

# **Lower Thames Crossing Task Force Update**

**Matt Palmer, Gary Hodge & Clare Donnelly**

18<sup>th</sup> January 2021

# Agenda

- Introduction from Thurrock and Matt Palmer
- Approach to the Hatch Report
- LTC Approach to Design and Quality
- Previous DCO Application Proposals :
  - North Portal & Surrounding Area
  - Tilbury Viaduct
  - Mardyke and Orsett Fenn Viaducts

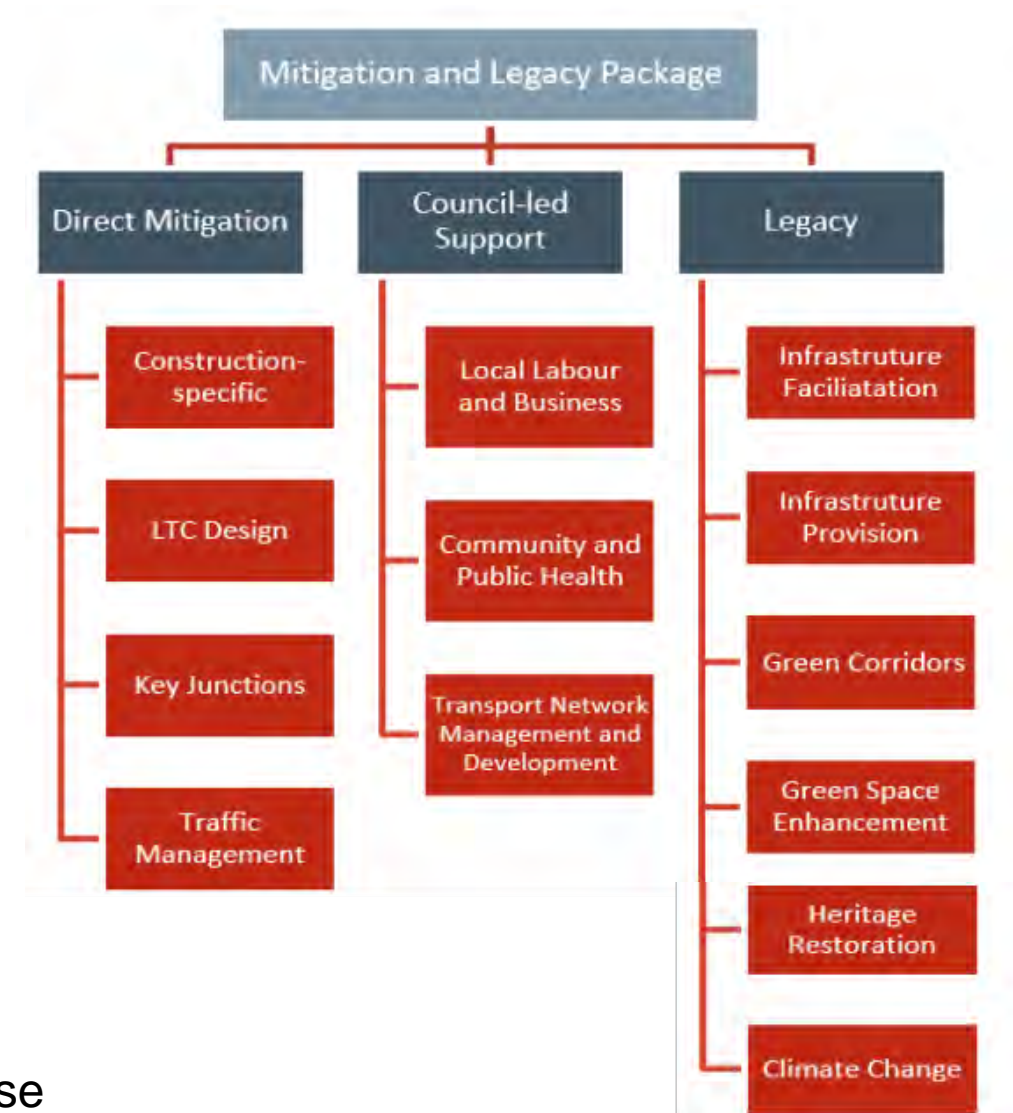
# Approach to the Hatch Report

# HATCH Report

- Good basis for collaboration going forward
- 57 measures in total
- 27 of these measures are already part of our emerging resubmission

