National Infrastructure Planning

Sent by email only to: LowerThamesCrossing@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Your Ref: TR010032 Kent Downs AONB Unit Interested Party Ref: 20035310

15th December 2023



Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Kent Downs AONB Unit West Barn Penstock Hall Farm Canterbury Road East Brabourne Ashford, Kent TN25 5LL

mail@kentdowns.org.uk

Anglesey

Arnside and Silverdale

Blackdown Hills Cannock Chase Chichester Harbour Chilterns **Clwydian Range** Cornwall Cotswolds Gower Cranbourne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs Dedham Vale Dorset East Devon Forest of Bowland Howardian Hills High Weald Isle of Wight Isles of Scilly Kent Downs

Lincolnshire Wolds Llvn Malvern Hills Mendip Hills Nidderdale Norfolk Coast North Devon North Pennines North Wessex Downs Northumberland Coast Quantock Hills Shropshire Hills Solway Coast South Devon Suffolk Coast and Heaths Surrey Hills Tamar Valley

Wye Valley

Dear Sir/Madam

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

Responses of the Kent Downs AONB Unit to Procedural Deadline 9a

Please find attached the Kent Downs AONB Unit's response to Deadline 9a of the Lower Thames Crossing Examination.

As advised in our covering letter to our Deadline 8 Submission, on the 22nd November 2023, all AONBs in England and Wales became National Landscapes and the Kent Downs AONB has been renamed the Kent Downs National Landscape. However, in the interests of consistency and in view of the advanced stage of the Examination and the imminent completion of the Examination, we have retained reference to the Kent Downs AONB/AONB Unit in our submission and will continue to do so in any subsequent correspondence.

The AONB Unit's submissions at Deadline 9a comprise:

- Comments on Applicant's submissions at D9:
 - Doc 7.5 Design Principle V7
 - 9.214 Applicants Responses to Interested Parties Submissions at D8 hope this is of assistance to you.
- A Final Position statement from the Kent Downs AONB Unit.

Yours faithfully

Katie Miller Planning Manager, Kent Downs AONB Unit

Enhancing landscapes and life in the Kent Downs

The Kent Downs AONB Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) promotes and co-ordinates the conservation and enhancement of the Kent Downs AONB. Funding is provided by DEFRA, Kent County Council and the local authorities of Ashford, Bromley, Canterbury, Dover, Gravesham, Medway, Maidstone, Sevenoaks, Shepway, Swale and Tonbridge & Malling. Other organisations represented on the JAC include Natural England, the Environment Agency, Country Land and Business Association, National Farmers Union, Kent Association of Parish Councils and Action with Communities in Rural Kent.