



# Lower Thames Crossing Community Impact Consultation

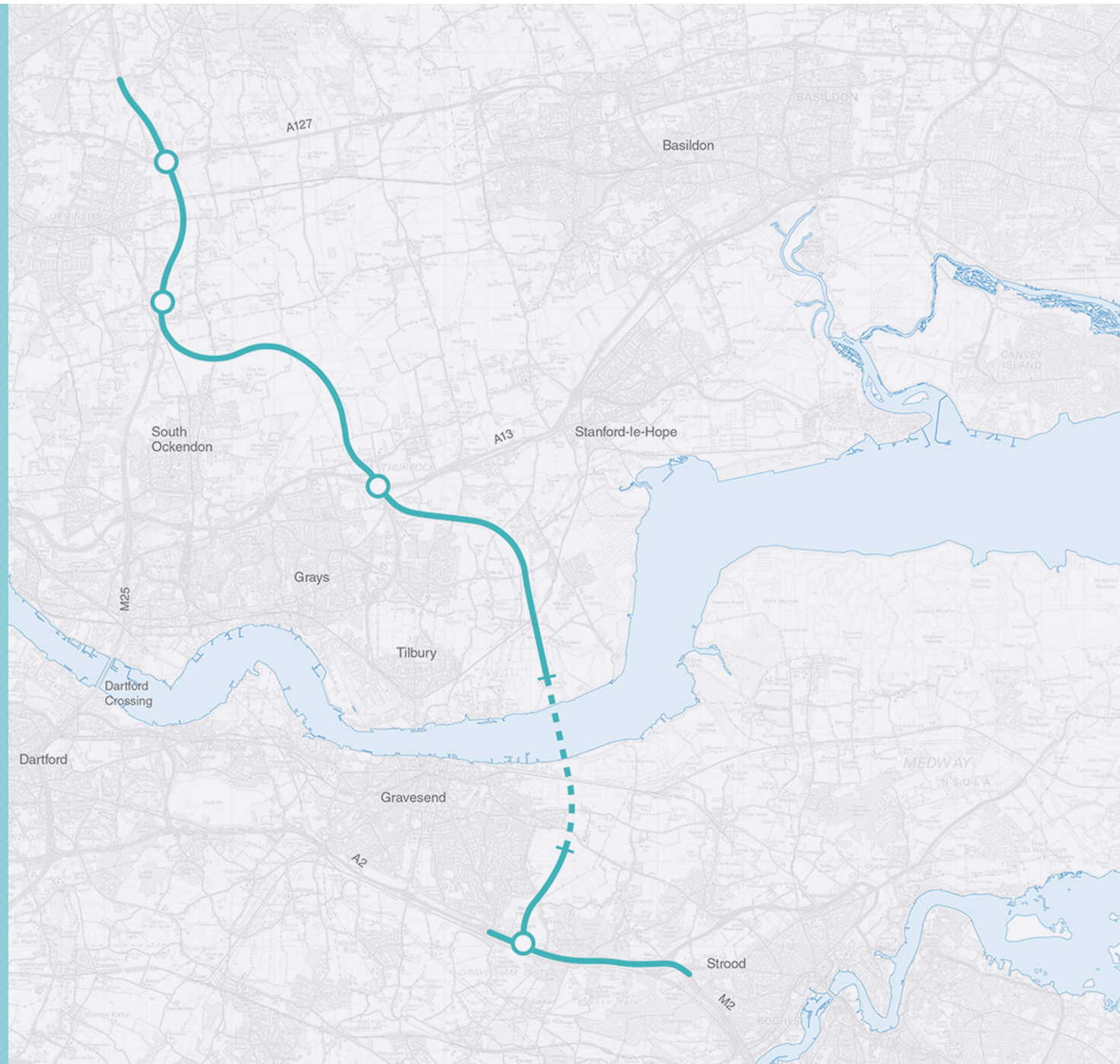
Thurrock Taskforce

July 2021



# Thurrock Taskforce Agenda

- Community Impacts Consultation
  - Overview
  - Procedures
  - Events in Thurrock
  - Consultation materials
- Ward Impact Summaries
- You Said, We Did overview
- Questions



