

May 2022 Local refinement consultation

Introduction

From July to September 2021, we carried out a community impacts consultation on our proposals for the Lower Thames Crossing, which would connect Kent, Thurrock, Essex and Havering through a tunnel beneath the River Thames. Our last consultation asked for your views on our plans for building and operating the new road and on changes to our proposals presented during our design refinement consultation in 2020.

We're now holding this non-statutory local refinement consultation to seek your feedback on a small number of changes, ahead of submitting our Development Consent Order (DCO) application later this year.

We are asking you a series of questions on the changes since the community impacts consultation. You can answer all or only some of the questions in this response form, depending on the issues that are most important to you. There is also an opportunity to comment generally on the project and this consultation. We suggest you read the questions before responding, as this will help you provide feedback in the appropriate parts of the response form.

If you provided feedback during our statutory consultation in 2018, our supplementary and design refinement consultations in 2020, or our community impacts consultation in 2021, your comments will be summarised anonymously in our Consultation Report. This will include an explanation of how we have considered each point raised by respondents.

The Consultation Report will form part of our DCO application, which we plan to submit to the Planning Inspectorate later this year. If you would like to refer to points made in earlier consultations, please copy them into this response form. Any feedback we receive during this consultation will be included and responded to in the Consultation Report.

We have produced a set of documents for this consultation. They include:

- Guide to local refinement consultation
- Map books
- Response form

The documents mentioned above are available on the local refinement consultation website: https://ltcconsultation2022.nationalhighways.co.uk

Full details of how you can respond to this local refinement consultation can be found at the back of this form.

Please provide your feedback by 23.59 on 20 June 2022.

Any responses sent after this point may not be included in our analysis.

We have also produced a document to explain the feedback received from the community impacts consultation, which includes graphs showing the results for all the questions that we asked. This is called the 'Response to community impacts consultation' document.

In addition, we have produced a document to explain the other project changes and minor refinements following engagement with affected landowners and others with an interest in land. This is called the 'Landowner engagement and minor refinements' document.

You can view both these documents on our project website:

https://nationalhighways.co.uk/our-work/lower-thames-crossing/contact-us-and-archive/public-presentations-and-documents/

Data privacy notice

We are committed to protecting your personal information. Whenever you provide such information, we are legally obliged to use it in line with all applicable laws concerning the protection of personal data, including the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

How will National Highways use the information we collect about you?

We will use your personal data collected via this engagement for a number of purposes, including to:

- analyse your feedback to the consultation
- produce a Consultation Report, based on our analysis of responses (individuals will not be identified in the report)
- write to you with updates about the results of the consultation and other developments
- keep up-to-date records of our communications with individuals and organisations

Any personal information you include in this form will be handled and used by (or made available to) the following recipients to record, analyse and report on the feedback we receive:

- National Highways
- Traverse (an independent company we are using to analyse feedback to the consultation)
- The Planning Inspectorate (which will consider our application for permission to build the Lower Thames Crossing)
- The Secretary of State for Transport (who will take the decision on our application)
- our legal advisers
- consultants working on the Lower Thames Crossing project

It is also possible that trusted third-party providers, for example construction companies, may later use the contact details provided in your responses to communicate with you about the project.

What rights do I have over my personal data?

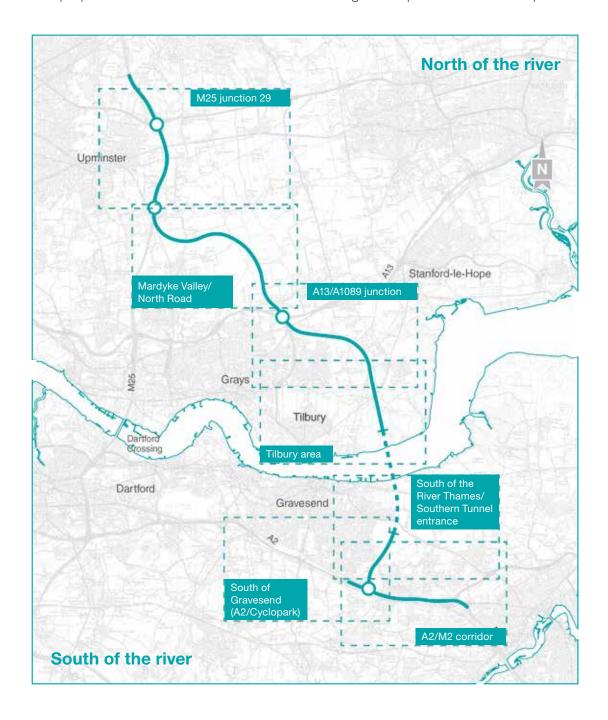
Under the terms of the GDPR, you have certain rights over how your personal data is retained and used by National Highways. For more information, see our full data privacy statement: www.nationalhighways.co.uk/about-us/privacy-notice/