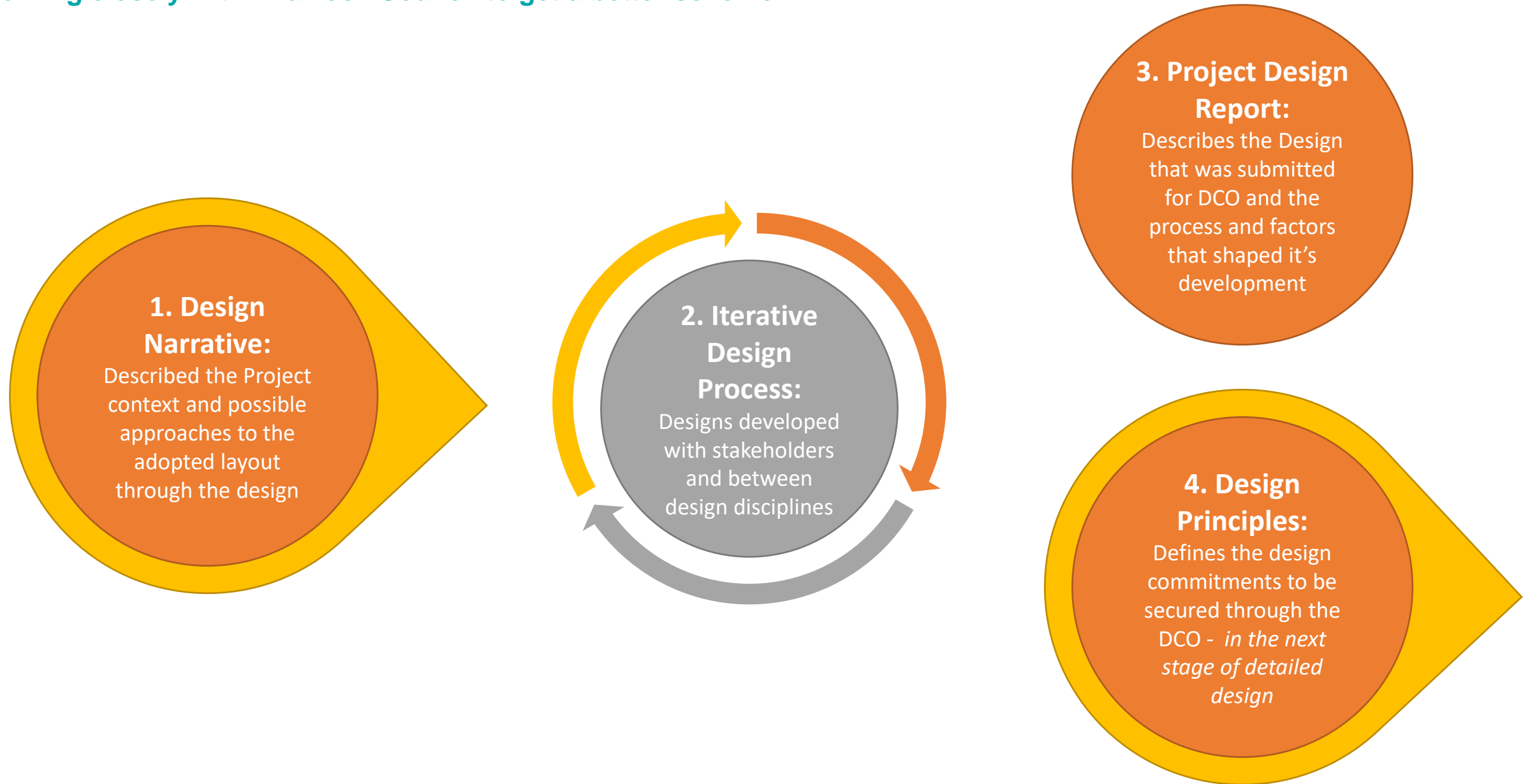
Package	Contract	Legacy	DCO	Other	Total
Direct Mitigation		2	8	13	23
Council Led Support	1	7	1	3	12
Legacy		5	3	14	22
Total	1	14	12	30	57

- Other key measures under consideration include:
  1. Sustainable public transport to construction sites (M7)
  2. Council-led community and public health team (CLS8)
  3. Bridge over Tilbury Loop railway (L7)
  4. Improve internet / 5G connections (L10)
  5. Complete and improve PROW network (L14)
- Currently working with Thurrock Council Officers to pick up these measures in Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) and possibly add to the DCO submission.



