

# Lower Thames Crossing Response form

...for walkers, cyclists and...

...walking routes...  
...proposed...  
...changes...  
...consultation...  
...strongly support...  
...support...  
...neutral...  
...oppose...  
...strongly oppose...  
...comment...

**Q2a. Do you support or oppose the proposed changes to the plans for walking, cycling and horse riding routes?**

Strongly support    Support    Neutral    Oppose    Strongly oppose    Don't know

Please let us know the reasons for your response and any other comments you have on the proposed changes to our plans for walking, cycling and horse riding routes. If you're providing feedback on the changes, please refer to these in your response to the...

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?

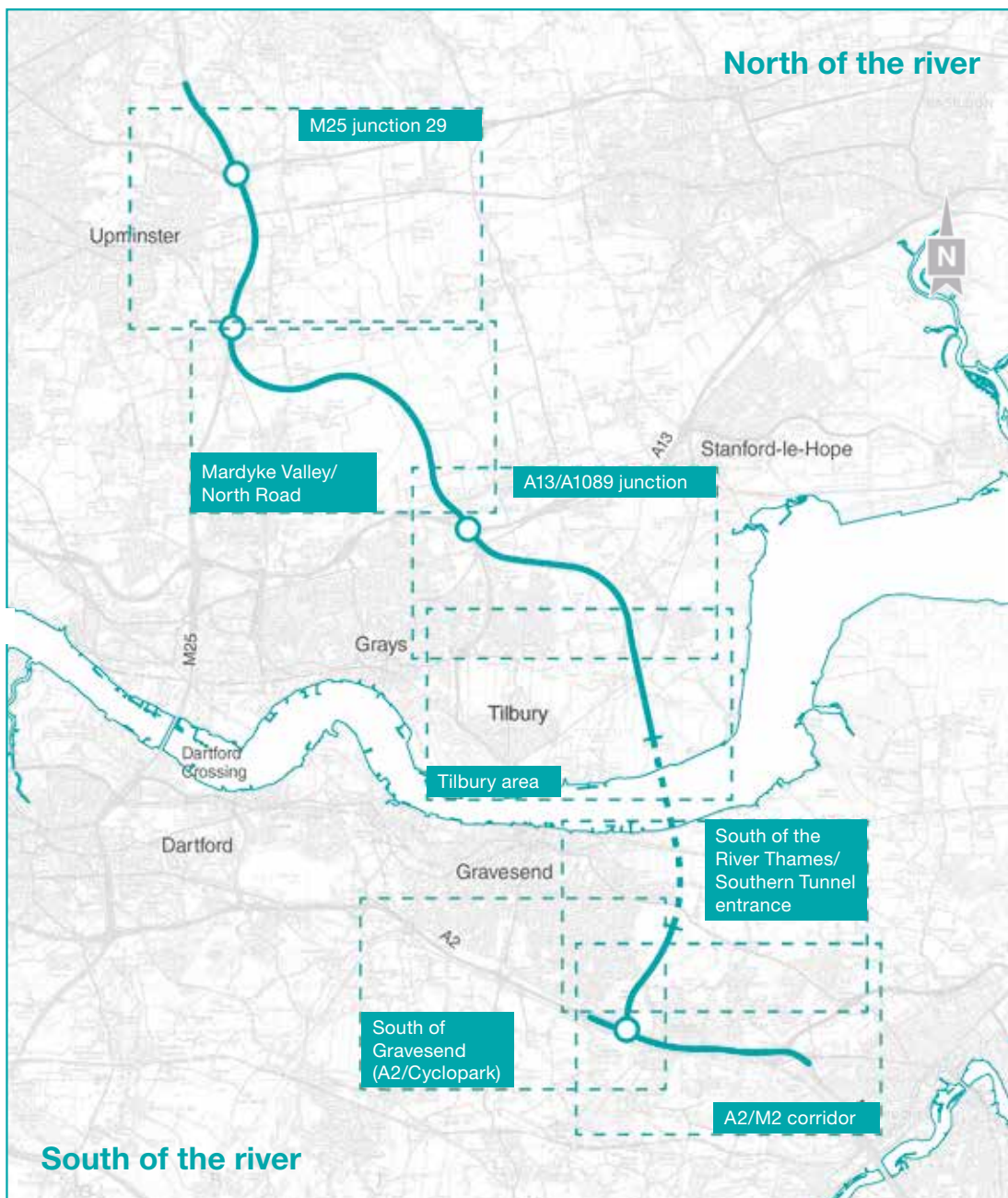
Under the terms of the GDPR, you have certain rights over how your personal data is retained and used by National Highways. For more information, see our full data privacy statement: [www.nationalhighways.co.uk/about-us/privacy-notice/](http://www.nationalhighways.co.uk/about-us/privacy-notice/)

# 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 or oppose the proposed changes to the section of the route: the A2/M2 corridor?

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

### Q1b. Do you support or oppose the proposed changes to the section of the route: south of Gravesend (A2/Cyclopark)?

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

### Q1c. Do you support or oppose the proposed changes to the section of the route: south of the River Thames/southern tunnel entrance?

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

### Q1d. Please let us know the reasons for your response and any other comments you have on the proposed changes south 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.

Maidstone Borough Council has no comments to make on this question.

## 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 or oppose the proposed changes to the section of the route: the Tilbury area?

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

### Q1f. Do you support or oppose the proposed changes to the section of the route: A13/A1089 junction?

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

### Q1g. Do you support or oppose the proposed changes to the section of the route: Mardyke Valley/North Road?

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

### Q1h. Do you support or oppose the proposed changes to the section of the route: M25 junction 29?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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.

