

**THE PROPOSED A122 (LOWER THAMES CROSSING) DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER**  
**PROCEDURAL DEADLINE C**

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**Written submissions of oral comments made at PM pt 1  
including responses to matters raised at PM pt 1  
submitted on behalf of  
the Port of London Authority**

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## 1. Introduction

This is a written submission made on behalf of the Port of London Authority (**PLA**) in respect of oral submissions made by:

- 1.1. the PLA (section 2); and
- 1.2. Thurrock Council (section 3),

at the Preliminary Meeting part 1 held on 6 June 2023.

## 2. Submission of oral comments made by the PLA at the Preliminary Meeting Part 1 Agenda item 4 - Initial Assessment of Principal Issues

- 2.1. The PLA requested clarification in respect of the correct forum in which to raise issues in relating to tunnelling activities associated with the proposed scheme. This is on the basis that the list of identified Principal Issues<sup>1</sup> includes “Tunnelling considerations” at item 7 and “The draft Development Consent Order(dDCO)[...]” at item 14.
- 2.2. The PLA noted a significant degree of overlap between these two Principal Issues, given that discussion of the proposed route of the tunnel, and the means to construct it, stand as technical points to be covered under tunnelling considerations at item 7. Concurrently, the powers by which the applicant could undertake such tunnelling activities will be conferred by the dDCO, which includes, for example, the apparent conflict between the permitted vertical limits of deviation required to construct the tunnel and the ability of the PLA to dredge the River to the agreed depth.
- 2.3. The PLA notes the Examining Authority’s guidance that specific technical considerations in respect of tunnelling, as contained in the application documents, should be raised in a tunnel-focussed Issue Specific Hearing (**ISH**) and the issues raised therein, and any outcomes, should then feed into a discussion of the relevant powers in subsequent ISHs which address the dDCO.

## 3. Submission in response to oral comments made by Thurrock Council at the Preliminary Meeting Part 1 Agenda item 4 - Initial Assessment of Principal Issues

- 3.1. Thurrock Council referred to the written submission it made at Procedural Deadline B and noted the fourteen further issues it had identified and requested that they be added to the list currently comprised at Annex B of the Rule 6 Letter. Of these, further issues, the PLA specifically endorses point g. *Adequate use of marine transport for the movement of materials and plant and the adequacy of the Framework Construction Travel Plan arrangements.*
- 3.2. The PLA supports Thurrock Council's position in this respect, and that the issues of material and waste handling and making maximum use of the River for such matters should form one element of a Principal Issue for the examination into the proposed scheme.

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<sup>1</sup> Initial Assessment of Principal Issues, Annex B, Letter from The Planning Inspectorate to all Interested Parties, Statutory Parties and any other person invited to the Preliminary Meeting, 25 April 2023 (the **Rule 6 Letter**)

- 3.3. The PLA worked with Thurrock Council to prepare a joint response (Technical Note) which addresses the issue of maximisation of sustainable transport methods for the transport of materials and waste in the construction of the proposed scheme. This was shared with the applicant in October 2022 and can be updated and submitted to the examination at the appropriate deadline. The PLA considers that Principal Issue 8. *Waste and materials*, at Annex B, could provide the appropriate forum within which explore this issue.

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