

Introduction

Earlier this year we carried out a non-statutory supplementary consultation on our proposals for the Lower Thames Crossing, that will connect Kent, Thurrock and Essex through a tunnel beneath the River Thames. The supplementary consultation sought views on changes to the proposals presented during our statutory consultation in 2018, and updates to the project where further information had become available.

This consultation explains the refinements we have made to the design of the project. These have been informed by feedback received from our supplementary consultation, continued engagement with our stakeholders, ongoing design work and a greater understanding of technical constraints.

We are seeking your views to help us shape our proposals further before we submit our Development Consent Order (DCO) application to the Planning Inspectorate later this year.

We are asking a series of questions on the design refinements which we are proposing. You are welcome to 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.

If you provided feedback during our statutory consultation in 2018 or the supplementary consultation earlier this year, your comments will be summarised in our Consultation Report. This will include an explanation of how we have considered each point raised by respondents.

The Consultation Report will also form part of our DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate later this year. If you wish to refer to points made in response to the earlier consultations, we ask that you please copy them into this response form rather than referring to them. Any further feedback we receive during this consultation will also be included and responded to in the report.

We have produced a set of consultation documents to explain the updates to the project and the design changes we are proposing to make. These include a Guide to design refinement consultation (the guide), Map Books, an Environmental Impacts Update and this response form. All of these documents are available on the design refinement consultation website: www.lowerthamescrossing.co.uk/design-consultation

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

Please submit your response by 23.59 on 12 August 2020.

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 Highways England use the information we collect about you?

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

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

- Highways England
- Traverse (which has been contracted by us 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 (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.

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 Highways England. For more information, see our full data privacy statement: www.highwaysengland.co.uk/privacy

