

## Q & A section for the Clarkson Row Event

### **Q. Why does Network Rail need Railway Access Points?**

Maintenance is essential to the day to day upkeep of the railway - making sure every part of our infrastructure such as signals and power supplies and assets such as bridges are maintained and in good working order. Railway Access Points provide safe access to our teams so they can carry out this maintenance work on the railway. They enable safe and quicker response times to incidents which could cause delays to train services and passengers and in the case of an emergency.

### **Q. Why do you need a new access point on the eastern side of Euston?**

Due to the construction of High Speed 2 on the western side of Euston, a new access point is now required on the eastern side so Network Rail maintenance teams can safely reach critical assets on the railway.

The Clarkson Row location offers the most direct access to this critical infrastructure. It also allows us to design an access point that is in part concealed.

### **Q. Why are you building the Access Point at the Clarkson Row location?**

We only had two options for a new vehicle access point south of the Park Street tunnel. Clarkson Row, and via a ramp from the access road off Gloucester Gate Bridge on the A4201. Clarkson Row was the only viable option as the Gloucester Gate Bridge access was too steep and the access was impractical as it is located on the west side of Euston.

### **Q. Who will be using this Access Point?**

We are submitting our planning application based on the view that this will be a Network Rail Access point. For safety reasons, access points are crucial to enable emergency staff, and railway maintenance teams to access the track.

There are currently no plans for this access point to be used for construction. This access point has been designed specifically for maintenance purposes including vehicle height and weight restrictions, which prevent larger vehicles used in construction from using the access ramp.

### **Q. What is the design scheme for the new access point?**

Network Rail is currently developing the design scheme for the Clarkson Row access point through June to September 2021. The design is being developed considerably with considerations given to neighbours living close to this new access. The plan is for a 30 meter long ramp to be built with a neighbouring staircase, with a turning circle and track side parking tucked 4.5 metres below road level behind the boundary wall at Clarkson Row.

Road access will be via galvanised steel gates located where an industrial unit is presently located at the bottom of Clarkson Row.

Other design considerations are restrictions on the size of vehicles that can use the access ramp; limiting them to a height of 7.5m equivalent to a long wheel based Luton Van.

More details on the design will be communicated via the planning application information which will be shared with residents in June by Camden Council

**Q. When will work take place?**

The planning application for the design of this access point will be taking place from June to September 2021. Once the design is finalised works will start from September 2021. We aim to have the work completed by July 2022. Please note these dates may be subject to change. We will keep you informed throughout this process about our work and any changes to our plans.

**Q. Are you able to improve the appearance and security at the site of the Clarkson Row access point?**

The building of a new access point at Clarkson Row should help improve security in the area and may reduce anti-social behaviour by the Access Point gate. We will explore the potential to install CCTV in the area with Camden.

We are changing the colour of the gate to a powdered green colour which has a significantly lower carbon quantity and is therefore more sustainable than the alternative option. This will improve the appearance of this galvanised steel gate. We are also exploring other opportunities for enhancing this section of Clarkson Row.

**Q. Will this mean an increase in vehicles on Clarkson Row?**

The access point at Clarkson Row will have five parking spaces at the bottom of the ramp which will be hidden from sight at road and building levels. Parking will be approximately 4.3 meters lower than road level. These spaces have been added to try to avoid an increase in the number of vehicles that are parked on Clarkson Row.

**Q. Will the building of this access point be disruptive?**

The initial building work will involve demolition of a garage and some strengthening of the retaining wall. Some noise will be unavoidable while we carry out this work. Where possible we will use acoustic barriers and low noise generators and machinery. Our teams will also be briefed to be considerate and to keep noise to a minimum. Noise and vibration monitoring will be regularly carried out to check we are maintaining the limits agreed with Camden Council.

The next stage of work after this will be the installation of the steel and concrete ramp. This will mean relocating some of our railway assets to this site for this building work. We are planning to make the majority of these deliveries by rail using road rail vehicles (RRVs).

These RRVs will at times need to sound their horn for safety purposes, however using delivery by rail will help reduce the volume of vehicle movements to the area.

**Q. What times will you be doing this work?**

Where possible works will take place during daytime hours. However, some work will need to be carried out at night for the safety of our staff when they are working close to the overhead electric lines and near to the operational railway lines.

**Q. Will there be increased road traffic during construction of the access point?**

Some vehicles will need to access the site during construction. However, we will be transporting materials by rail as much as possible.

**Q. Will extra parking be required during construction of the new access point:**

We do not know the answer to this question at this stage in the process. However, if we do need additional parking during the construction stage, we will aim to limit the number of spaces impacted. Any change to parking on Clarkson Row will be notified in advance to residents.

**Q. Will this work to build the access point cause vibration?**

The project will undertake a vibration impact assessment to monitor the vibration levels to check we are maintaining the limits agreed with Camden Council.

**Q. How will the access point be operated once it's built?**

It will operate as a normal Network Rail railway access point to provide safe and quicker access for workers to reach critical infrastructure and to be able to renew, maintain and fix issues on track which could cause disruption to train services and passengers.

We need to make sure every part of our infrastructure – such as track, signals and power supplies are maintained and in good working order.

Sometimes this work will be pre-planned and sometimes it will be for unplanned emergency repairs which need to be carried out as quickly as possible.

In the event of an incidence the access point will also provide the emergency services with safe and speedy access to the railway should they need it.

**Q. When will the access point be used once completed?**

Usage will largely be overnight for maintenance teams to renew and maintain the railway when trains are not running, to ensure the safety of teams who will be working near overhead electrical lines or trackside.

We will sometimes need to use the access during the day for emergency repair work to prevent delays to train services and passengers travelling to and from Euston Station.

Parking spaces for our work teams are available at the bottom of the ramp below the boundary wall.

In the event of an emergency incident during daytime hours the emergency services may also need to use the access point to safely and quickly respond.