# Project timeline

Spring 2016



Public consultation

April 2017



DfT chooses preferred route

October 2018



Statutory consultation

July 2019



Ground investigations begin

Jan 2020



Supplementary consultation

July 2020



Design refinement consultation

August 2020



DCO submission

July 2021



Community Impact Consultation

Winter 2021



DCO re-submission

2022



DCO decision



# Community Impacts Consultation: Overview

Community Impacts Consultation to take place **14 July to 8 September 2021**

## Purpose of Consultation

- Providing more detail on our construction and construction mitigation
- Setting out more information about our environmental mitigation for the permanent works
- Demonstrating changes to our proposed utilities works and the mitigation





# Community Impacts Consultation: Procedures

## Consulting during Covid-19

- All consultation materials will be available on consultation website ([www.highwaysengland.co.uk/ltcconsultation](http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk/ltcconsultation))
- Series of carefully managed in-person events
- Online webinars
- Telephone surgery
- Copies of consultation materials will be available at a number of locations along the route
- Home delivery of consultation materials



# Community Impacts Consultation: Events in Thurrock

## Public information events in Thurrock

The Civic Hall, Blackshots Lane, Grays	Sat 24 July, 12pm-6pm
Orsett Hall Hotel, Prince Charles Avenue, Orsett	Mon 26 July, 2pm-8pm
East Tilbury Village Hall, Princess Margaret Road, East Tilbury	Thurs 29 July, 2pm-8pm Thurs 26 Aug, 2pm-8pm
Linford Methodist Church, East Tilbury Road, Stanford-le-Hope	Fri 6 Aug, 2pm-8pm Tues 24 Aug, 2pm-8pm
Brandon Groves Community Club, Groves Av, South Ockendon	Wed 1 Sept, 2pm-8pm





# Community Impacts Consultation: Events in Thurrock

## Outdoor information centres in Thurrock

Grays Town Centre, High Street	Sat 7 Aug, 10am-4pm
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## Webinars

The route north of the River Thames up to the A13	Mon 2 Aug, 7pm-8pm Wed 25 Aug, 7pm-8pm
The route north of the A13	Tues 10 Aug, 7pm-8pm Tues 17 Aug, 7pm-8pm

## Deposit locations

The consultation materials will be available to collect, and additional technical documents and maps will be available to review, at deposit locations from 21 July 2021.

- Brentwood Library
- Romford Central Library
- Grays Library
- Tilbury Hub



# Community Impacts Consultation: Consultation materials

- **Guide to community impacts consultation:** overview of the information included in consultation materials and directions on where to find out more detail in the technical documents
- **Construction update:** principles and methods that would be used to build the new road and tunnel, and changes to existing utilities infrastructure
- **Operations update:** information on the new road, junctions, the tunnel, utilities, environmental design and green infrastructure
- **Ward impact summaries:** overview of the changes and impacts by ward
- **You said, we did:** summary of responses received during the three previous consultations
- **Maps:** showing the project during construction and when open to traffic
- **Control plan documents:** draft documents setting out controls proposed within the DCO application

