

Copy sent by recorded delivery, 20 Sept 2019

Customer Quality Control,
33 Hawk Wing,
Temple Quay House, 2 The Square,
Bristol, BS1 6PN

20 September 2019,

Dear Sir,

PINS Open Floor Hearing into Highways England Scheme for Hull A63, Tues 26 March, 2019

- 1) The Ramblers* submitted a statement to the above Hearing on 26 March in Hull, and seek your assistance in resolving an issue arising from the Hearing.
- 2) In our submission concerning pedestrian safety, we fully supported the construction of a pedestrian bridge at Princes Quay (now under construction), but objected to the removal in HE's final scheme (Draft 3, Public Consultation Jan 2017) of a pedestrian bridge at the Market Place - A63 junction, and its replacement by a detour to the east via an existing walking route under the A63. The Ramblers' view is that HE's proposal for Market Place is unsatisfactory, because the route under the A63 will not be sufficiently commodious and attractive to the public.
- 3) At the Hearing, Mr Walker of HE Leeds addressed some of the issues raised in the public submissions, but obtained HM Inspector Mr Willows' permission to respond in writing to the Ramblers' concerns.
- 4) In an email of 2 July, we sought confirmation from HE Leeds that Mr Walker had submitted his views to the Inspector. We received an acknowledgement but no reply. We therefore sent the email and letter below to the Inspector on 24 August, and have received an acknowledgement from PINS, but without a reply.
- 5) As matters currently stand, the public do not know whether Mr Walker did write to the Inspector (and perhaps will not know until the Inspector publishes his final report). We consider it would be in the public interest to know what Mr Walker wrote about this crossing in his final submission to the Inspector.

We thank you for any assistance you can give.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Ayling and Steve Lack

(Dr P D Ayling, President, East Yorkshire & Derwent Area Ramblers and Mr S. Lack, Chairman Hull & Holderness Group of the Ramblers)

**The Ramblers is a charitable association for walkers with over 100,000 members, and represents their interests in walking in rural and urban environments.*

Copy sent by post 24 Aug 2019

For the Attention of: Mr Peter Willows,
HM Examining Inspector,
National Infrastructure Planning,
Temple Quay House, 2 The Square,
Bristol, BS1 6PN

Your Ref: TR010016

24 August 2019

Dear Mr Willows,

PINS Open Floor Hearing, Hull Hilton, Tues 26 March, 2019 "Other Party Sesion", 2.0pm

I hope the protocol for this Hearing allows you to include in the public record my comments made after the Hearing:

(1) This Area of the Ramblers Association has taken part in the public consultations on the A63 Castle Street Hull project organised by HE from 2009 to 2018. I submitted to yourself at PINS by email on 17 March 2019 some comments on HE's latest scheme for the Open Floor Hearing on 26 March 2019, principally to object to the omission of a pedestrian bridge at Market Place. (Your letter of 22 Feb to interested parties referred to a document entitled "National Infrastructure". This contained a subtext "About this Project" in which lines 16-21 stated there were to be three pedestrian crossings over the A63, namely Porter Street, Princes Quay, and Market Place, suggesting that HE had reinstated this bridge into its plans: I queried this through enquiries@pins.gsi.gov.uk, and the text was altered by next day with the Market Place bridge omitted.

2) At the Open Floor Hearing on 26 March 2019, Mr Walker of HE commented on the Ramblers submission of 26 March that I presented orally at the Hearing, to which I

should perhaps have sought your permission to respond. Mr Walker said HE's list of four objectives for the A63 was in no particular order of priority, therefore my comment that HE gave pedestrians a lower priority than speeding-up of traffic was wrong. But in my opinion, the deletion of the Market Place bridge from Draft 3 might reasonably be interpreted as a lower priority for pedestrians. Mr Walker then asked your permission to respond to my other points in writing. Since I had submitted my comments in writing beforehand to assist the Hearing, Mr Walker could have, out of courtesy for the meeting, given his comments verbally at the Hearing.

3) In the absence of any subsequent written comments from Mr Walker up to 6 July, I wrote to his office (c/o Fran Oliver, Project manager, Highways England Leeds, A63castlestreet@PINS.gsi.gov.uk), but have not received an acknowledgement - perhaps Mr Walker replied directly to you after the Hearing.

4) I believe your final report on the Hearing will appear within 6 months. I hope you will be able to take my above comments into account.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Ayling

(Dr Peter Ayling, President East Yorkshire & Derwent Area Ramblers)