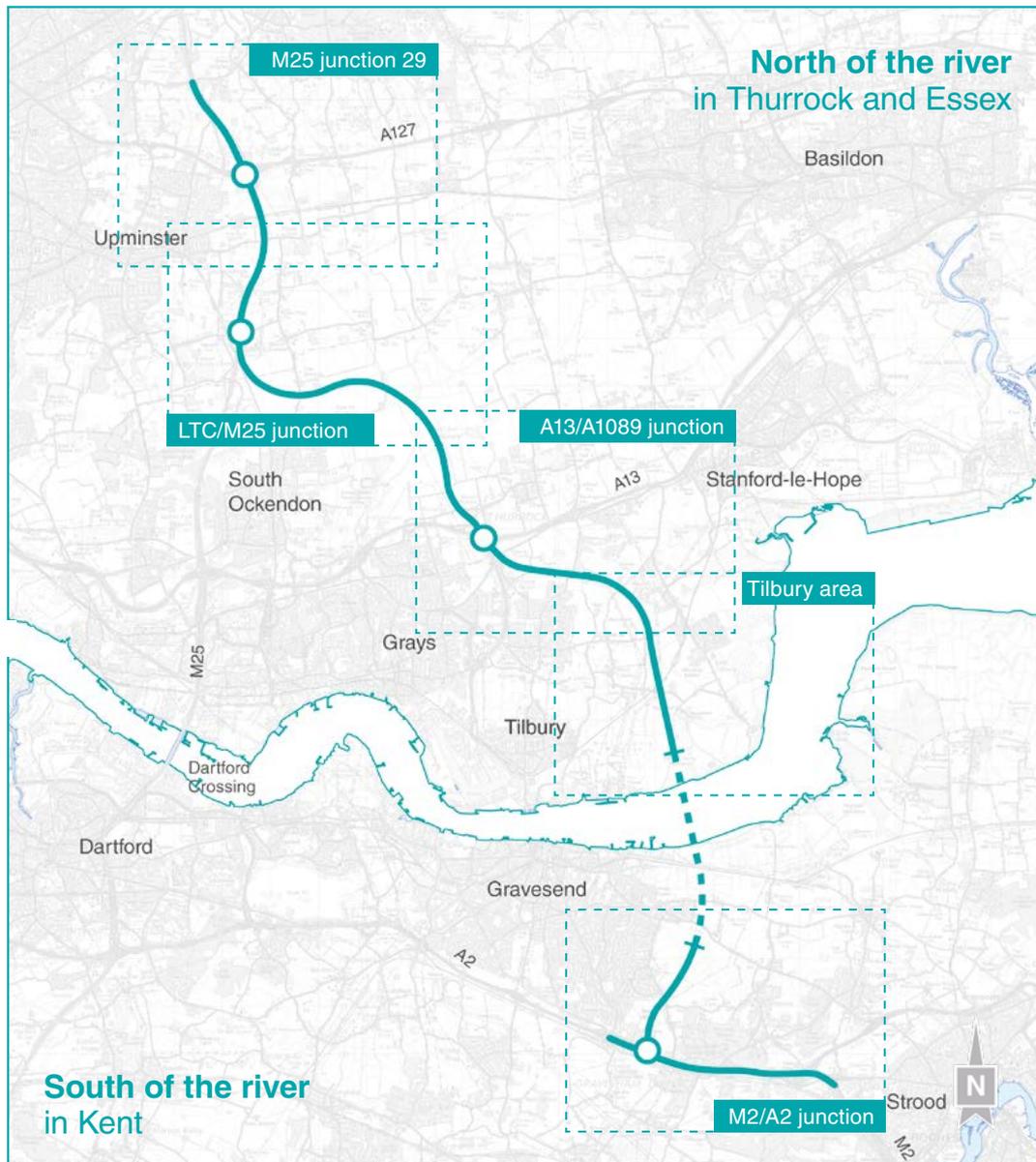
1. Design refinements

For the purposes of this design refinement consultation, we have divided our proposed route for the Lower Thames Crossing into two sections, starting with the section south of the river in Kent, then the section to the north of the river in Thurrock and Essex.

The proposed refinements outlined in each section include changes to:

- highways
- utilities
- landscaping
- construction
- environment
- routes for walkers, cyclists and horse riders

A detailed description of our proposed refinements to the route for the Lower Thames Crossing is in chapter 3 of the guide and is presented in the Map Books.



South of the river in Kent

This refers to the section of the proposed route starting at the M2/A2 and ending at the southern tunnel entrance.

M2/A2 area proposals

The guide describes the proposed changes to sections of the M2/A2 around the junction with the Lower Thames Crossing. Changes include: refinements to Thong Lane green bridge over the A2 and the Lower Thames Crossing; a new electricity switching station at Thong Lane; further developed proposals for the ancient woodland mitigation and compensation planting; and landscaping proposals around the electricity substation at the southern tunnel entrance.

Q1a. Do you support or oppose the proposed changes south of the river?

Please refer to the [Design refinements chapter of the guide](#).

<input type="checkbox"/>					
Strongly support	Support	Neutral	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know

Q1b. Please let us know the reasons for your response to Q1a and any other comments you have on the proposed changes south of the river.

North of the river in Thurrock and Essex

This refers to the section of the proposed route starting at the northern tunnel entrance and ending at the connection with the M25 at junction 29.

As presented in the guide, we have split this into four sub-sections:

- The Tilbury area. Changes include: a new landform proposal to provide views overlooking the Thames Estuary, and works to install the utilities required to power the tunnel boring machine and provide power supply to the northern tunnel entrance.
- The area around the A13/A1089 junction. Changes include: a new area of land for the relocation of the traveller site, a new permanent gas pipeline compound at Stanford Road and a new noise barrier along the Lower Thames Crossing east of Brentwood Road.
- The area around the Lower Thames Crossing junction with the M25. Changes include: diversions to some utility works, relocating a construction site and refining the woodland planting proposals north of the Thames Chase Forest Centre.
- The area around the M25 junction 29. Changes include: a new footbridge over the A127, a gas pipeline diversion near Folkes Lane and moving overhead electricity cables underground near the B186 Warley Street.

Tilbury area proposals

Q1c. Do you support or oppose the proposed changes in the Tilbury area?
Please refer to the Design refinements chapter of the guide.

<input type="checkbox"/>					
Strongly support	Support	Neutral	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know

Q1d. Please let us know the reasons for your response to Q1c and any other comments you have on the proposed changes around the Tilbury area.

A13/A1089 area proposals

Q1e. Do you support or oppose the proposed changes in the area around the A13/A1089 junction? Please refer to the Design refinements chapter of the guide.

<input type="checkbox"/>					
Strongly support	Support	Neutral	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know

Q1f. Please let us know the reasons for your response to Q1e and any other comments you have on the proposed changes in the area around the A13/A1089 junction.

Lower Thames Crossing/M25 area proposals

Q1g. Do you support or oppose the proposed changes in the area around the Lower Thames Crossing and its junction with the M25? Please refer to the Design refinements chapter of the guide.

<input type="checkbox"/>					
Strongly support	Support	Neutral	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know

Q1h. Please let us know the reasons for your response to Q1g and any other comments you have on the proposed changes in the area around the Lower Thames Crossing and its junction with the M25.

M25 junction 29 area proposals

Q1i. Do you support or oppose the proposed changes in the area around the M25 junction 29? Please refer to the Design refinements chapter of the guide.

<input type="checkbox"/>					
Strongly support	Support	Neutral	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know

Q1j. Please let us know the reasons for your response to Q1i and any other comments you have on the proposed changes in the area around the M25 junction 29.

2. Revised development boundary

Some of the refinements that we are now proposing mean that the area of land that may be required to build the Lower Thames Crossing, and to provide mitigation for some of the impacts of building it, has changed since supplementary consultation. This is called the revised development boundary. Some of the land within the revised development boundary would be required permanently, while other areas would only be required on a temporary basis. In addition, in some locations the Lower Thames Crossing would impact existing areas of special category land and sports clubs. Please refer to the Property and landowners chapter of the guide for further details.

