

# Changes to our plans for the Lower Thames Crossing

## What do you think?



**easy  
read**

Easy Read version of the Guide to  
Supplementary Consultation

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# Introduction



**Highways England** is thinking of building a new road between Kent, Thurrock and Essex.



**Highways England** is a Government company that looks after England's motorways and many main roads.



The new road will help traffic move between Kent and Essex and around the South East of England.



In 2018 we asked people what they thought of the plans.



Almost 29,000 people gave us their views.



After listening to people and finding out new information about the scheme, we are suggesting some changes to our plans.



But before we decide to make any changes, we want to know what you think.



Please read this report and tell us your views.



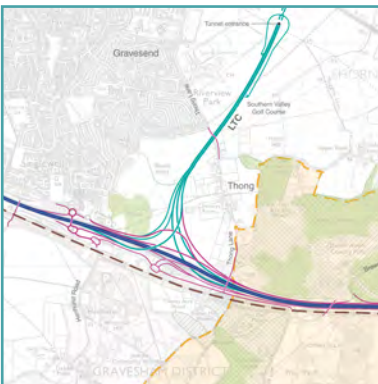
You can find out how to give us your views on page 21.

# The original plans



## The Lower Thames Crossing

The Lower Thames Crossing is a proposed new road between the M2 and A2 junction in Kent, through a new tunnel under the River Thames to join the M25 in Essex.



## South of the river in Kent

There will be a new junction that links the M2, A2 and the Lower Thames Crossing close to Thong and Gravesend.

## North of the river in Essex

We plan the new road to go from the tunnel, over the A13 and the Mardyke river, to join the M25 near North Ockendon.



We did have plans for a new service station near Tilbury.



We plan to build a new junction with the A13 so people can get on and off the new road.

# Proposed changes to these plans

## 1. South of the River Thames in Kent



### The junction between the M2, A2 and the new road

We have a new design for this junction.



The new design will:

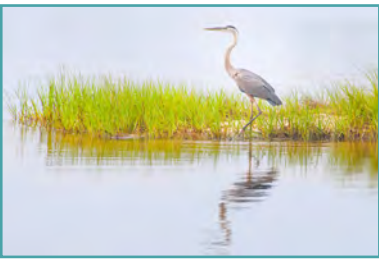
- Make it easier to travel from Gravesend and the M2 and A2
- Take away less green space in some areas, while taking more in others





## The tunnel entrance on the south side

We have moved the tunnel entrance 350 metres to the south.



This will be better for the nature and wildlife area of South Thames Estuary and Marshes.

## 2. North of the River Thames in Essex



### No service station

We no longer want to build a service station near Tilbury.



We are also removing the Tilbury junction from our plans because it is not needed.





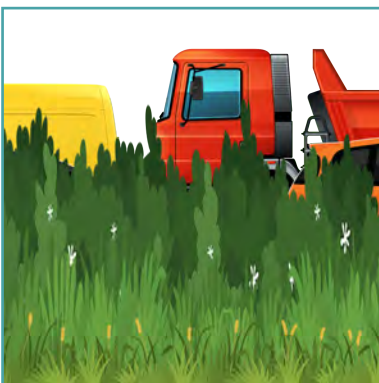
## **The road between Tilbury and the A13**

We now plan to have the road about 60 metres to the side, so we don't have to move electricity cables so much.



## **The junction with the A13**

We have a new design for the junction between the new road and the A13 and A1089.



The new junction would be further away from some houses and safer to use for drivers.



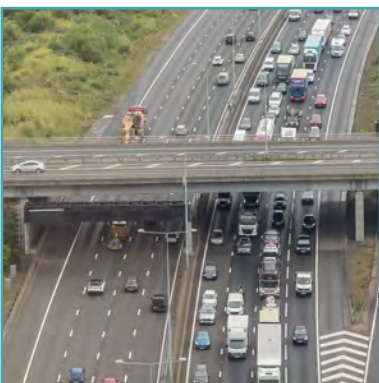
## **Bridge over the Mardyke River**

We have a new design for the bridge so it doesn't affect the area as much.



## **The junction with the M25**

We have a new design for the junction between the new road and the M25.



The new design would mean that we can keep the Ockendon Road bridge.

# Land and property



The new road and tunnel will affect people's houses, businesses and land.



About 270 buildings will be affected.

Most of these will be only affected while we are building the new road and tunnel.



Some will be affected by the new road after it is finished.

Some of the buildings will have to be demolished.



We have contacted everyone involved. We have a team of people who are happy to talk to any landowner about their concerns and their rights.