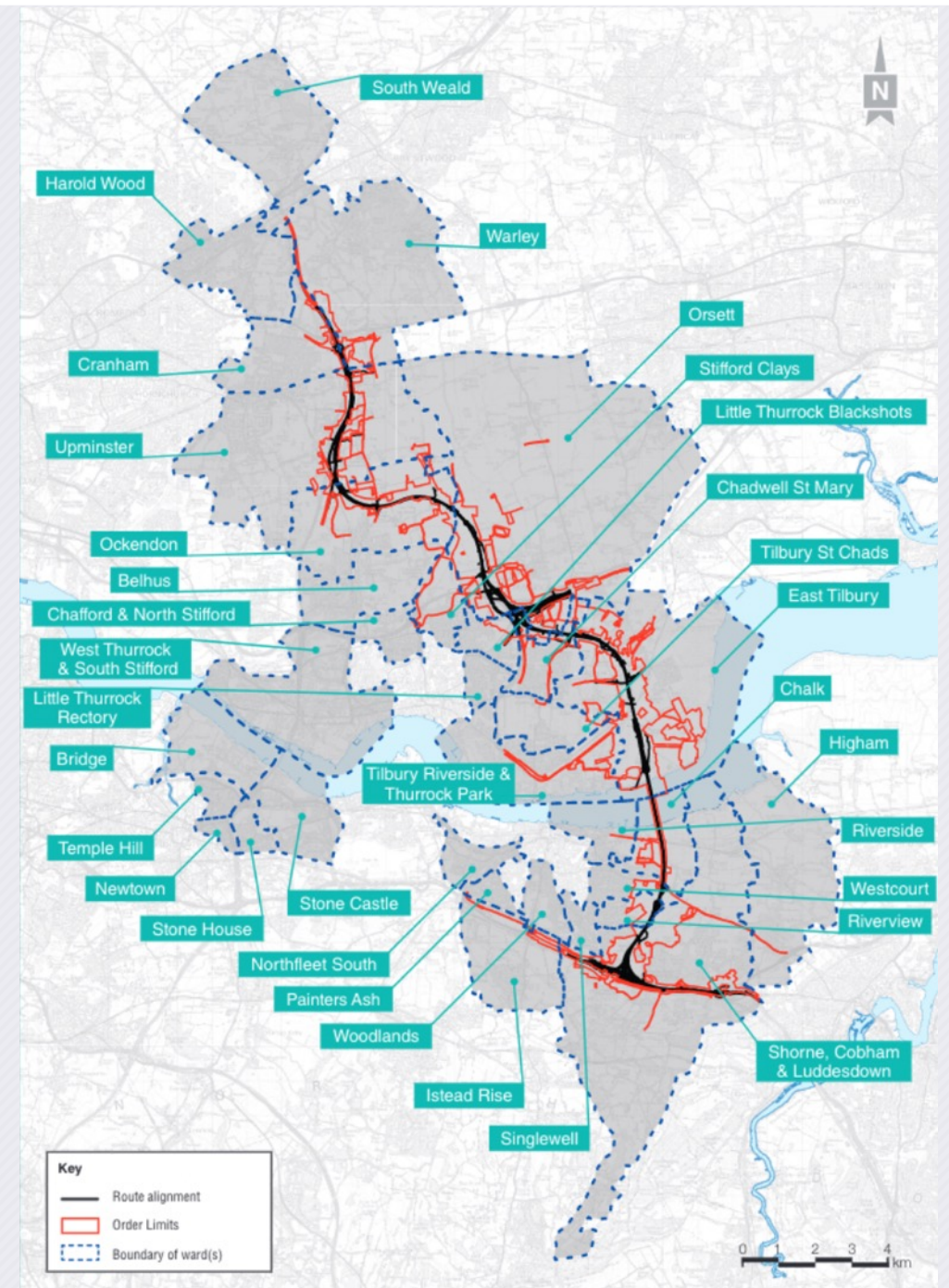




# Ward Impact Summaries: Ward Map

## Thurrock wards included:

- East Tilbury
- Tilbury Riverside and Thurrock Park
- Tilbury St Chads
- Chadwell St Mary
- Orsett
- Little Thurrock Blackshots; Little Thurrock Rectory
- Stifford Clays; Chafford and North Stifford; Belhus
- West Thurrock and South Stifford
- Ockendon



## Ward Impact Summaries: Overview

<b>Project description by ward</b>	Construction activities required to build the project in this ward, including information about traffic management measures associated with construction
<b>Traffic</b>	Descriptions of the impacts of construction on local roads, including HGV and project workforce movements
<b>Public transport</b>	Impact on bus and rail services during construction, including any closures or diversions required
<b>Footpaths, cycle routes</b>	Impacts of the project, including any proposed diversions
<b>Visual</b>	Visual impacts of the construction and operation and mitigation measures such as landscaping and good design



