



Network Rail - Planning,  
1 Eversholt Street,  
London, NW1 2DN

Planning Department  
Adur & Worthing Councils  
By email only

02/10/2020

Dear Sir/Madam

**Network Rail Consultation Response: AWDM/1264/20 - Land North West of Goring Railway Station Goring Street Worthing West Sussex**

Thank you for consulting Network Rail on the above planning application. Following an internal consultation, Network Rail would like to make the following comments.

**Request for more information on proposed station car park**

The proposal includes the provision of a new public car park to serve the local centre and Goring rail station. To enable Network Rail to gain a better understanding of how the proposed car park will interact with the railway station, we would like the applicant to provide more information. In particular we ask that the applicant provides information on the car park's location, the number of spaces dedicated for rail users and how they propose for station users to cross safely from the car park to the station. We also ask that the applicant provides information on the future ownership and revenue share of the car park.

**Impact on Goring railway station**

Goring station's facilities such as shelters, ticket machines and customer information screens are limited. This reflects the current low passenger numbers experienced at the station. Further analysis will be required to establish whether additional facilities are required to mitigate the additional rail trips as a result of the proposed development.

## **Impact on Goring level crossing**

As part of our licence to operate and manage Britain's railway infrastructure, we have a legal duty to protect our passengers, the public and our workforce, and to reduce risk at our level crossings so far as is reasonably practicable. Our aim is to close or upgrade crossings across the network, which will improve safety for everyone.

Goring level crossing is of Manually Controlled Barrier type (MCB). This type of crossing is remotely checked by a signaller who confirms the crossing is clear before a train passes over it. MCB type crossings are currently the safest type of active level crossing. At present Goring level crossing does not experience large amounts of vehicular use, it is mostly used by pedestrians to access a small colonnade of retail outlets to the South West of the crossing.

Although Network Rail acknowledge the majority of vehicles are expected to use the A259 to access the development, it should however be expected that some pedestrian and vehicular movements will be attracted to the residential dwellings, proposed station car park and local centre via Goring level crossing. Any additional usage of the crossing would result in an increase in risk to the railway.

The proposed development is expected to increase the demand for rail at Goring station. Currently to access the west bound platform, station users are required to cross the railway either by using the stepped foot bridge, and for those rail users who are unable to use a stepped footbridge, the level crossing. Therefore, any increase in station users will increase the amount of people required to use the level crossing, which once again increases the risk to the level crossing.

As well as the increased risk to the crossing from people drawn to the development and west bound rail users, the introduction of parking control measures along Minor Goring Lane may also increase the risk further by providing vehicle drivers with the opportunity to travel faster as they approach the level crossing. This is not only a risk to the level crossing but also a risk to station users who will be crossing the road to access the station.

As a result of the concerns raised in this letter, Network Rail would like to explore the possibility of closing Goring level crossing. It is understood that this would only be successful by the implementing a way of crossing the railway which can be accessed by all.

Please can I ask that the applicant, Adur & Worthing Council and West Sussex County Council provide me with their availability for a virtual meeting to discuss.

Kind Regards,

**Nick Donoghue**

Town Planning Technician | Property

Network Rail

1 Eversholt St | London | NW1 2DN

M 07732 639934

E [Nicholas.Donoghue@networkrail.co.uk](mailto:Nicholas.Donoghue@networkrail.co.uk)

[www.networkrail.co.uk/property](http://www.networkrail.co.uk/property)