# LTC Approach to Design and Quality

## Working closely with Thurrock Council to get a better scheme



Layers of Preliminary Design Commitments

Non-DCO Commitments

DCO Commitments

Level of refinement and detail

Contract Terms:  
Secured by:  
*LTC Construction Contracts*  
Illustrated in:  
*Design Guide*

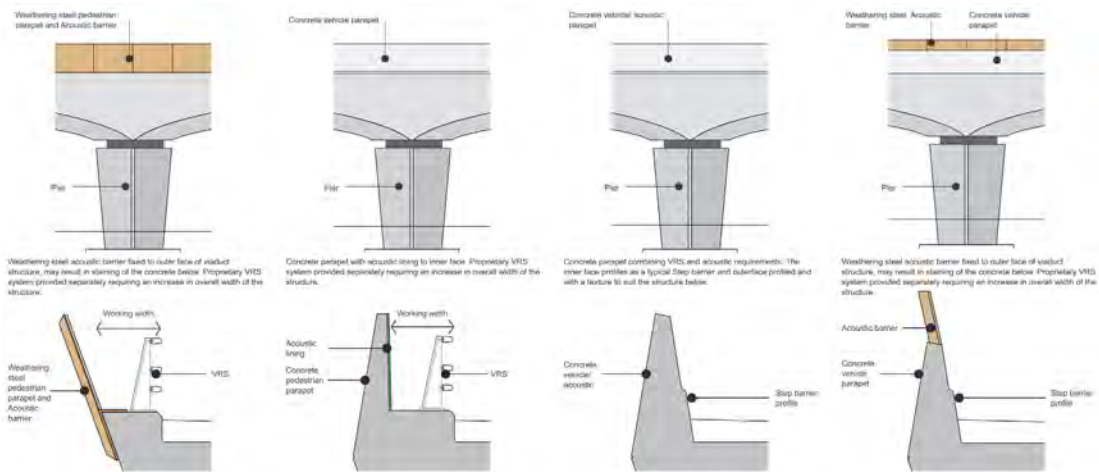
These documents add more detail to the DCO Commitments to assist the contractor in pricing the works appropriately and developing detailed designs

Additional Commitments:  
Secured by: *Design Principles*  
Illustrated in: *Project Design Report*

Design Principles layer additional general (ie project-wide) and specific commitments *on top of* the baseline design (eg for a specific material pallet) to be developed further at detailed design.

Baseline Design:  
Secured by: *Book of Plans*

Illustrated in: *Structures Plans and Environmental Statement*  
These formed the basis for the environmental assessment and set the basic parameters for the structures (eg height & location). They are illustrated in Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment



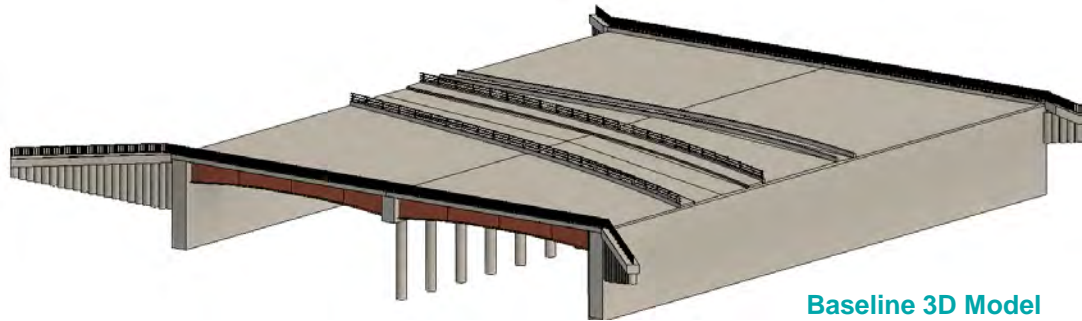
Design Guide

STR.00	Project Enhanced Structures Consistent design approach	Project Enhanced Structures (ref. STR.01-05 and STR.06) shall share a consistent design approach where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A consistent material palette shall be used for all structures.</li><li>The surrounding landscape, earthworks and bridge abutments will provide a coordinated integrated solution resulting in a safe and coordinated engineered landscape.</li><li>Bridge pier material and form will be distinctive and consistent across the Project and avoid large expanses of flat concrete surfaces at the abutments.</li><li>Water and close to the Kent Downs AONB, materials will be self-finished, minimising maintenance while being consistent and appropriate to the colour palette required in the Kent Downs AONB.</li><li>Parapet material and form (e.g. weathering steel) will be distinctive and consistent across the Project. Parapets and acoustic barriers shall be combined where reasonably practicable.</li><li>The natural light under bridge structures will be maximised as much as is reasonably practicable.</li><li>Components will be limited in variety and consistent in form of construction and of high quality by maximising standard components replicable through DBA.</li><li>A series of plans and profile of steel will be provided through the application of planning making features, where the name of each bridge and/or graphics will be incorporated permanently into the deck or parapet so it can be seen by users of the Project (Thames, Chase footbridges, Project bridges and AONB bridges) and/or VCH users (roadists) as they approach.</li><li>Bridge-supporting structures such as earth-retaining structures and parapets will seamlessly integrate within the landscape, avoiding the need for exposed wing walls and concrete retaining structures where reasonably practicable.</li><li>Where exposed engineered structures are required, these will be designed and constructed to support the principles of a landscape-led approach and mitigate the impact on the existing green infrastructure.</li><li>Different access requirements, including for maintenance, will be coordinated where practicable to avoid duplication. Where access structures (e.g. galleries) are required, these will be integrated within the Project rather than added on.</li><li>A typical graphic illustrating a Project Enhanced Structure is provided in Appendix B.</li></ul>
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Design Principles



Project Design Report



Baseline 3D Model

# Examples of design Issues still under discussion

- Further structures to be enhanced
- Design quality control measures
- Possibility of Design Codes being part of the DCO resubmission
- Further approvals
- Width and design of certain structures
- North Portal design and wider landscape integration
- Tilbury Viaduct design
- Open Space provision around the A13 Junction



