

Good afternoon,

Thank you for your patience while I have looked into this.

As you know, Dolgarrog Station was renewed in 2020, alongside the footpath crossing. Usually, either a kissing gate or wicket gate would be put in place at this kind of footpath crossing to ensure the safety of users. This is to prevent users from accessing with a bike or pushchair, for example, and then struggling to exit the crossing. A wicket gate was not the preference of the associated authorised user as this left the risk of the gate being propped open and allowing his livestock onto the line.

Our off-track team are due to attend site on Friday to assess how we can improve accessibility to the station in the short term. As previously discussed, removing the section of fencing next to the kissing gate is regarded as the best way to immediately make the crossing more accessible for prams and wheelchairs accessing the station. This is the best solution to improve accessibility to the station whilst we await the funding needed to conduct a re-design of the existing level-crossing.

We currently do not have the funding to complete a re-design in this control period. Control periods are the five-year periods laid out by Network Rail and are used to plan our financial investments and upgrades that will take priority within this timeframe. Each control period starts on the 1st of April and ends on the 31st of March to keep in alignment with the financial year. We are currently in Control Period 6 (CP6), which began in April 2019 and will continue to run until March 2024. Control Period 7 (CP7) is due to begin on the 1st of April 2024 to 2029.

We hope to have additional funding in Control Period 7, which begins next April, to re-design the level-crossing at Dolgarrog Station to improve accessibility via our safety enhancement fund. However, this will be funding-dependent.

I will provide a further update once the meeting has taken place with off-track on Friday. If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks,

