

TRINITY HOUSE

Mr Rynd Smith
Lead Member of the Examining Authority
The Planning Inspectorate
Temple Quay House
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

4th May 2023

Your Ref: TR010032

Application by National Highways for an Order Granting Development Consent for Lower Thames Crossing

Dear Mr Smith

We refer to the above application for development consent and your associated letter dated 25 April 2023 addressed to, *inter alia*, all interested parties and statutory parties.

In particular, we refer to item 10 (Annex F) of the above referenced letter, namely:-

Trinity House, to include:

- Works affecting the River Thames
- River traffic and access to ports and harbours
- Navigational risk and safety

Trinity House is the General Lighthouse Authority for England, Wales, the Channel Islands and Gibraltar with powers principally derived from the Merchant Shipping Act 1995, as amended. The role of Trinity House as a General Lighthouse Authority (GLA) under the Act includes the superintendence and management of all lighthouses, buoys and beacons within its area of jurisdiction.

Within Trinity House's remit for the superintendence and management of aids to navigation it has an overseeing role as a GLA for local lighthouse authorities. This includes the Port of London Authority (PLA).

However, as the Lower Thames Crossing project is within the jurisdiction of the PLA as the Statutory Harbour Authority we would anticipate that it would be more appropriate for the PLA to input and comment on the above referenced aspects, including the Navigational Risk Assessment. The Maritime & Coastguard Agency might also wish to comment in this regard.

Should any aids to navigation be required as mitigation for any stages of the project the PLA would communicate and discuss this with Trinity House, as the GLA, through the normal established processes in this regard.

Accordingly, Trinity House respectfully considers that it is not necessary for it to comment on the application or the Examination process at this time. In addition Trinity House does not consider that a Statement of Common Ground would be required between itself and the applicant.

Trinity House has written to and informed the applicant of the above accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

Russell Dunham ACII Legal Advisor

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