

Mr Gary Brooker
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Date: 3rd Feb 2021
Reference: [REDACTED]
Contact: Andy Jackson
Phone: [REDACTED]
E-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Brooker

The Leicestershire County Council (A606 North and East Melton Mowbray Distributor Road) Compulsory Purchase Order 2020 (“CPO”)

The Leicestershire County Council (A606 North and East Melton Mowbray Distributor Road) Side Roads Order 2020 (“SRO”)

I write to thank you for your written comments dated the 15th October 2020 which have been forwarded to me, as the Promoter’s representative, by the Department of Transport following your objection to the above identified Orders.

I note from your written comments that you have raised two matters of concern in respect of the Leicestershire County Council’s proposal to bring forward a bypass to Melton Mowbray. The Scheme itself, which we have called the North and East Melton Mowbray Distributor Road (NEMMDR) is intended to enable through traffic to avoid passing through the town and to enable additional residential development to take place to meet the identified needs.

I wish to take this opportunity to address the two matters which you have raised in your letter so that you can understand the Council’s position in respect of them. We would hope that you would then be able to reconsider the matters you have raised to see if you would wish to present them as objections to the Public Inquiry which will be held later this year.

1. The first matter is a comment made that you would have expected to receive Notice of the CPO and SRO.
 - 1.1 The reason you were not served notice of the CPO and SRO is because you do not own land or rights to be acquired by the Scheme, nor is your private means of access being impacted. Notices were however placed at the Parish Noticeboard on Lag Lane very near to your property.
2. Your second concern relates to your understanding that a provision would be made for turning vehicles at point K marked on SRO plan 5 rather than just

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Director Ann Carruthers

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closing the road as appears on the drawing. You comment that, if a turning head was not provided, then the only option large vehicles have is to drive down your Close, where there is a turning facility for residents' use.

- 2.1 Through the downgrading of the route to a bridleway from termination point k, the Council seeks to ensure this route is maintained through to Burton Lazars for the enjoyment of non-motorised users. The proposal will significantly reduce the number of vehicles that are currently using Lag Lane between A607 Waltham road and Saxby Road as a rat run, but will help to improve walking, riding and cycling in the area.
- 2.2 The option of a turning head was considered as part of the design process and discussed at consultation during the planning stage. The resulting responses gave rise to a number of residents' concerns, stating that there was no need for formal turning head, citing the majority of households on Lag Lane had adequate parking or turning which visitors were able to use. The detail of the concerns raised included additional land that would need to be acquired, the area around point k becoming a hotspot for fly tipping, trespass and other undesirable activities. Additionally, the area could become a location for parking, potentially obstructing legitimate users of the bridleway and private means of access.
- 2.3 The decision was taken by the Council that the village would be best served by the removal of public highway status (road), and replacement with the lesser highway status of bridleway with gating. The option for a turning provision was not pursued it was not necessary for the purpose of the Scheme and would potentially have detrimental effects.
- 2.4 It is the intention for the Council to provide "No Through Road" signage at the junctions of Lag Lane with A607 Waltham Road and B676 Saxby Road; in the short term this will have the benefit of deterring vehicles who attempt to continue to use the route as a cut through. In the longer-term, as drivers become accustomed to the new road layout and sat-nav mapping is amended, this route will stop being used.
- 2.5 The Council has undertaken a vehicle behaviour study at two separate driveway locations, one of which is your access road, on Lag Lane to assess turning or access movements. The first took place over a 12-hour period on Saturday 9th January, the second over a 12-hour period on Tuesday 12th January.

Of the 80 vehicles that entered Lag Lane on the Saturday one vehicle made what could be described as a turning movement in your driveway (of under three minutes). On the Tuesday, of 120 vehicles that accessed Lag Lane, two vehicles entered your driveway and left in under three minutes.

Of all the vehicle movements over the two survey days 79 made the journey from one end to the other in under four minutes, suggesting they were using Lag Lane as a “rat-run”. Effectively, these 79 vehicles would no longer use Lag Lane in a future scenario where the Scheme is in place and the appropriate mitigations and changes in the form of signage and alterations to sat-nav are in place.

The Council will continue to monitor the traffic situation in the area.

- 2.6 Putting to one side LCC’s concern about the potential issues (anti-social behaviour etc.) around provision of a turning head, the national and local guidance does not indicate that a turning head must be provided.

I would hope that this letter addresses the concerns that you have raised and provides you with the information necessary to enable you to formally withdraw your objection. If you would wish to do so, please write to the Department for Transport at the following address:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Alternatively, if you prefer you could send an email to them at the [REDACTED] and I would ask you to please copy me in at [REDACTED]

In the meantime, if you have any questions with regard to the above please do not hesitate to contact me quoting [REDACTED] in any correspondence, whether by letter or email.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Andy Jackson
Senior Engineer (NEMMDR Project Manager)
Asset & Major Programmes Team
Leicestershire County Council