1. Changes since the community impacts consultation

As a result of feedback from the public and stakeholders, as well as ongoing design work, we have made some changes to the project since our community impacts consultation.

To describe these, we have divided our proposed route for the Lower Thames Crossing into seven sections, as shown on the map below. Three of these are shown south of the river in Kent and four are to the north of the river in Thurrock, Essex and Havering.

Please refer to chapter 4 of the Guide to local refinement consultation for more details. The proposed route for the Lower Thames Crossing is also presented in the Map Books.



Changes south of the river in Kent

This refers to the section of the proposed route south of the river, including:

- the A2/M2 corridor
- south of Gravesend (A2/Cyclopark)
- south of the River Thames/southern tunnel entrance

Please see chapter 4 of the Guide to local refinement consultation for more details.

Q1a.	Do you support route: the A2/M2		-	posed cha	anges to the sect	ion of the
	☐ Strongly support	□ Support	□ Neutral	□ Oppose	☐ Strongly oppose	□ Don't know
Q1b.	Do you support route: south of 0		-	-	anges to the sect	ion of the
	☐ Strongly support	□ Support	□ Neutral	□ Oppose	☐ Strongly oppose	□ Don't know
Q1c.	Do you support route: south of t			•	anges to the sect unnel entrance?	ion of the
	☐ Strongly support	□ Support	□ Neutral	□ Oppose	☐ Strongly oppose	□ Don't know
Q1d.	comments you h	nave on the feedback	ne propos k on spec	sed chang cific chang	oonse and any othes south of the rives or sections of question.	ver. If

Changes north of the river in Thurrock, Havering and Essex

This refers to the section of the proposed route north of the river, including:

- the Tilbury area
- A13/A1089 junction
- Mardyke Valley/North Road
- M25 junction 29

Please see chapter 4 of the Guide to local refinement consultation for more details.

Q1e.	Do you support route: the Tilbur		e the pro	posed cha	anges to the sect	ion of the
	☐ Strongly support	Support	□ Neutral	☐ Oppose	☐ Strongly oppose	Don't know
Q1f.	Do you support route: A13/A108			posed cha	anges to the sect	ion of the
	☐ Strongly support	Support	□ Neutral	☐ Oppose	☐ Strongly oppose	Don't know
Q1g.	Do you support route: Mardyke			-	anges to the sect	ion of the
	☐ Strongly support	Support	□ Neutral	☐ Oppose	☐ Strongly oppose	Don't know
Q1h.	Do you support route: M25 junc		e the pro	posed cha	anges to the sect	ion of the
	☐ Strongly support	Support	☐ Neutral	☐ Oppose	☐ Strongly oppose	Don't know

Q1i.	Please let us know the reasons for your response and any other comments you have on the proposed changes north of the river. If you're providing feedback on specific changes or sections of the route, please refer to these in your response to this question.

2. Improvements for walkers, cyclists and horse riders

The Lower Thames Crossing would create almost 3km of new or improved pathways for every 1km of new road. New bridges and paths would connect to upgraded and extended routes to give the local community and visitors easier and safer ways of travelling between the area's parks and woodlands, heritage sites and employment centres. In this consultation we are proposing some changes to our plans for walking, cycling and horse riding routes in the following areas:

- Gravesend
- Coalhouse Fort, East Tilbury and Bowaters Battery
- Western edge of Orsett Fen
- West of the Mardyke River
- A127/M25 junction 29

These changes are as a result of feedback from the public and stakeholders, as well as ongoing design work. Please see chapter 4 of the Guide to local refinement consultation for more details.

