



Sir Andrew Haines

Chief Executive
Network Rail

By email only

28th May 2025

Dear Sir Andrew,

We are writing to express our serious concern regarding the danger presented by the Viaduct Footpath Crossing between Gobowen and Chirk railway stations.

Your recent submission to the Office of Rail and Road regarding the Wrexham, Shropshire & Midlands Railway Company Limited's track access application makes clear the high risk of harm facing pedestrians who use the crossing.

As you explain, the site is a "hot spot" for trespassing and fatalities, around half of users are classed as vulnerable and many cross in large groups.

We were alarmed to learn that there have been 13 separate incidents at the crossing in recent weeks, with one featuring 36 children.

What is more alarming is that Network Rail has recognised the threat posed by the crossing but appears to have no plans to address it.

We believe that the site clearly presents a serious and immediate risk of harm and urgent action must be taken to improve safety at the crossing, regardless of whether any new services are granted access to the site.

Given the serious incident that recently took place at Leominster farm crossing, this has become more pertinent.

We would be grateful if you could outline what plans you have to resolve this and the timeline for doing so.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Morgan MP, North Shropshire

Julia Buckley MP, Shrewsbury

Andrew Ranger MP, Wrexham