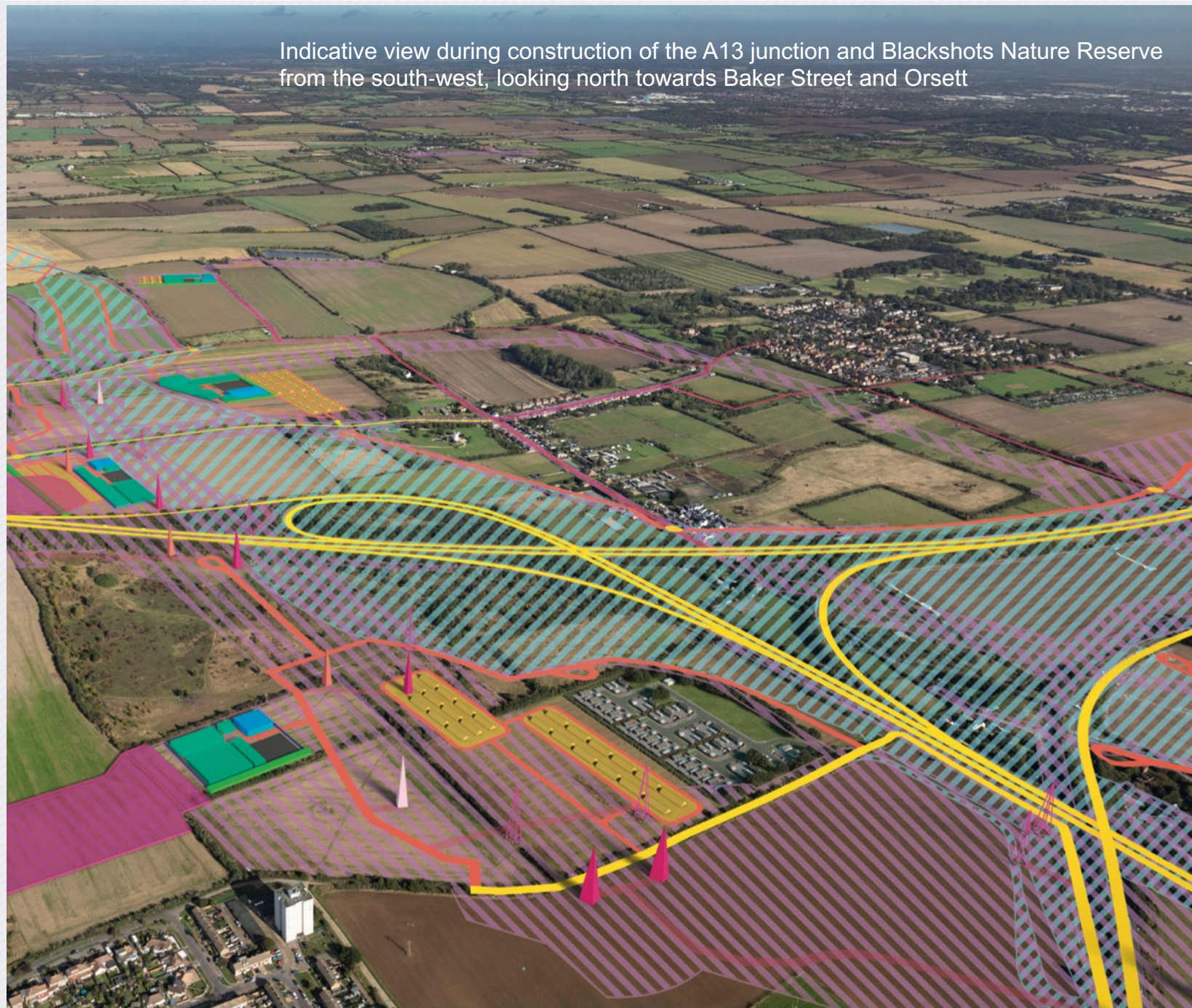
## Ward Impact Summaries: Overview

<b>Noise and vibration</b>	Impacts from construction sites, information about traffic noise for each year of construction
<b>Air quality</b>	Impacts during construction and mitigation controls
<b>Health</b>	Impacts on people's health and wellbeing
<b>Biodiversity</b>	Impact on local flora and fauna during construction and operation and landscaping measures
<b>Built heritage</b>	Impact of construction and operation on conservation areas, listed buildings, scheduled monuments and other buildings of local importance
<b>Contamination management</b>	Management of existing sites of potential contamination to prevent harm to local land or water supplies



## Construction update

- **Activities:** Descriptions of main construction activities
- **Logistics:** Compound locations & activities, construction traffic and haul routes, working hours, worker accommodation
- **Programme:** Setting out phasing and duration of main construction activities
- **Mitigations:** Controls over the works that will be required as part of the DCO
- **Visualisations:** Images showing the extent of construction works