Q2a.	Do you support walking, cycling		-	•	inges to our plan	s for
	☐ Strongly support	□ Support	□ Neutral	☐ Oppose	☐ Strongly oppose	□ Don't know
	comments you h	nave on the	ne propos outes. If	sed change you're pro	onse and any othes to our plans for viding feedback on this questi	or walking, on specific

3. Nitrogen impact and compensation

As part of our assessment of the impacts of the Lower Thames Crossing on the environment, we have considered the potential effects of emissions associated with changes in traffic flows as a result of building and operating the new road. These assessments have included consideration of the nitrogen that is emitted into the atmosphere from vehicle emissions and then falls on habitats (a process known as 'nitrogen deposition'). Since our last consultation we have amended our assessments to include the ammonia (a compound formed of nitrogen) emitted by vehicle exhausts.

To offset the potential impacts of nitrogen deposition on designated ecological sites, we have selected sites for habitat creation within four compensation areas:

- M2 corridor and Blue Bell Hill
- Gravesham and Shorne Woods
- Southfields, Thurrock
- Hole Farm, Brentwood

Please see chapter 5 of the Guide to local refinement consultation for more details.

If your comments refer to the impact of our compensation package for nitrogen deposition on the overall Order Limits for the project please respond to Question 4.

Q3a.	Do you support	or oppos	e our init	ial proposa	als for compensa	tion area:
	M2 corridor and	Blue Bel	I Hill?			
	Strongly support	Support	Neutral	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know
	Please let us kn	ow the re	asons for	r vour reen	onse and any oth	ner
					for compensation	
	corridor and Blu		-	Jioposais	ioi compensatioi	i area. Mz
	Corridor and Dic	ie Deli i ili				

).	Do you support Gravesham and		Woods?	ı		
	☐ Strongly support	Support	☐ Neutral	Oppose	☐ Strongly oppose	□ Don't know
		have on o	ur initial		onse and any otl for compensation	
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) .	Southfields, Thu	ırrock?			als for compensa	
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Strongly support Please let us known comments you	support to the rehave on o	gen? Neutral asons for ur propos	☐ Oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't kno

4. Changes to the Order Limits, special category land and private recreational facilities

Some of the changes we are now proposing mean the area of land needed to build and operate the Lower Thames Crossing, and to provide mitigation for some of the impacts of building or operating it, has changed since the community impacts consultation. This is called the Order Limits. The changes mean that, overall, the Order limits have increased from 22.2km² to 24.35km². The main reason for this is due to the additional land we have identified as potential compensation areas for the effects of nitrogen deposition on designated ecological sites.

Please see chapters 4 and 5 of the Guide to local refinement consultation and the Map Books for more details.

Q4a.	Do you support would be neede			•		of land that
	Strongly support	Support	Neutral	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know
	comments you I needed to build	nave on the the Lowe project wo	ne propos er Thames ould have	sed chang s Crossing	eonse and any othes to land that we This includes fe and that you may o	ould be edback on

In addition, the Lower Thames Crossing would impact existing areas of special category land and private recreational facilities. We have updated our proposals in relation to special category land and private recreational facilities in some locations following our community impacts consultation. We've also provided further information on the impacts on these sites. Please see chapter 4 of the Guide to local refinement consultation for more details.

Q4b.	Do you support category land?	or oppos	e the cha	anges prop	oosed regarding s	special
	☐ Strongly support	□ Support	☐ Neutral	☐ Oppose	☐ Strongly oppose	□ Don't know
	comments you l	nave on th f you're p	ne chang roviding f	es propos	oonse and any otled regarding speon specific sites,	cial
Q4c.	Do you support recreational fac		e the cha	anges prop	oosed regarding	orivate
	☐ Strongly support	□ Support	☐ Neutral	☐ Oppose	☐ Strongly oppose	□ Don't know
	comments you l	nave on the recreati	ne chang ional faci	es proposo lities. If you	oonse and any otled and information of the contraction of the contract	on provided

5. Other comments

We would welcome any other comments you would like to make about the Lower Thames Crossing.

6. The consultation

Please let us know your views on the quality of our local refinement consultation materials, the accessibility of our online information and events, how we have notified people about our proposals, and anything else related to this consultation.

	Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Very poor	Not applicable
Was the information presented clearly?						
Was the website easy to navigate?						
Were the information videos useful for understanding our latest proposals?						
Did the telephone surgery answer your questions about our latest proposals?						
Were the physical events of good quality?						
Were the physical events suitably located?						
Was the consultation promoted well and to the right people?						
Please let us know the reasons you have on the delivery of this			ses and	any oth	er comm	nents

About you

We would be grateful if you could answer the following identification questions, which will help us to categorise responses and organise our Consultation Report. Details and views of individuals will not be made public. You do not have to provide any personal information if you do not want to. However, postcode data can help us to better understand the views of different communities in relation to the proposals. To view our privacy statement, please see page 3 of this response form.

	Postcode:
Email address	:
	n email address, we will use it to let you know about important n our proposals.
group, please	onding on behalf of an organisation, business or campaign include the name below. (This helps us to understand whether in be categorised as 'prescribed consultees', as defined by the 1008.)
Organisation:	
Organisation:	sation, business or campaign group:
Organisation:	sation, business or campaign group:
Organisation: Type of organi	sation, business or campaign group:
Organisation: Type of organi Academic	
Organisation: Type of organi Academic Business	group
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	If you have ticked yes, have you received a letter to notify you of the consultation?
	☐ Yes ☐ No
6.	If you use the transport network in an area that may be affected by the Lower Thames Crossing, please tell us how you travel by ticking one or more of the following boxes:
	☐ As a horse-rider
	☐ As a pedestrian
	□ Bus
	□ Car
	☐ Cycle
	☐ Goods vehicle
	☐ Motorcycle
	☐ Train
	☐ Other (please state):
7.	Please let us know how you heard about this consultation by ticking one or more of the following boxes:
	☐ From our drop-in community events
	☐ Received a letter from National Highways
	☐ Received a leaflet from National Highways
	☐ Received an email from National Highways
	☐ Received information from a local authority
	☐ Saw a Public Notice in local or national newspapers
	☐ Saw advertisements in local media
	☐ Saw information on the project website
	☐ Saw social media coverage
	☐ Saw coverage in local media
	☐ Saw information at a deposit location or information point
	☐ Word of mouth
	☐ Other (please state):

Equality and diversity

We would be grateful if you could answer the following equality and diversity questions. We will use the information we receive to help understand whether our consultation has been useful to people of different backgrounds and with different requirements. We may publish a summary of the results, but no information about an individual would be revealed.

individual would be revealed. The answers you provide to this question are defined as 'special category data'. If you agree to provide this information, you can withdraw your permission for us to use it at any time. To do that, please email DataProtectionAdvice@nationalhighways.co.uk ☐ I consent to National Highways processing my special category data for the purposes of understanding the accessibility of the Lower Thames Crossing consultation. I have read National Highways' privacy notice (found after the Introduction section in this response form) and understood how it will be processing this data. How would you define your gender? ■ Male ☐ Female ☐ Transgender ☐ Other ☐ Prefer not to say Do you consider yourself to be disabled? ☐ Yes □ No ☐ Prefer not to say Please describe your ethnic background: ☐ Asian or Asian British ■ White ☐ Black, African, Caribbean or black British

□ White □ Black, African, Caribbean or bla □ Mixed or multiple ethnic groups □ Gypsy or Irish Traveller □ Other ethnic group □ Prefer not to say Age: □ Under 16

□ 16-24□ 25-34

2.

3.

4.

How to submit your response form

Please only use the following official response channels. We cannot guarantee that responses sent to any other address will be included in our analysis.

Online response form

Fill in the online survey at:

https://ltcconsultation2022.nationalhighways.co.uk

Or scan this QR code and go straight to the consultation



@ Email

Email your comments to: LTC.CONSULTATION@TRAVERSE.LTD

✓ FreepostPost your response form or comments to:

FREEPOST LTC CONSULTATION

The Freepost address is the only text needed on the envelope, and no stamp is required.

Telephone

We are offering additional support to help you provide feedback over the phone. Call us on 0300 123 5000 to book an appointment. Or visit https://ltcconsultation2022.nationalhighways.co.uk

How your response will be used

We will carefully consider all the responses we receive, before producing a report that explains how we have taken them into account to develop our project.



Please send your response before 23:59 on 20 June 2022

If you need help accessing this or any other National Highways information, please call **0300 123 5000** and we will help you.

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