

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

**Agenda for Issue Specific Hearing 4 (ISH 4): Traffic & Transportation**

Hearing	Date and Time	Location
Issue Specific Hearing 4 on Traffic & Transportation	<p><b>Wednesday</b> <b>6 September 2023</b></p> <p><b>Hearing Starts at 10am</b></p> <p>Blended event: Venue Registration Process from 9:15am</p> <p>Virtual Registration Process from 9:15am</p>	<p>Orsett Hall Hotel Prince Charles Ave, Orsett, Grays RM16 3HS</p> <p>By virtual means using Microsoft Teams</p>

**Agenda**

- 1. Welcome, introductions, arrangements for the Hearing**
- 2. Purpose of the Issue Specific Hearing**
- 3. Traffic Modelling**

The ExA will ask questions of the Applicant and local highways authorities relating to the Applicant's approach to modelling uncertainties, junction modelling submitted at Deadline 1, outstanding requests for information, age and coverage of the LTAM data; and future growth scenarios that modelling and the scheme design should provide for.

a)	<b>Traffic Modelling</b>
i	Explanation and discussion of the Applicant's and DPLGW's transport work submitted at Deadline 1 [ <a href="#">REP1-187</a> & <a href="#">REP1-333</a> ] followed by a discussion about the potential impacts on Orsett Cock and Manorway junctions in light of the traffic reports and the Applicant's Response (see – Annex A Comments on WRs Appendix E – Ports [ <a href="#">REP2-050</a> ]).
ii	Applicant to explain its approach to modelling uncertainties and whether any additional work is necessary in light of the recent publication of the "TAG Unit M4 - Forecasting and Uncertainty".

Other IPs will be welcome to participate. Contributions from local highway authorities will be sought.

The Applicant will be provided with a right of reply.

#### 4. Wider Network Impacts Management and Monitoring

The ExA will ask questions of the Applicant relating to the Wider Network Impacts Management and Monitoring Plan (WNIMMP), in particular the desirability of the project to mitigate unacceptable impacts on the surrounding road network.

a)	<b>Applicant's Approach to Mitigation</b>
i	NPSNN policy position in terms of wider mitigation of highway impacts
ii	Applicant will be asked to justify the approach in the WNIMMP specifically around the issue of mitigation.
iii	Precedents for and against the Applicant's approach.
iv	The effect of the LTC scheme routes between the M20 and M2 motorways, in particular the A229 Bluebell Hill.
v	The Silvertown Tunnel Approach. Whether there is an alternative approach to wider impacts mitigation, for example, the approach taken in the made Silvertown Tunnel DCO?

Other IPs will be welcome to participate. Contributions from local highway authorities will be sought.

The Applicant will be provided with a right of reply.

#### 5. Construction Traffic Management

The ExA will ask questions of the Applicant relating to the Outline Traffic Management Plan for Construction (OTMPfC) to include construction traffic route, governance structure and concerns regarding specific construction routes identified in the OTMPfC.

c)	<b>Construction Traffic Management</b>
i	Adverse impacts arising from specific construction routes and/or road closures.
ii	Applicant asked to set out how the Traffic Management Plan would work in practice.
iii	Mitigation, monitoring and compensation during construction phase.

Other IPs will be welcome to participate. Contributions from local highway authorities will be sought.

The Applicant will be provided with a right of reply.

#### 6. Next Steps

#### 7. Closing

## **Purpose of this ISH**

The purpose of this ISH is to inquire into the operational and construction effects of the LTC.

## **Attendees**

The ExA would find it helpful if the following parties could attend this Hearing.

- The Applicant.
- The relevant highway authorities - Thurrock Council, Essex County Council, Kent County Council and Transport for London.
- Any other public authority affected by the proposed development.
- Port of Tilbury London Limited.
- DP World London Gateway (DPWLG).
- Emergency Services and Safety Partners Steering Group.
- Thames Crossing Action Group (TCAG).

