights over the railway, exists approximately 400 yards to the north-east of this crossing. With the addition of a new short section of public footpath on the east side of railway, this would link into the existing public rights of way network allowing pedestrians to cross the railway via the footbridge.

The level crossing is located on the trans-pennine Leeds to Manchester railway line, which as part of the Northern Hub enhancement programme, will see an increase in the number of train services in coming years. At present, the railway line is trafficked by approximately 200 trains per day.

For these reasons, we believe the opportunity should be taken to explore the closure of this level crossing, by utilising the existing local public rights of way network. The closure of the crossing will not only be a safety benefit to users of the public footpath, but will also allow the removal of the existing whistle boards, thus a benefit to the local environment through noise reduction.