

Lower Thames Crossing - Update on liaison with Highways England

January 2018

Following the Preferred Route Announcement last summer, Highways England has had a series of ad hoc contacts with Thurrock Council. Thurrock has been keen to ensure appropriate, regular and consistent interaction in order to challenge and review substantive items. Since September 2017 the LTC Task Force has continued to reinforce to HE the requirement for their structured engagement.

HE Meeting with Group Leaders

Highways England has also periodically met with the Thurrock Group Leaders and the most recent meeting was held on Monday 8th January.

- HE project director to attend all future Task Force meetings
- HE and Thurrock Officers to establish regular technical meetings.
- HE have also offered a session for all Councillors and would allow Tim Jones to provide an overarching scene setting & update that would be followed by the opportunity for Councillors to consider thematic issues through a 'market stall' approach.

As a result of the Task Force identifying their priorities, HE have been advised as to the focus of future meetings:-

- How and when can Thurrock shape the current Proposals (Jan Task Force)
- Visual impacts of the proposal (Feb Task Force)
- Health Impacts and Air Quality (March Task Force)

Ward Member Meetings

Consultants on behalf of HE have been undertaking a series of meetings with Ward Members. HE has been asked for details of the content of these meetings along with the outcomes and key points raised; this is awaited from HE.

Other contact with Highways England

January week 3

- Tunnel Design, Safety and Security – John Lamb attended a meeting with HE and consultants on what will be 8 weekly reviews on detailed engineering design and safety systems.

January Week 2

- 'Extraordinary Areas' – a meeting with HE and their consultants on the outline nature of the red line boundary and the technical process by which they will undertake surveys and investigations with officers.
- HE meeting with Group leaders (as described above). Note this was preceded the week earlier by conference call involving Highways England and Council officers).

The above excludes various emails and ad hoc phone calls.