## Operations update

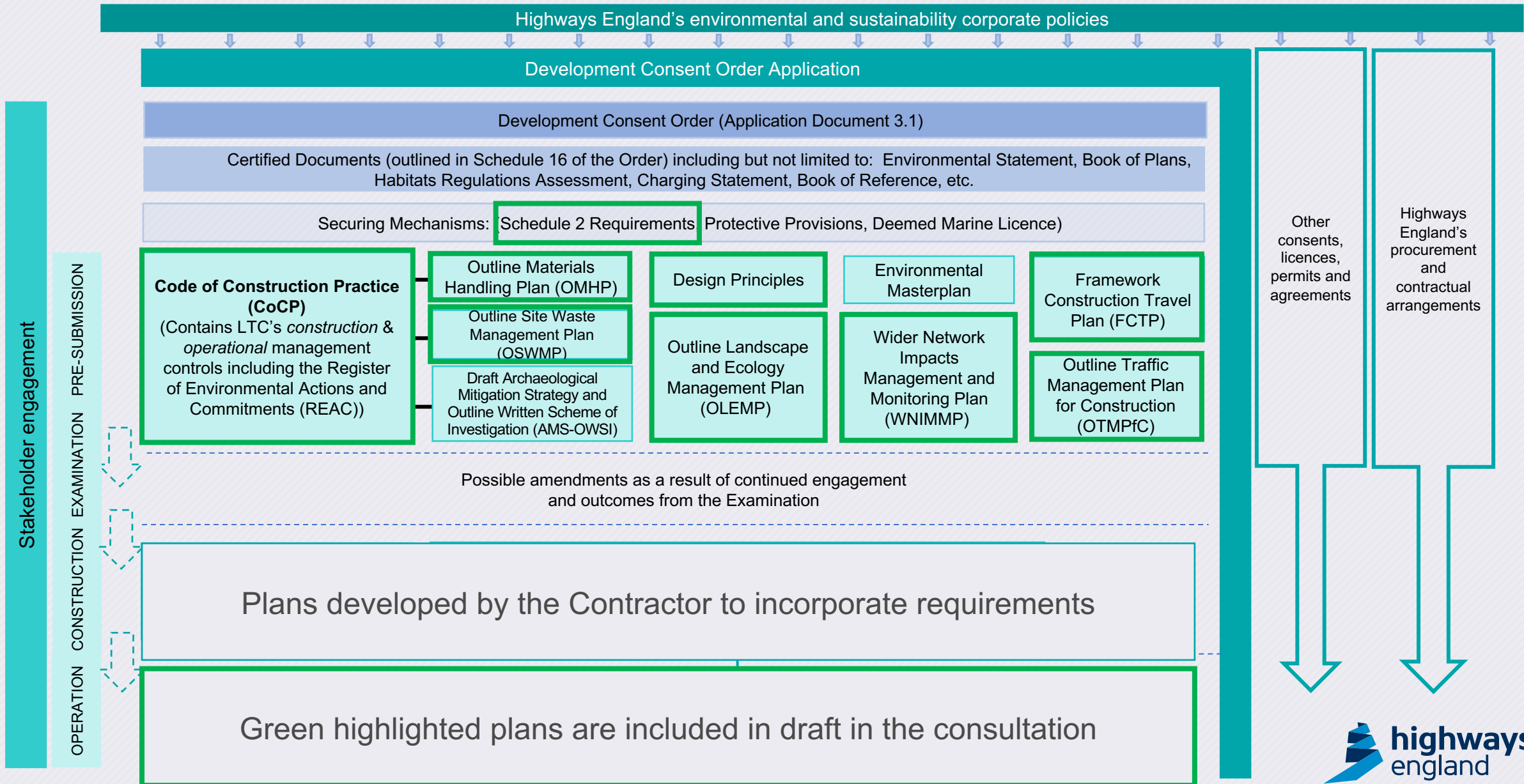
- **Changes:** Description of a number of changes through the project
- **Description:** Description of the new road and the tunnel, the utilities works, the improvements for walkers, cyclists and horseriders
- **Traffic Forecasts:** Updated traffic forecasts to reflect the revised opening year of 2029
- **Environmental Impacts:** Information on the environmental impacts, including air quality and noise impacts associated with the changing traffic flows
- **Mitigations:** Permanent measures implemented to reduce the environmental impact of the project, including for example landscaping measures, green bridges and noise barriers
- **Visualisations:** Images showing the project after construction



Northern tunnel entrance looking south

# Control Plan

Certified docs prepared for submission  
 Delivery docs prepared by the contractor





# You Said, We Did: Overview

Statutory consultation in 2018 **(28,493 responses)**

Supplementary consultation in Spring 2020 **(6,576 responses)**

Design refinement consultation in Summer 2020 **(1,206 responses)**

Every response received was scanned or downloaded, assigned a unique reference, and transcribed on to a database for analysis

Every issue raised was grouped into themes, then analysed and considered in the decision-making process

