Our Ref: COMM/H&S/G/60/LX
Your Ref:

18 June 2010

Chandrika Shah
Legislative Development
3rd Floor, Office of Rail Regulation
1 Kemble Street
London **WC2B 4AN**

Dear Chandrika Shah ,

ORR CONSULTATION ON LEVEL CROSSINGS

We write with reference to the above consultation.

As we represent Train Drivers, who are at risk at level crossings, we welcome the consultation

ASLEF agrees with the separation of the technical manual for crossing operators from the document for users.

We are not going to respond in detail, being more concerned with the operating rules that our members have to follow than the technicalities of signage for road users, etc.

The ORR have stated that you are "particularly keen to hear views as to how the guidance should be best distributed and customised so that its messages reach the wide range of level crossing users".

As a member of the TUC, we have already raised the issue of level crossing use with Trade Unions who represent workers, including: Unite the Union; the Fire Brigades Union; GMB; the Communications Workers Union, and Unison.

We will recommend to the TUC, and all affiliates, and other organisations, such as the Police Federation, that they raise with there employer the need to undertake a risk assessment which incorporates level crossing use.

Each employer, and/or Trade Union, could then customise the ORR document and incorporate the relevant sections into training for new, and existing workers who may use level crossings, whether in a road vehicle, by bicycle, on foot, or even on horseback (mounted Police for example).

We raised this issue again with the TUC at a meeting on Thursday 20 May 2010, and have agreed to keep them advised of any progress.

Yours sincerely

Keith Norman
General Secretary

More than
just a **union**