# Proposals from the Previous DCO Application in Thurrock

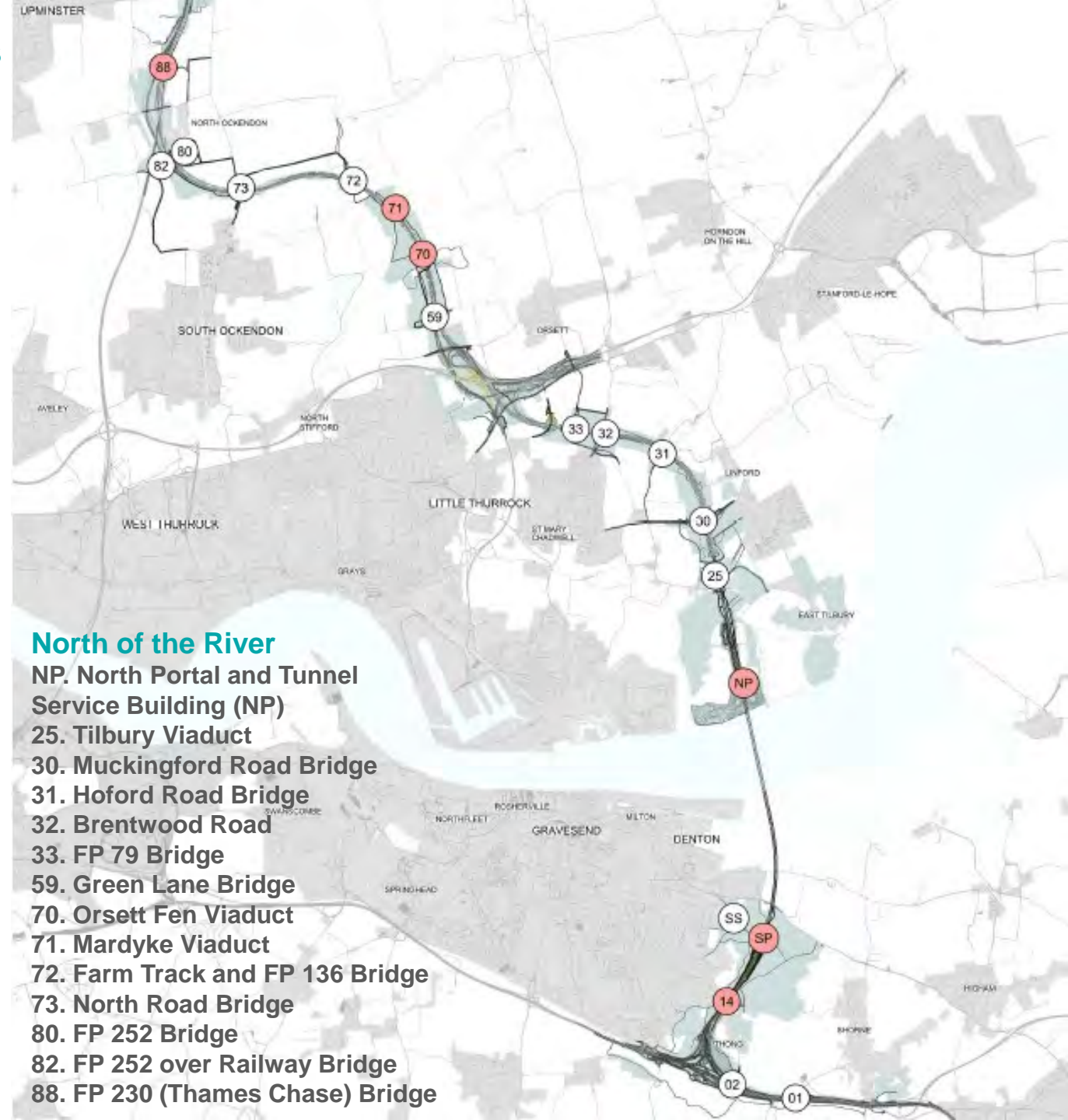
## Good Design on All Structures

**Table 3.4 Project-wide design principles: Structures**

Clause no.	Design principle name	Design principle
STR.01	General structures	<p>The design is to be led by the existing landscape, incorporating, and integrating the structures and buildings, so they appear as fully and seamlessly integrated components within the landscape. Therefore, the Project shall aim to achieve high-quality structures along the Project route, incorporating Design for Manufacture and Assembly (e.g. prefabricated components) and integration of architecture and structural designs. The goal of the design shall be to have structures that are not overbearing or obtrusive in the landscape, thereby reducing impact on the local character and environment.</p>
STR.07	Bridge structures	<p>All bridges not subject to the requirements of Project Enhanced Structures shall share a consistent design approach with the Project Enhanced Structures in the following respects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A consistent material palette shall be used for all structures.</li> <li>• The surrounding landscape, earthworks and bridge abutments will provide a coordinated integrated solution resulting in a site-led coordinated engineered landscape.</li> <li>• The natural light under bridge structures will be maximised as much as is reasonably practicable.</li> <li>• Components will be limited in variety and consistent in form of construction and of high quality by maximising standard components replicable through DfMA.</li> <li>• Parapets and acoustic barriers shall be combined where reasonably practicable.</li> <li>• Bridge-supporting structures such as earth-retaining structures and parapets will seamlessly integrate within the landscape, avoiding the need for exposed wing walls and concrete retaining structures where reasonably practicable.</li> <li>• Where exposed engineered structures are required, these will be designed and constructed to support the principles of a landscape-led approach and mitigate the impact on the existing green infrastructure.</li> <li>• Different access requirements, including for maintenance, will be coordinated where practicable to avoid duplication. Where access structures (e.g. galleries) are required, these will be integrated within the Project rather than added on.</li> </ul>

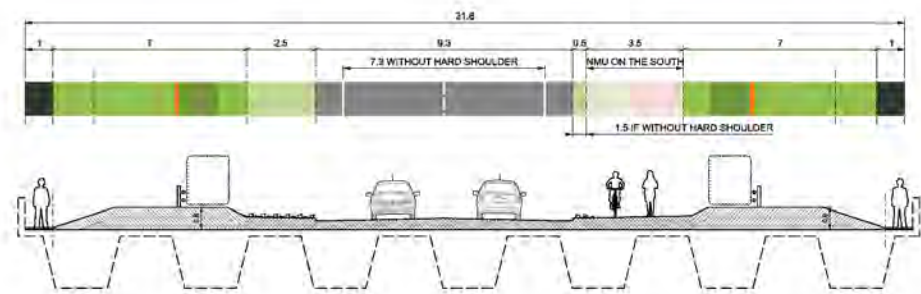
## Project Structures in Thurrock: Integration and Analysis

- The design team initially reviewed *all* bridges over the LTC alignment (not junction structures) to assess how well they fit with their environment.
- This process showed that some focus would be required on specific structures to improve their integration where this represented good value for money.
- Before we decided which structures to prioritise, we sought the guidance of Highways England's Design Review Panel
- “Enhanced structures” – which include the portals – were selected and are highlighted in red
- In addition to these enhanced structures there remain four green bridges proposed in Thurrock at Hoford Road, Green Lane, Muckingford Road and North Road.
- All of this is subject to ongoing engagement with Thurrock officers

