



The Rt Hon Esther McVey MP

Member of Parliament for Tatton



17 January 2025

Dear 

Thank you for raising the subject of the need for a permanent crossing to be installed on the A533 beside the Murdishaw roundabout.

I contacted the Chief Executive of Halton Borough Council and have now received a response which I am happy to share with you, as follows:

"Thank you for your enquiry and please accept my apologies for the delay in responding.

Firstly, Halton Borough Council were originally informed by National Highways, prior to the A533 bridge replacement works commencing, that they would fund a Toucan Crossing at a point immediately south of A533 Murdishaw Roundabout. With this in mind we carried out detailed civil engineering design works for the scheme, commissioned consultant traffic signal engineers to formulate the signal phasings and devise the signal layout, and even undertook a Stage 2 Road Safety Audit of the proposals.

We were then disappointed to learn in 2023 that due to ongoing budgetary constraints, National Highways informed us that the crossing works had been pulled from their 2023/24 programme of works. Negotiations have been ongoing since then to resolve this issue, as we are as keen as residents of Sutton Weaver to install a controlled crossing here, but we continue to be disheartened by the response from National Highways: we were told in 2024 that funding was not available for works to be undertaken in 2024/25 and just this week they have informed us that their 2025/26 programme does not currently include this scheme.

We will continue to engage with National Highways to try to resolve this issue but as it currently stands, there is no funding available from them and Halton Borough Council currently does not have available resources to fund these works."