

From: [Martin Rostron](#)
To: [NATIONALCASEWORK](#)
Subject: Objection to diversion of a length of Footpath Holmfirth 60
Date: 09 September 2020 16:25:09

Dear Sirs

We are writing with reference to -

"DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

The Secretary of State gives notice of the proposal to make an Order under section 247 of the above Act to authorise the stopping up and diversion of a length of Footpath Holmfirth 60, at the Wolfstones Heights Farm site, at Holmfirth in the Metropolitan Borough of Kirklees.

If made, the Order would authorise the stopping up only to enable development as permitted by Kirklees Council under references 2014/62/92814/W and 2017/62/91374/W."

We wish to register our objections to the proposed public footpath diversion on the following grounds:

(1) The diversion creates a significant detour from an admirably direct path and thus destroys the continuity of the ridge line walk from Wolfstones Heights down to Netherthong. This walk has some of the finest views in the Holme Valley and has a high amenity value, with many walkers using this path.

(2) The diversion forces walkers to use the public road on a bend with reduced visibility, rather than follow the existing off-road footpath when walking from Wolfstones Heights down to Netherthong

Neither of these outcomes supports the Kirklees Local Plan or the draft Holme Valley Neighbourhood Plan, both of which promote safer walking and the creation of a pleasant environment for walking. We should be encouraging people to walk off the roads, not forcing them on to highways.

The only benefit appears to be increased privacy for the people living in the properties on either side of the existing public pathway. This is not sufficient justification for the loss of amenity and increased safety risk to the many local walkers using this footpath. Neither property is significantly overlooked from the footpath - many homes in the area currently suffer a much greater 'lack of privacy' than those at Wolfstones. By this argument, large numbers of long-established footpaths would be blocked or diverted.

We belong to different local walking groups and know that our fellow walkers, and other friends and neighbours, share our views.

We trust that the Secretary of State will reject this application and not allow the proposed diversion.

Yours faithfully

Martin and Linda Rostron