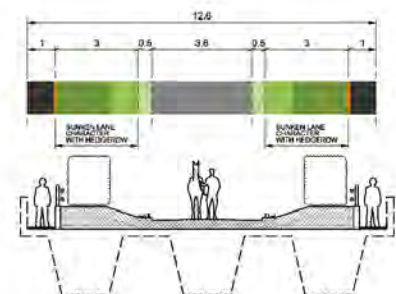




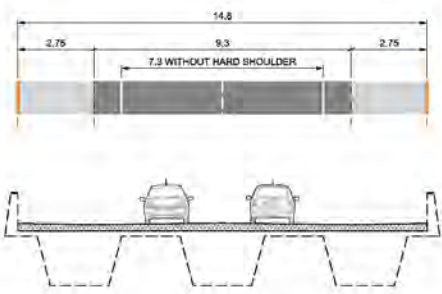
# Project Structures in Thurrock: Integration and Analysis



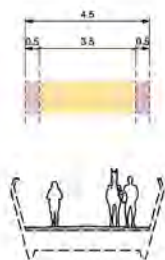
MUCKINGFORD ROAD



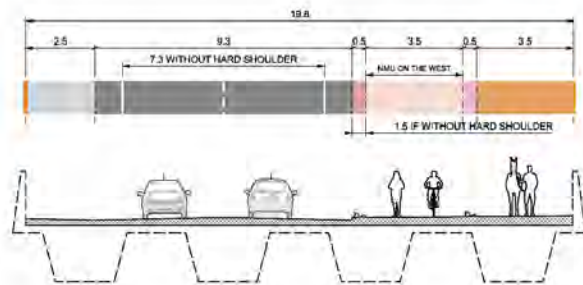
HOFORD ROAD



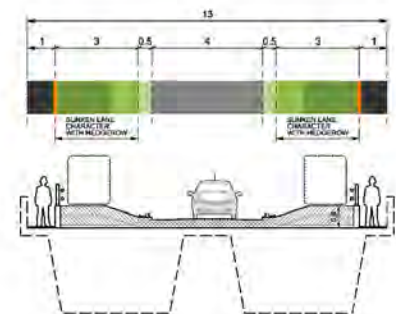
BRENTWOOD ROAD



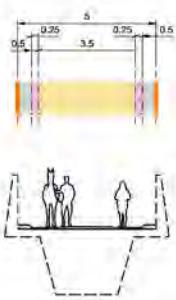
FARM TRACK & FP79



RECTORY ROAD

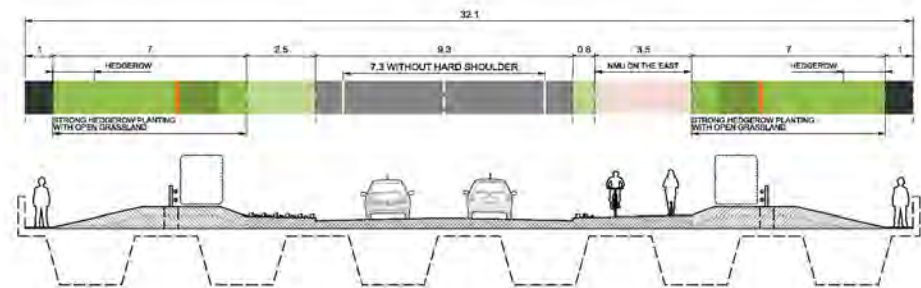


GREEN LANE

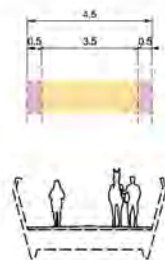


FARM TRACK & FP136

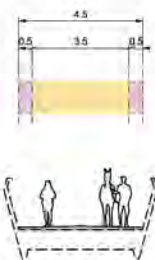
- KEY
- SHY DISTANCE
  - GREEN
  - VERGE
  - GREEN VERGE (LOW PLANTING AND GRASS OR GRASSCRETE)
  - SEPARATION
  - MAINTENANCE WALKWAY
  - PEDESTRIAN, BICYCLE & BRIDLEWAY
  - PEDESTRIAN & BICYCLE
  - PEDESTRIAN
  - BRIDLEWAY
  - ROAD
  - VEHICLE RESTRAINT SYSTEM



