



Lord Chambers, 11 Church Lane, Oldham OL1 3AN

Tel: 0161 624 4248

Councillor Jim McMahon Leader of Oldham Council Oldham Borough Council Room 344 Level 3, Civic Centre West Street Oldham, OL1 1UL

Our Ref:MCMA02001 01140418

11 October 2014

Dear Jim,

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I have received a response from Baroness Kramer regarding disabled access at Greenfield train station. It is disappointing response and will I will look into this further and get back to you.

In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely,

Debbie Abrahams MP

Oldham East and Saddleworth

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Debbie Abrahams MP Lord Chambers 11 Church Lane Oldham OL1 3AN From the Minister of State Baroness Kramer

Great Minster House 33 Horseferry Road London SW1P 4DR

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Our Ref: MC/116077

Your Ref: MCMA02001 01140418

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Thank you for your letter of 16 September, to the Secretary of State for Transport, enclosing a letter from Cllr Jim McMahon, about disabled access at Greenfield train station. I am replying as the Minister responsible for this issue.

Last year the rail industry nominated 278 stations for the Access for All programme, only 42 of which we were able to fund. Greenfield Station was only the 187th busiest station nominated. It would therefore have been difficult to justify its inclusion in the programme ahead of other, busier, stations.

In addition, Access for All funding is intended to be over and above any access improvements required to be carried out as part of other projects, including electrification.

Whenever Network Rail install, renew or replace infrastructure at stations they have to meet the European and domestic accessibility standards set out in "Accessible Train Station Design for Disabled People: A Code of Practice" (DFT, 2011). This is available at

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/accessible-train-and-station-design-for-disabled-people.

Failure to comply with these standards could be a breach of their license to operate and leave them open to enforcement action by the Office of Rail Regulation.

I hope this explains the position.

BARONESS KRAMER