The You Said, We Did document sets out how the project has responded to feedback



# You Said, We Did: Statutory Consultation, 2018

## Key themes:

- Traffic and congestion on local roads and strategic road network
- Impact on the landscape, countryside and green belt land
- Impact on ancient woodland and woodland areas
- Impacts to local wildlife and habitats
- Increase in pollution and impact to air quality
- Impact on local communities, including amenities and open space
- Noise and vibration created by the project during construction and operation
- The complexity of the junctions, including safety of the roads and crossing
- Impacts of the rest and service facilities and Tilbury junction
- Opposition to charges at the Lower Thames Crossing





# You Said, We Did: Supplementary Consultation, Spring 2020

## Key themes:

- Traffic on the surrounding road network, including congestion in local areas and whether the project would solve congestion at the Dartford Crossing
- Disruption to local communities, including moving the route closer to Linford and impacts to amenities
- Removal of the rest and service area and Tilbury junction
- The complexity of the junctions, including safety of the roads and crossing, and smart technology
- Impact of construction on communities and on local roads
- Removal of one lane southbound between the M25 and A13
- Increase in land required to build or operate the project
- Utilities proposals including works to gas mains near the A2/M2 and in Orsett
- Environmental impacts such as air quality, visual impact and climate change
- Issues relating to the proposals for walkers, cyclists and horse riders, including that existing paths would be lost, safety and concern about shared paths



# You Said, We Did: Design refinement consultation, Summer 2020

## Key themes:

- Increased traffic on the surrounding road network, including congestion in local areas
- Disruption to local communities, including impacts on amenities, public open spaces, common land, recreational areas, sports clubs and Orsett Showground
- The complexity of junctions, including limited connectivity to local roads
- Noise barriers and their effectiveness at reducing road noise
- Utilities proposals, including sewer diversions in the M25 area
- Impact of construction on communities and on local roads, including construction compounds and working hours
- Landscaping proposals, including at the tunnel entrances
- Proposals for walkers, cyclists and horse riders, including that green bridges would not be wide enough
- The amount of land required to build and operate the project
- Environmental impacts such as on local wildlife and habitats, air quality, ancient woodland and visual impact
- Removal of the rest and service area and Tilbury junction
- Removal of one lane southbound between the M25 and A13





## You Said, We Did: Highways Alignment

*You Said: Suggestions about what the design of the project should include including more lanes or a hard shoulder*



### **We Did:**

- We looked carefully at the capacity and provision of hard shoulders, we have not changed the design
- As the project has developed, each design was run in the traffic model to assess traffic flow impacts
- Further traffic modelling undertaken following statutory consultation

## You Said, We Did: A13 Junction

*You Said: Suggestions for design changes in the area around the A13/A1089 junction. These included moving the construction compound, utility infrastructure and the corridor of the project itself*



### **We Did:**

- Made refinements to the utilities proposals following previous consultations, for example modifying the gas diversion south of Orsett to reduce impacts on Orsett Showground
- We have made minor modifications to the compounds adjacent to the junction, but no substantial changes. The placement of the compounds near the junction based on a number of criteria, including access to site, proximity to works, environmental considerations, proximity to residents, traffic impacts and utilities works
- Proposing walking, cycling and horse-riding facilities through extensive stakeholder engagement



## You Said, We Did: Rest and Service Area (RASA)

**You Said:** *Suggestions for the inclusion of a rest and service area*



### **We Did:**

- Decided not to progress with East Tilbury roadside facility following statutory consultation due to local impact and need
- Studied impact of East Tilbury RASA on operation safety, environmental and local community impacts as well as latest Highways England design standards
- Highways England will continue to work with stakeholder to further consider the need for RASAs and their appropriate location

## You Said, We Did: A13 Junction Connectivity

*You Said: Consider the connectivity of the A13 Junction*



### **We Did:**

- Reviewed the traffic movements through the junction, we have made no changes to the proposed connectivity.
- Assessed the regional traffic flows across the existing Dartford Crossing, and designed the connections onto the strategic road network to relieve congestion
- Reconnected existing local links where possible
- Considered providing links from Orsett Cock but concluded it would not be achievable while maintaining safe distances between the merges and diverges





