From:

To:

Lower Thames Crossing

Cc:

**Subject:** Fw: TR010032 – Lower Thames Crossing Project REF 20033570

**Date:** 12 July 2024 15:36:36

Would appreciate any help to prevent this for the reasons below and many more.

#### Objection letter.

For the avoidance of doubt, we whole heartedly object to the proposed land grab of our campsite and land under the guise of environmental mitigation. The proposed use would be to mitigate the destruction to countryside caused by the new road built by highways. Our land is earmarked as Open mosaic habitat, Which explained to us would be an area of long grass alongside short grass, some manmade earth mounds and an ideal would be an area that has previously had burnt out vehicles and bare earth. This sounds absolutely absurd to us. We already have this in place with our management of the land.

We are a Greener camping club site and have grown from strength to strength over the past few years. Originally started with 15 pitches and open March to October but due to our popularity with nature lovers and likeminded people we have expanded to 25 pitches and year round use. We are a Greener camping club site to provide Eco camping on the River Thames utilising the Trees for life scheme, Every membership help us plant a tree on our site. We have excellent reviews for our green ethos and have been a regular go to place for authors such as Georgina Wilson-Powel founder of Pebble Magazine and with books like "Is it really green?" And "The Eco Conscious Travel Guide".

### Georgina\_wp Morning.

Coffee with a warm breeze and plenty of birdsong on a hidden spot of the Thames Estuary. Hard to believe opposite us is one of the UK's busiest ports!

Today's the start of Weekend 3 in the 2022 great UK campervanning adventure...

Stunning eco campsite with a grass labrynth to break up the views.

@thamesviewcamping

#vanlife #weekendaway #outsideisfree #optoutside#naturematters #exploreuk Also nothing but praise from media personality Gill Mills

#### **Gill Mills**

5/5

3 months ago on Google

A brilliant campsite that does deliver on its eco claims. The compost loos were some of the best we have found, the recycling points clear and comprehensive and the solar showers and wash area clean and efficient. The pitches were well thought out, the idea of mowing a sort of crop circle as your 'territory' was great, as was the fire pit and picnic bench. As a transport infrastructure geek, it was fascinating to walk along the Thames and look at the gateway to London and see the massive liners along the false horizon. There was a mini football pitch and lovely cows and horses and all the other guests were mindful of noise and pollution (no cars running just to charge their phones for example). Vince was a great host, making this a great wee campsite and one we will be returning to.

#### russ m.Confirmed?

Non-electric grass tent or trailer tent pitch Recommend to friends Visit again

**Liked:** Everything. Close to home but right on the Thames and surrounded by country side so although close to houses at front the drive takes you down to where there is brilliant pitches very clean eco toilets and showers.

Fire pits available on pitch and dried wood to purchase. The whole site is surrounded by grasses and nature in abundance this is not brick city so relax with or without firepit and take in the best of this site, no disappointment to be had and would recommend this site to every lover of the country life.

Fab easy to get to site to escape from London13/06/2022 Non-electric grass and gravel touring pitch Recommend to friends Visit again

**Liked:** Perfect small campsite. Fantastic mowed out pitches supplied with fire pit & picnic bench, surrounded by long meadow grass giving a sense of privacy. Compost loos very clean. Great walks to explore the nature reserve & estuary. Very calm & relaxing stay. We will definitely come back.

In the last two years alone we have planted over 500 trees, sown over 50kg of meadow seed, installed an owl box which has residents, dredged drainage ditches that are now home to various aqua hydrophytes, water voles, small fish, the occasional Shell ducks and a Heron to name but a few. At various times of the year we have an abundance of wildlife visiting our campsite, three different varieties of bees found by ecologists who visited to numerous nesting breeding birds i.e. Woodpeckers, Robins, wren, gold finch, chaffinch, tits. Sand Martins nest in our huge dredge pile, Skylark, Reed Warbler, Marsh Harrier, owls of at least three varieties, red kite, Kestrels etc etc . Adders are also on site but tend to keep to their self in far corners. In fact everything indigenous to our part of the world but not excluding a stork that hung about for a few months. We have implemented various nesting sites and protect nests with necessary measures and controls. We regularly, if not daily monitor the land and wildlife. The pitches and pathways are mown into seeded tall grass meadow which hosts an abundance of butterfly and even rare meadow flowers as spotted by ecologists recently. Every year the site is fertilised and cared for. Each pitch is home to a fire pit which is moved periodically to allow the earth to recover. We have been turning patches of grass over to encourage seeding of plants that may not have surfaced for a few or even many years.

How can anyone possibly claim to mitigate anything by claiming our land? Nothing in their plans would better anything we have already done by a long way. Our campsite is and has been enjoyed by thousands of people and wildlife and hopefully we will continue to carry on with the dream.

We cannot understand why Highways has not claimed the neighbouring brown field site with over a hundred acres next to us that has spent decades as landfill and only stopped trading in December? In summary: By grabbing our land there would be no mitigation but rather the opposite. Highways would like to use an established green field site for mitigation rather than a brown field site with at least 10 times our size which actually needs mitigation next door. Any habitation compensatory methods would negatively impact on the already thriving habitats we have on the land. We have areas with protected species already here and find it hard to believe that highways could justify jeopardising their habitat by turning over the ground regularly with a JCB as they described to us as a mitigation for destroying nearby land with a JCB! We would welcome the introduction of any suitable species that would need to be moved due to the highway on our campsite on the understanding it would have no negative impact on the wildlife we already have here. The proposed cpo for our beautiful campsite does not even affect the road and would not be needed to build the road. Environmental mitigation to offset the road is a farce. We are a greener camping club site that has been creating a wildlife haven for years. Taking it would simply be a change of name. **Sincerely** Vince Turner, Karl Osborne, Thamesview Camping All the best, Vince Turner Thamesview Camping

Trees for life scheme, All memberships help us plant a tree on our site. Thanks for being a part

From: NI Mail Distribution <ni.mail.distribution@notifications.service.gov.uk>

Sent: Tuesday, July 9, 2024 3:07 PM

**To:** contact@thamesview-camping.com <contact@thamesview-camping.com>

**Subject:** TR010032 – Lower Thames Crossing Project



# PLANNING ACT 2008 AND THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (EXAMINATION PROCEDURE) RULES 2010

APPLICATION BY NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

("THE APPLICANT") FOR AN ORDER

GRANTING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT FOR

THE PROPOSED LOWER THAMES

CROSSING PROJECT

CONSULTATION SEEKING COMMENTS
FROM THE APPLICANT, NATURAL
ENGLAND, THE CROWN ESTATE, AND ALL
OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES

## **Interested Party Reference number:** 20033570

(You must quote your Interested Party Reference number in all

correspondence with the Planning Inspectorate).

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find below a link to a letter from the Secretary of State for Transport that has been published on the National Infrastructure Planning website for the above project.

https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/TR010032-006377

This letter invites comments from various parties in relation to a number of matters raised in the letter. The deadline for receipt of comments is 23 July 2024.

If you are not able to access this information electronically or have any other queries, please contact us on 0303 444 5000 and a member of the Planning Inspectorate's case team will be able to provide you with the relevant details.

Kind regards,

Lower Thames Crossing Project Case Team

National Infrastructure Planning

Helpline: 0303 444 5000

Email: lowerthamescrossing@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Web: <a href="https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/">https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/</a> (National Infrastructure Planning)

Web: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/planning-inspectorate (The Planning Inspectorate)

X (formally known as Twitter): @PINSgov

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https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/help/privacy-and-cookie/