Maidstone Borough Council has no comments to make on 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 or oppose the proposed changes to our plans for walking, cycling and horse riding routes?

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

**Please let us know the reasons for your response and any other comments you have on the proposed changes to our plans for walking, cycling and horse riding routes. If you're providing feedback on specific changes, please refer to these in your response to this question.**

Maidstone Borough Council has no comments to make on this question.



### 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 oppose our initial proposals for compensation area: M2 corridor and Blue Bell Hill?

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

#### Please let us know the reasons for your response and any other comments you have on our initial proposals for compensation area: M2 corridor and Blue Bell Hill.

Maidstone Borough Council supports the expansion of the Order Limit to include land to the south of the M2 between junctions 3 & 4 (Blue Bell Hill) as this would provide the necessary land for nitrogen and ammonia deposition compensation. It can confirm that the present proposal does not impact upon the existing or proposed spatial strategies outlined in the Maidstone Local Plan 2011-2031 and Regulation 19 Draft for Submission Maidstone Local Plan Review 2022-2037.

The Borough Council does question if these compensatory measures are set or could be subject to change based on the forthcoming National Highways Lower Thames Crossing transport modeling work?

The Borough Council also questions if any cross boundary cooperation work has been or will be undertaken on the site to the south of the M2 at Blue Bell Hill as it falls within the authority area of: Maidstone Borough Council, Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council and Kent County Council.

**Q3b. Do you support or oppose our initial proposals for compensation area: Gravesham and Shorne Woods?**

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

**Please let us know the reasons for your response and any other comments you have on our initial proposals for compensation area: Gravesham and Shorne Woods.**

Maidstone Borough Council has no comments to make on this question.

**Q3c. Do you support or oppose our initial proposals for compensation area: Southfields, Thurrock?**

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

**Please let us know the reasons for your response and any other comments you have on our initial proposals for compensation area: Southfields, Thurrock.**

Maidstone Borough Council has no comments to make on this question.

**Q3d. Do you support or oppose our initial proposals for compensation area: Hole Farm, Brentwood?**

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

**Please let us know the reasons for your response and any other comments you have on our initial proposals for compensation area: Hole Farm, Brentwood.**

Maidstone Borough Council has no comments to make on this question.

**Q3e. Do you support or oppose our proposed methodology for addressing the potential impacts of nitrogen?**

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

**Please let us know the reasons for your response and any other comments you have on our proposed methodology for addressing the potential impacts of nitrogen.**

Maidstone Borough Council has no comments to make on this question.

## 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 22.2km<sup>2</sup> to 24.35km<sup>2</sup>. 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 or oppose the changes to the proposed area of land that would be needed to build the Lower Thames Crossing?

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

**Please let us know the reasons for your response and any other comments you have on the proposed changes to land that would be needed 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 a legal interest in or right to use.**

Maidstone Borough Council supports the expansion of the Order Limit to include land to the south of the M2 between junctions 3 & 4 (Blue Bell Hill) as this would provide the necessary land for nitrogen and ammonia deposition compensation. It can confirm that the present proposal does not impact upon the existing or proposed spatial strategies outlined in the Maidstone Local Plan 2011-2031 and Regulation 19 Draft for Submission Maidstone Local Plan Review 2022-2037.

The Borough Council does question if these compensatory measures are set or could be subject to change based on the forthcoming National Highways Lower Thames Crossing transport modeling work?

The Borough Council also questions if any cross boundary cooperation work has been or will be undertaken on the site to the south of the M2 at Blue Bell Hill as it falls within the authority area of: Maidstone Borough Council, Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council and Kent County Council.

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 or oppose the changes proposed regarding special category land?**

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

**Please let us know the reasons for your response and any other comments you have on the changes proposed regarding special category land. If you're providing feedback on specific sites, please refer to these in your response.**

Maidstone Borough Council has no comments to make on this question.

**Q4c. Do you support or oppose the changes proposed regarding private recreational facilities?**

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

**Please let us know the reasons for your response and any other comments you have on the changes proposed and information provided regarding private recreational facilities. If you're providing feedback on specific sites, please refer to these in your response.**

Maidstone Borough Council has no comments to make on this question.

## 5. Other comments

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

Maidstone Borough Council has no comments to make on this question.

## 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Was the website easy to navigate?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Were the information videos useful for understanding our latest proposals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did the telephone surgery answer your questions about our latest proposals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Were the physical events of good quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Were the physical events suitably located?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Was the consultation promoted well and to the right people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

## 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.

1. **Name:**

2. **Address:**   
  
 **Postcode:**

3. **Email address:**

If you provide an email address, we will 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.)

**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 proposed Order Limits?**

- 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 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.

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](mailto: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.

### 1. How would you define your gender?

- Male    Female    Transgender    Other    Prefer not to say

### 2. Do you consider yourself to be disabled?

- Yes    No    Prefer not to say

### 3. Please describe your ethnic background:

- Asian or Asian British  
 White  
 Black, African, Caribbean or black British  
 Mixed or multiple ethnic groups  
 Gypsy or Irish Traveller  
 Other ethnic group  
 Prefer not to say

### 4. Age:

- Under 16  
 16-24  
 25-34  
 35-44  
 45-54  
 55-64  
 65+

## 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**



### 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.



### 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.



## Have your say

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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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@nationalhighways.co.uk](mailto:info@nationalhighways.co.uk) or call **0300 123 5000\***. Please quote the National Highways publications code **PR83/22**.

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