

From: Gabriella Abdelfatah [mailto:  
Sent: 14 September 2020 18:44  
To: NATIONALCASEWORK <NATIONALCASEWORK@dft.gov.uk>  
Cc: Sam <>  
Subject: Footpath Diversion Holmfirth 60

To **The Secretary of State**

Ref: **Footpath Diversion Holmfirth 60, Wolfstones Road in Upperthong, Holmfirth**

Dear sirs,

Having seen the notices highlighting the diversion application on Footpath 60 in Upperthong, I am writing in support of this proposed change of route.

Whilst Egyptian by birth, I moved to the UK and I have lived in the Holme Valley for over 40 years and raised my family in this locality, most recently in Honley. I have used footpath 60 route on hundreds of occasions over the year, both with my wife and children as they were growing up, and more recently on my own whilst recovering from serious cancer treatment as a way of keeping fit and enjoying the spectacular scenery in the Holme Valley.

I got to try the new footpath around 18 months ago, whereby on my walks from Netherthong, through to Upperthong, and back to Holmfirth and then home to Honley. Whilst the new route brings me out onto Wolfstones Road lower down the hill, the new path is a spectacular improvement over the old route whereby the walk took us up a tarmac driveway between two houses. We have always hated the section up the driveway, primarily because it goes from footpath type walking to a hard drive surface, but more to the point it then misses out on the best views back down the valley and takes us past the house entrance and forces us to share a drive with cars.

The new route is both wider and easier to walk, and whilst slightly longer (if turning left up the hill rather than down Wolfstones Road) the scenery is amazing, and the exit out onto Wolfstones Road considerably safer based on sight lines, and has a verge type walkway to take me back up the hill.

In recent times, whilst having been extremely ill, the new route has provided perfect tranquillity and even a bench to sit and soak in the views, so I now consider it much more than a simple diversion, but almost a destination in its own right.

It would seem ridiculous to me that this new route might not exist in the future and be forced back to the old driveway. I wholeheartedly support the diversion, as do the majority of my friends that have walked with me.

Yours Sincerely,

EM Abdelfatah

e-mail:

Sent from my iPhone