# Publicly Accessible Land



# Ron Evans Memorial Field – Existing





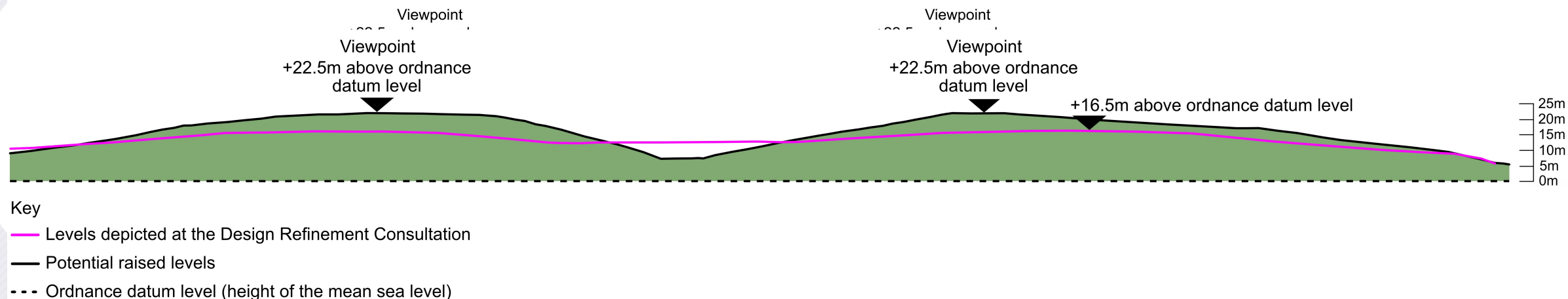
# Ron Evans Memorial Field

Replacement open space sees area extended to the south and north-west  
Current designs show replication of existing character and habitat



# Tilbury Fields at consultation

1. The project is making a commitment to the Goshems Farm area becoming a public park.
2. However, we note that the *design* of the park is still being developed with key stakeholders (i.e. this parallel process), and that the landforms may change as a result and possibly get taller – to allow flexibility in the design submitted for DCO.
3. In the interim, the design being shown in the consultation material (drawings and visualisations) are as shown at DCO 1.0 with the addition of an access route to the jetties.
4. The following slides show the emerging design currently being discussed with officers and other stakeholders





# Tilbury Fields DCO 1.0 & Consultation Proposal



## DCO 1.0 Design Considerations:

- Return to landowner and reinstate to pastoral agriculture
- Visual impact on setting of Coalhouse and Tilbury Fort
- Informal footpath to top of man-made earthworks for views out to heritage assets and the estuary
- Potential for future artwork / sculpture on top of earthworks for placemaking (by others)
- Maximum height of +16.5m AOD (9m above existing)

## Tilbury Fields Summary

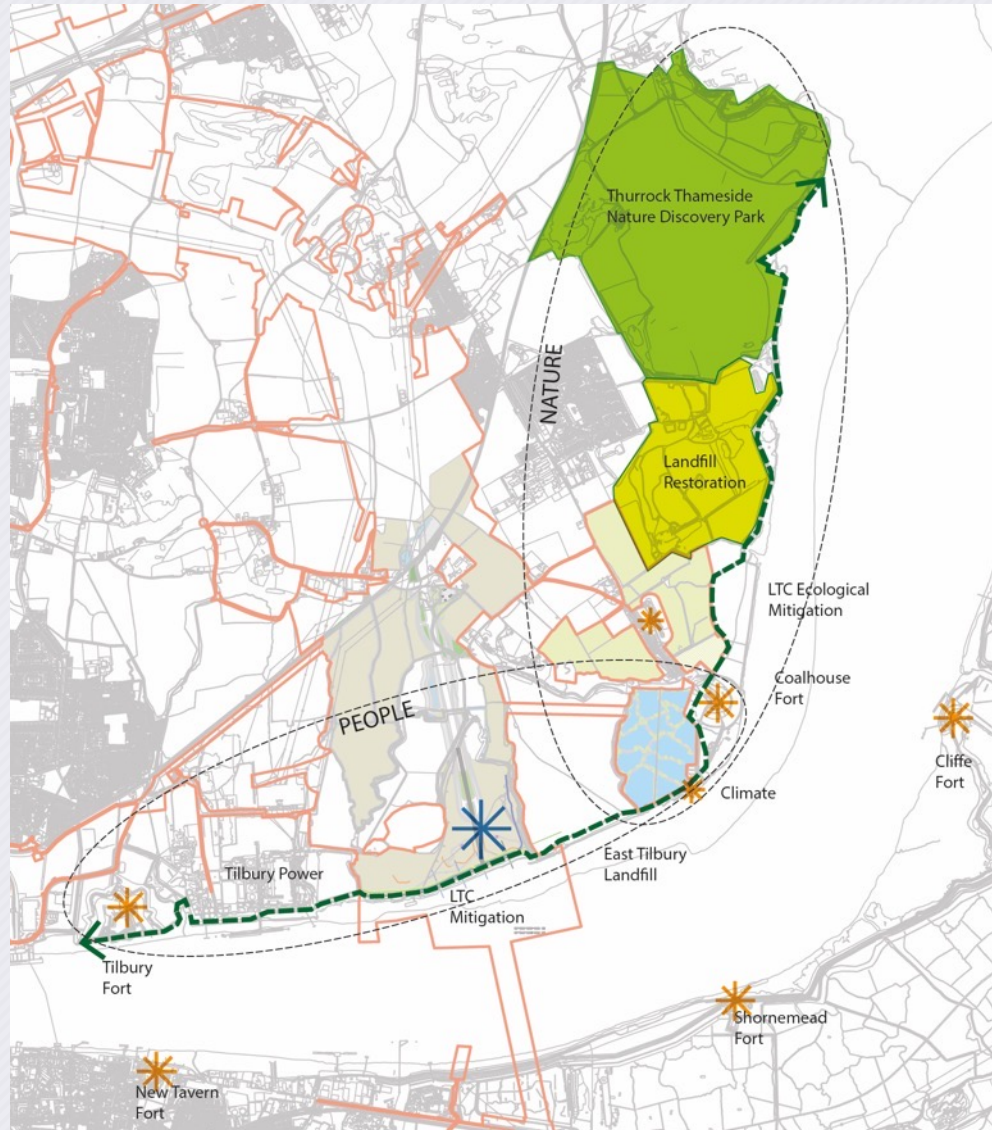
Since submission of the DCO 1.0:

