

04 October 2018

Lower Thames Crossing: consultation announced

A consultation on updated plans for a new Lower Thames Crossing will start next week, Highways England announced today (Thursday 4 October).

Some 47,000 people had their say in a previous consultation on the proposals – a record for a UK road scheme – leading to a preferred route announcement in April 2017 by Transport Secretary Chris Grayling. Now, Highways England is seeking views on an updated, more detailed design which aims to maximise the project's huge benefits in creating a new route between Essex and Kent, relieving pressure on the existing Dartford Crossing and adding extra resilience to the road network. The updated plans also include significant changes to minimise the impact on local communities and the environment.

The ten-week consultation will start on Wednesday 10 October and run until Thursday 20 December.

Tim Jones, Project Director for Lower Thames Crossing, said:

"A new Lower Thames Crossing is a once in a generation opportunity for people in Kent, Thurrock and Essex, significantly improving journeys, connecting communities and boosting the economy. This consultation is an important opportunity for people to share their views on our proposals and help shape the Lower Thames Crossing. I am looking forward to hearing what people think."

There will be 25 public information events are being held across Kent, Thurrock and Essex, as well as 30 visits to local communities to help people understand more about the proposals and put any questions directly to the project team. At each event,

specialists will be on hand to explain the proposed route, how it would be built and operated, and how Highways England plan to minimise the impact on the local environment and community. All information will also be available online.

Ends

NOTES TO EDITORS

1. Highways England is the wholly government-owned company responsible for modernising, maintaining and operating England's motorways and major A roads.
2. More information about the proposals will be published on Tuesday 9 October under embargo for Wednesday 10 October. Interview opportunities will be available.
3. Details on how to take part in the consultation will be found at www.lowerthamescrossing.co.uk/haveyoursay
4. Details of the public exhibition events are as follows:
 - Orsett Hall Hotel, Prince Charles Avenue, Orsett, RM16 3HS on Tuesday 16 October from 2pm to 9pm
 - Bluewater Shopping Centre, Bluewater Parkway, Greenhithe, DA9 9ST, on Saturday 20 October from 9am to 9pm, and Sunday 21 October from 11am to 5pm
 - Chalk Parish Hall, Pirrip Close, Gravesend, DA12 2ND, on Monday 22 October from 2pm to 9pm
 - Mick Jagger Centre, Shepherds Lane, Dartford, DA1 2JZ, on Tuesday 23 October from 2pm to 9pm
 - West Horndon Village Hall, Thorndon Avenue, West Horndon, CM13 3TP on Wednesday 24 October from 2pm to 9pm
 - Lakeside Shopping Centre, West Thurrock Way, Grays, RM20 2ZP on Saturday 27 October from 9am to 9pm, and on Sunday 28 October from 11am to 5pm
 - Tilbury Community Association, Civic Square, Yilbury, RM18 8AA on Tuesday 30 October from 2pm to 9pm
 - Cascades Leisure Centre, Thong Lane, Gravesend, DA12 4LG, on Thursday 1 November, from 2pm to 9pm
 - Shorne Village Hall, 16 The Street, Shorne, DA12 3EA, on Saturday 3 November from midday to 6pm
 - Civic Hall, Blackshots Lane, Grays, RM16 2JU on Tuesday 6 November from 2pm to 9pm
 - Linford Methodist Church, East Tilbury Road, Linford, SS17 0QQ on Wednesday 14 November from 2pm to 9pm
 - Brandon Groves Community Club, Brandon Groves Avenue, South Ockendon, RM15 6TD on Friday 16 November from 2pm to 9pm

- The New Windmill Hotel, St Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 2QH on Saturday 17 November from midday to 6pm
- Holiday Inn Basildon, Cranes Farm Road, Waterfront Walk, Festival Leisure Park, Basildon, SS14 3DG on Monday 19 November from 2pm to 9pm
- Gravesham Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend, DA12 1AU, on Wednesday 21 November from 2pm to 9pm
- St Mary Magdalene Church, Church Lane, Upminster, RM14 3QH on Thursday 22 November from 2pm to 9pm
- Holiday Inn Brentwood M25 junction 28, Brooke Street, Brentwood, CM14 5NF on Wednesday 28 November from 2pm to 9pm
- Havering Town Hall, Main Road, Romford, RM1 3BD on Friday 30 November from 2pm to 9pm
- Doubletree Dartford Bridge, Masthead Close, Crossways Business Park, Dartford, DA2 6QF, on Monday 3 December from 2pm to 9pm
- Dover Town Hall, Biggin Street, Dover, CT16 1DL, on Tuesday 4 December, from 2pm to 9pm
- Rochester Corn Exchange, Northgate, Rochester, ME1 1LS, on Wednesday 5 December, from 2pm to 9pm
- Chadwell Village Hall, Waterson Road, Chadwell St Mary, RM16 4NX on Friday 7 December from 2pm to 9pm

5. **Real-time traffic information** for England's motorways and major A roads is available:

- From the web at www.highways.gov.uk/traffic or from a phone or mobile device at m.highways.gov.uk
- By phone from the Highways England Customer Contact Centre on 0300 123 5000 at any time. (Calls to 03 numbers are charged at no more than a national call to a 01 or 02 number and are included in all discount schemes and call allowances. This applies to all landlines, mobiles and payphones. Call costs will vary depending on your landline or mobile supplier.) Make sure it's safe and legal before you call. Before using any mobile, find a safe place to park. Never stop on the hard shoulder of a motorway except in an emergency.
- On Apple and Android mobile devices via the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#).
- From **Twitter** – there are eight feeds with live traffic information provided by region. For information on roads in the East of England follow us at [@Highways EAST](#) or for the full index visit www.highways.gov.uk/twitter.

Issued by Highways England.

For further information please contact SE&Epressoffice@highwaysengland.co.uk, 0300 470 4860. Media enquiries out of hours should be made to Highways England's National Press Office (24hrs) on 0844 693 1448.