# Walkers, cyclists and horse riders



In our original plans, we said that we wanted to improve footpaths, cycleways and horse-riding tracks in the area.

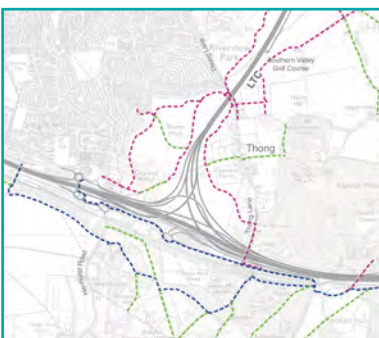


People suggested many ways we could make improvements.



In our new plans we want to:

- Make improvements to footpaths and cycleways
- Build some new paths and cycleways



We have new plans for walking, cycling and horse-riding paths in the following areas:

- The junction between the new road and the M2



- The road and tunnel entrance on the south side in Kent



- Muckingford Road between East Tilbury and Chadwell St Mary



- The junction with the A13



- Orsett Fen and Ockendon



- North Road outside South Ockendon



- Thames Chase Community Forest



- Junction 29 on the M25

# The environment



The environment is:

- Green places
- Wildlife
- The air that we breathe
- Peace and quiet



We have written a report of how we think the new road would affect the environment.



This report explains how we are trying to reduce harm to the environment.

## Green bridges



Green bridges allow wildlife, like hedgehogs to cross the road.



We were planning to build 5 green bridges.

We are now suggesting we build another 3.



These new ones will also be able to take walkers and cyclists over the road.

# Building the Lower Thames Crossing



We think it will take about 6 years to build the tunnel.



We will give local people information about how the work will affect them.



We will try not to close too many roads while we are building the new road.





There will be more traffic in the area, including lorries.



Lorries and other traffic will use main roads as much as possible, but will have to use some local roads too sometimes.



There may be temporary traffic lights on some roads for some of the time.



We will have 5 sites which will be the main bases of our building work. There will be temporary buildings on these sites.

# Utilities



Utilities are:

- Electricity cables
- Gas pipes
- Water pipes
- Sewers
- Internet cables
- Telephone wires



We will have to move cables and pipes when we start building the road and tunnel.



Local people may be affected. We will affect people as little as possible.

# When it is finished



We are planning to charge people to use the new Lower Thames Crossing when it is built.



We are suggesting a lower charge for people who live near the crossing.

## Traffic



When the new road and tunnel is finished, we think that:

- There will be less traffic on some roads, including the Dartford Crossing and the M25 and the A282 nearby.



- There will be less traffic on the M20 and on the A2 west of the new road.

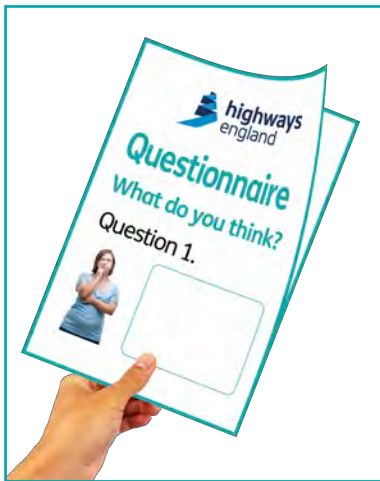


- There will be less traffic on the A13 between Grays and the M25.



- There will be more traffic on the M2 from Maidstone and around Rochester and on the M25 north of the new road.

# Have your say



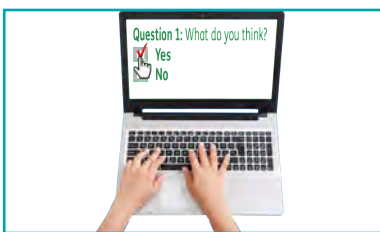
We want to know what you think about these changes to the plans.

You can give us your views by filling in our paper form or writing your comments down.



Send them free of charge to:  
**Freepost LTC Consultation.**

That's all you need to write on the envelope.  
You do not need a stamp.



You can also fill in the form online at:  
**[www.lowerthamescrossing.co.uk/consultation-2020](http://www.lowerthamescrossing.co.uk/consultation-2020)**



You can also email your thoughts on the plans to:  
**LTC.CONSULTATION@TRAVERSE.LTD**

# For more information or a response form



If you need more information or a form, please contact us by:



Post:

**Lower Thames Crossing  
Woodlands  
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Bedford  
MK41 7LW**



Events: Visit one of our consultation events or information points. There is information about these on the website.



Telephone: **0300 123 5000**



Email:

**[info@lowerthamescrossing.co.uk](mailto:info@lowerthamescrossing.co.uk)**

**You can also find more  
information about our plans  
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