

Lower Thames Crossing

Update



November 2017

The Lower Thames Crossing is a new road and tunnel, which will unlock opportunities and economic growth for the South East and the UK while offering new connections and better journeys

www.lowerthamescrossing.co.uk



I joined as Project Director in May, shortly after the government's announcement of the preferred route for the Lower Thames Crossing. Since then we have made further progress with the detailed design and that work continues.

We have a once in a generation opportunity to significantly improve connections between Essex, Thurrock and Kent and I am committed to working with communities and local authorities to deliver the best possible outcomes for the area. The new crossing will unlock economic growth, provide more jobs and homes and better access to leisure and retail opportunities for local communities.

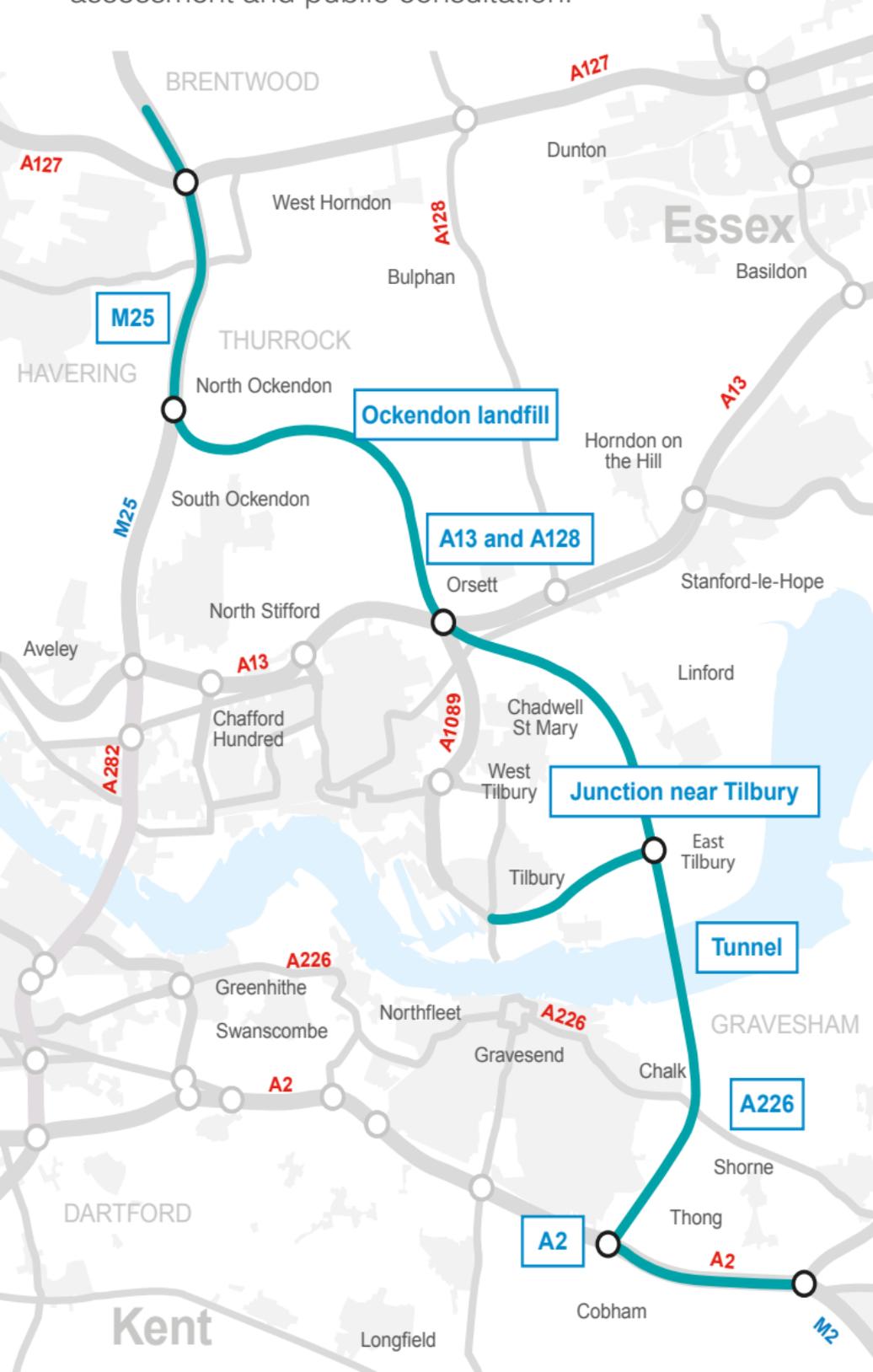
We are still at an early stage and there is much work to be done on the design. The feedback you gave us during the public consultation in 2016 continues to help us to develop the route.

It is vital we make the most of the opportunities the crossing offers while minimising community and environmental impacts. We will only achieve that by working in partnership with you and we continue to value your input. In this leaflet, you will find our latest thinking about the design of the route. We will keep you updated and there will be further opportunities to share your views with us next year.

Tim Jones, Project Director

Current design proposals

We have been looking at the areas highlighted on the map as part of our ongoing development of the scheme, which incorporates your feedback to the 2016 consultation. This map shows our current thinking for the design of the route, subject to further assessment and public consultation.



M25 New junction design to cross under the M25 to reduce the visual impact. Widening of a section of the M25 to improve traffic flow.

Ockendon Realignment to avoid going across the landfill.

Access to the A13 and Tilbury:

A13 and A128 Redesign of the junction with the A13 to reduce congestion. This would allow us to remove the A128 junction from the proposed design.

New junction near Tilbury A new junction near East Tilbury and link road to Tilbury to improve traffic flow and provide an alternative route for HGVs.

A226 Removal of this junction to reduce the traffic impact on local roads.

A2 New junction design and widening of A2 to M2, junction 1 to reduce congestion and improve traffic flow.

Future proofing 3 lanes rather than 2 for at least some of the route.

Tunnel portals Continuing our assessment about the length of the tunnel and where to locate the entrances.

There is still a lot of work to be done on the design. We are gathering information and carrying out a range of assessments and surveys to help us better understand the area and provide the basis for our designs. These will help us to minimise community and environmental impacts and continue to ensure that the preferred route remains the best solution.

The road to the Lower Thames Crossing

- 2016** Highways England held a route consultation. More than 47,000 people took part
- 2017** The Secretary of State for Transport announced the preferred route
- 2018** There will be a statutory consultation, which is due to be held in 2018
- 2019** We plan to submit an application for a Development Consent Order
- 2020** We expect the Development Consent Order will be granted in late 2020 or early 2021
- 2027** Expected to open to traffic by 2027 subject to planning consent and finance arrangements

You might be concerned about what the Lower Thames Crossing will mean for you, your home, your land, your property or your business. We are still at a very early stage in the project and compulsory purchase of properties cannot begin until after we have been granted development consent, which we do not expect until late 2020 or early 2021. In the meantime, there are options available to you.

We have a dedicated team who can help you understand potential impacts, your options and your rights. We also have a series of brochures to help you understand the process and the options available to you. You can find these, and contact details for the team, at **www.lowerthamescrossing.co.uk**

Please contact us if you have any questions:



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