However, this does not indicate that other parties will not be able to contribute. All Interested Parties (IP) are invited to attend and make oral representations on the matters set out in the Agenda, subject to the ExA's ability to control the Hearing. Anyone wishing to attend the Hearing who has not already advised the Case Team of this, should do so as soon as possible.

The Applicant is requested to have people with the following expertise available to assist the hearing:

- Traffic forecasting and modelling
- Highway alignment selection
- Route design
- Structures design
- Mitigation design and management

This list may also assist other IPs who are able to draw on staff or advisors to support them.

The ExA has sought to provide sufficient detail to assist the parties to prepare for the Hearing. The details set out above are indicative and the ExA may find it necessary to include additional Agenda items or to amend the order in which the items are dealt with.

The event will be livestreamed and a link for watching the livestream will be posted on the [project webpage of the National Infrastructure Planning website](#) closer to the Hearing date. IPs and members of the public who wish to observe the Hearing can view and listen to the Hearing using the livestream, or view and listen to the recording, after it has concluded.

## **Registration Process**

### *Registering as a speaker*

The speakers invited to this hearing are listed above. If you are invited, please register at **9-15am**. This enables arrangements to be explained and hearings to make a prompt start.

You can register in person at the venue. If you are attending virtually though, you will receive joining and registration instructions in a separate email, shortly in advance of the event. This email will also explain what to do if you have difficulties getting connected.

### *Observing the hearing*

Hearings are held in public. If you are not speaking, public seating at the venue will be open from **9-15am**. If you are observing on-line, please go to the [project landing page](#) on the National Infrastructure Planning website where you will find:

- on the day - a link to a livestream to watch the hearing in real time; and
- after the event has closed - a link to the recordings of the hearing

All Interested Parties (IPs) are welcome to submit observations in writing by the deadline following the hearing.

### **Procedure at an ISH**

Guidance under the Planning Act 2008 and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 provides that it is for the ExA to probe, test and assess the evidence through direct questions of persons making oral representations at Hearings. Questioning at the Hearing will be led by the ExA. Cross questioning of a person giving evidence by another person will only be permitted if the ExA decides it is necessary to ensure representations are adequately tested or that an IP has had a fair chance to put its case.

Parties attending an ISH for the first time are encouraged to view parts of previous ISH1 held at the start of this Examination, using the recordings held online. Whilst the matters to be examined in this hearing – identified in this Agenda – will be different, the approaches taken to hearing management and involvement by parties will be similar. Introductory and advisory material included in the opening stages of that hearing will not be set out in full in later hearings and so the ISH1 recording of the opening session on Day 1 will assist those who are not familiar with this type of hearing.

- ISH1 Recordings ([Day 1 – 21 June 2023](#))
- ISH1 Recordings ([Day 2 – 23 June 2023](#))

Participants at the hearing are reminded of the importance of respecting all other participants and allowing everyone here to have their say. Please do not interrupt the other speakers. If the ExA needs to clarify something that is being said, then the ExA will intervene.

Unnecessary interruptions that disrupt the hearing can be viewed as unreasonable behaviour for which awards of costs can be sought by other interested parties; they can also lead to a party being removed from the hearing.

Every effort will be made to ensure that the issues will be discussed on the day that they are scheduled for. The hearing will finish as soon as the ExA deems that all those present have had their say and that all matters have been covered. If there are additional matters to be dealt with or there are submissions that take a considerable amount of time at any hearing, it may be necessary to prioritise matters and defer others to written responses to actions, to written questions or to a subsequent hearing.

Please contact the Case Team if you have any questions regarding the arrangements for the hearing or how to participate.

Email: [Lowerthamescrossing@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:Lowerthamescrossing@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

Tel: 0303 444 5000

### **Contingencies**

If this hearing is unable to proceed or continue, then the ExA will adjourn incomplete business to hearing times in October or November 2023 that have been reserved in the

Examination Timetable. Notice of any adjournments will be provided in the banner on the National Infrastructure Planning Website.