Q2a. Do you support or oppose the changes to the proposed area of land that would be required to build the Lower Thames Crossing?

<input type="checkbox"/>					
Strongly support	Support	Neutral	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know

Q2b. Please let us know the reasons for your response to Q2a and any other comments you have on the proposed changes to land that would be required to build the Lower Thames Crossing. This includes feedback on the impact the project would have on any land that you may own or have another legal interest or right in.

Q2c. Do you support or oppose the proposals put forward regarding special category land and sports clubs?

<input type="checkbox"/>					
Strongly support	Support	Neutral	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know

Q2d. Please let us know the reasons for your response to Q2c and any other comments you have on the proposals regarding special category land and sports clubs.

3. Environmental impacts and how we plan to reduce them

In our Environmental Impacts Update, we have explained how the changes we are proposing affect the preliminary environmental information that was presented at our statutory consultation in 2018 and in the previous Environment Impacts Update, published as part of our supplementary consultation. Please refer to the Environmental impacts chapter of the guide and our Environmental Impacts Update document.

Q3a. Do you support or oppose the changes to the environmental impacts of the Lower Thames Crossing?

<input type="checkbox"/>					
Strongly support	Support	Neutral	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know

Q3b. Please let us know the reasons for your response to Q3a and any other comments you have on the environmental impacts of the proposed changes to the Lower Thames Crossing.

4. Other comments

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

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for users to provide their comments on the Lower Thames Crossing design.

5. The consultation

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

	Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Very poor	Not applicable
Q5a. Was the information presented clearly and was it easy to understand?	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Q5b. Was the online exhibition easy to navigate?	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Q5c. Were the online webinars useful for understanding our latest proposals?	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Q5d. Did the telephone surgery answer your questions about our latest proposals?	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Q5e. Was the consultation promoted well and to the right people?	<input type="checkbox"/>					

Q5f. Please let us know the reasons for your responses to Q5a – Q5e and any other comments you have on the delivery of this consultation.

Identification questions

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.

1. Name:

2. Address:

<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>
Postcode:

3. Email address:

(If you provide an email address, we may use it to let you know about important developments in our proposals.)

4. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, business or campaign group, please include the name below. (This helps us to understand whether respondents can be categorised as 'prescribed consultees', as defined by the Planning Act 2008.)

Name of organisation:

Type of organisation, business or campaign group:

- Academic
- Business
- Campaign group
- Elected representative
- Environment, heritage, amenity or community group
- Local government
- Statutory agency
- Transport, infrastructure or utility organisation
- Other (please state)

5. Do you own land or hold any interests or rights, such as private rights of way or sporting rights, within or close to the revised development boundary?

- Yes No

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 the 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 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:

- Received a letter from Highways England
 Received a leaflet from Highways England
 Received an email from Highways England
 Received information from a local authority
 Saw a Public Notice in local or national newspapers
 Saw advertisements in local media
 Saw social media coverage
 Saw coverage in local and national media
 Saw information at a deposit or information point where available due to COVID-19 restrictions
 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 requirements. We may publish a summary of the results, but no information about an 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@highwaysengland.co.uk

- I consent to Highways England processing my special category data for the purposes of understanding the accessibility of the Lower Thames Crossing consultation. I have read Highways England's privacy notice and understood how it will be processing this data.

1. What is your gender?

- Male Female Transgender Prefer not to say

2. Do you consider yourself as a person with a disability?

- Yes No Prefer not to say

3. Please describe your ethnic background:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Asian British | <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed ethnic background |
| <input type="checkbox"/> White | <input type="checkbox"/> Gypsy or Irish Traveller |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black/black British | <input type="checkbox"/> Other ethnic group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say |

4. Age:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under 16 | <input type="checkbox"/> 45-54 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 16-24 | <input type="checkbox"/> 55-64 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 25-34 | <input type="checkbox"/> 65+ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 35-44 | |

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:

www.lowerthamescrossing.co.uk/design-consultation

Or scan this QR code and go straight to the consultation



Freepost

Post 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.



Email

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



Telephone

Due to the restrictions in place because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are offering additional support to help you provide feedback over the phone. To book an appointment please call us on: **0300 123 5000**.

How your response will be used

We will carefully consider all the responses we receive, before producing a report that explains how they have been taken into account in the development of our project.



Have your say

Please send your response before
23:59 on 12 August 2020

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

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This document is also available on our website at www.highwaysengland.co.uk

For an accessible version of this publication please call **0300 123 5000** and we will help you.

If you have any enquiries about this publication email info@highwaysengland.co.uk or call **0300 123 5000***. Please quote the Highways England publications code **PR87/20**.

Highways England creative job number BED20 0067

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Registered office Bridge House, 1 Walnut Tree Close, Guildford GU1 4LZ

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