- Opportunity to change Tilbury Fields from pastoral agricultural re-instatement to open mosaic habitat for invertebrates
- Opportunity to refine height and gradients of earthworks within Tilbury Fields. Opportunity to create a visual link between Coalhouse Fort and Tilbury Fort
- Indication from Thurrock for a single "higher quality...large ecology culture park" at Tilbury Fields – and that they wish to be involved in it's development: "This important site should not be developed by LTC in isolation, it is vital that the Council is involved with the design of the whole area associated with Two Forts Way to ensure a suitable final legacy that is of benefit to local people."

**This gave us an opportunity to revisit the landscape design and earthworks at Tilbury Fields for DCO 2.0.**



# Potential Green Infrastructure Offer



- The Architecture and Landscape considered the context of Tilbury Fields and what function Tilbury Fields could offer.
- Current and existing proposals along the eastern interface with the River Thames are habitat creation / reinstatement focused and already provide a good offer.
- The southern interface has a history of more 'people' based impact on the landscape and could provide a more recreational / incidental open space offer, reflecting the heritage.
- Potential for a 10km coastal path route that encounters a series of diverse spaces along the River Thames from Tilbury Fort and the Thurrock Thameside Nature Discovery Park
- (Potential to be extended and link to Tibury Fort and Stanford-Le-Hope train stations for a 15km route.)



# Response to Thurrock Comments: Public Access

The revised proposals focus on balancing the requirements for 3 main themes:

- Providing a high quality placemaking feature
- Integrating Tilbury Fields into the surrounding landscape – and the setting of existing heritage features
- Providing suitable high quality habitat





# Tilbury Fields Revision B





# Tilbury Fields Geometry and heights of earthworks





# Tilbury Fields Footpath routes and potential for interpretation



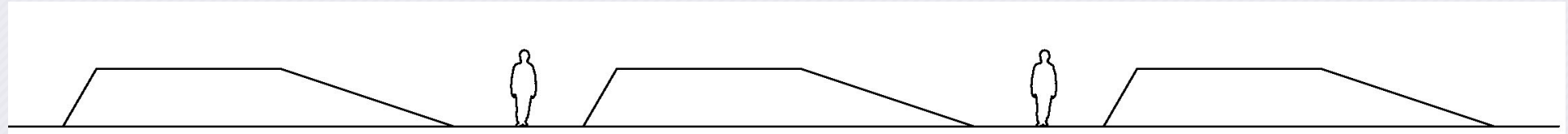


# Tilbury Fields Intimate Earthworks





# Tilbury Fields Zones – Intimate Earthworks





# Tilbury Fields Open Mosaic Habitat





# Tilbury Fields Main Earthworks



Thank you for your time.

**We welcome any questions.**