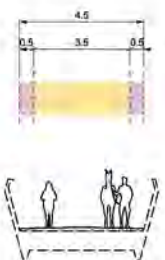
NORTH ROAD



FP252 (151)



FP252 (151) OVER RAIL



FP230 (THAMES CHASE)

# The North Portal



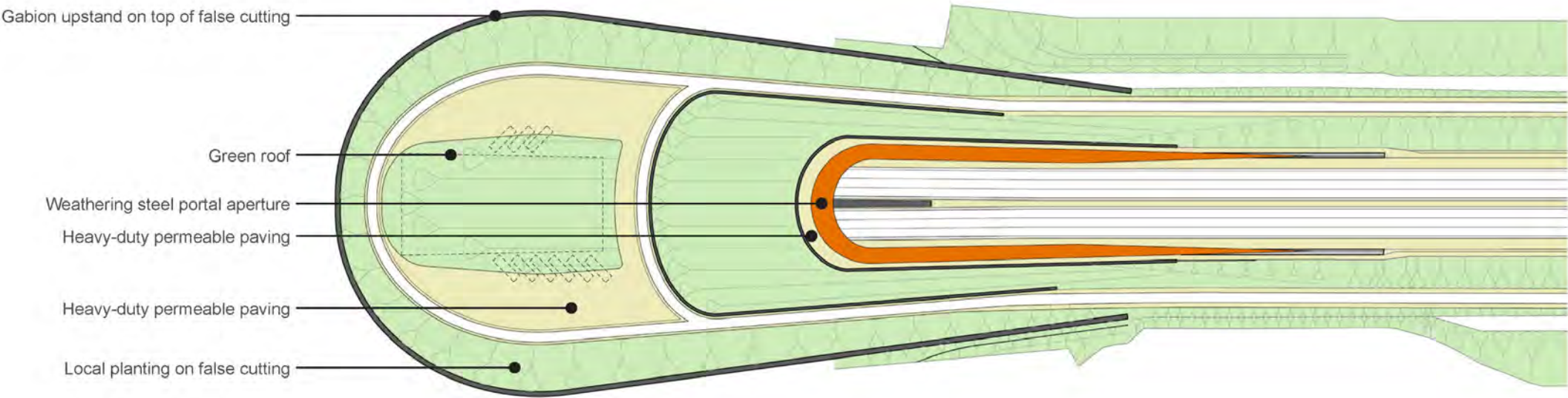
## Portals – North and South



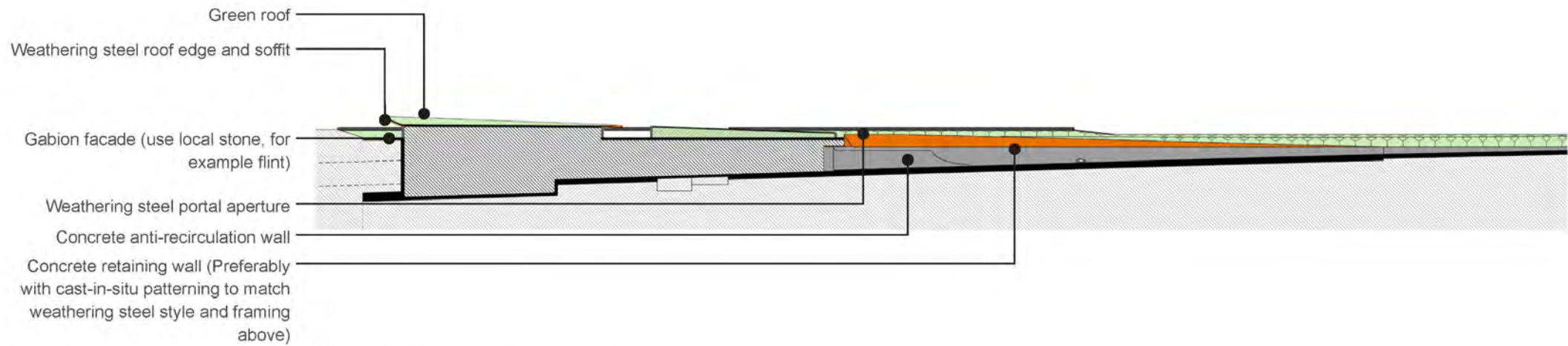
## Portals & Associated Landscape



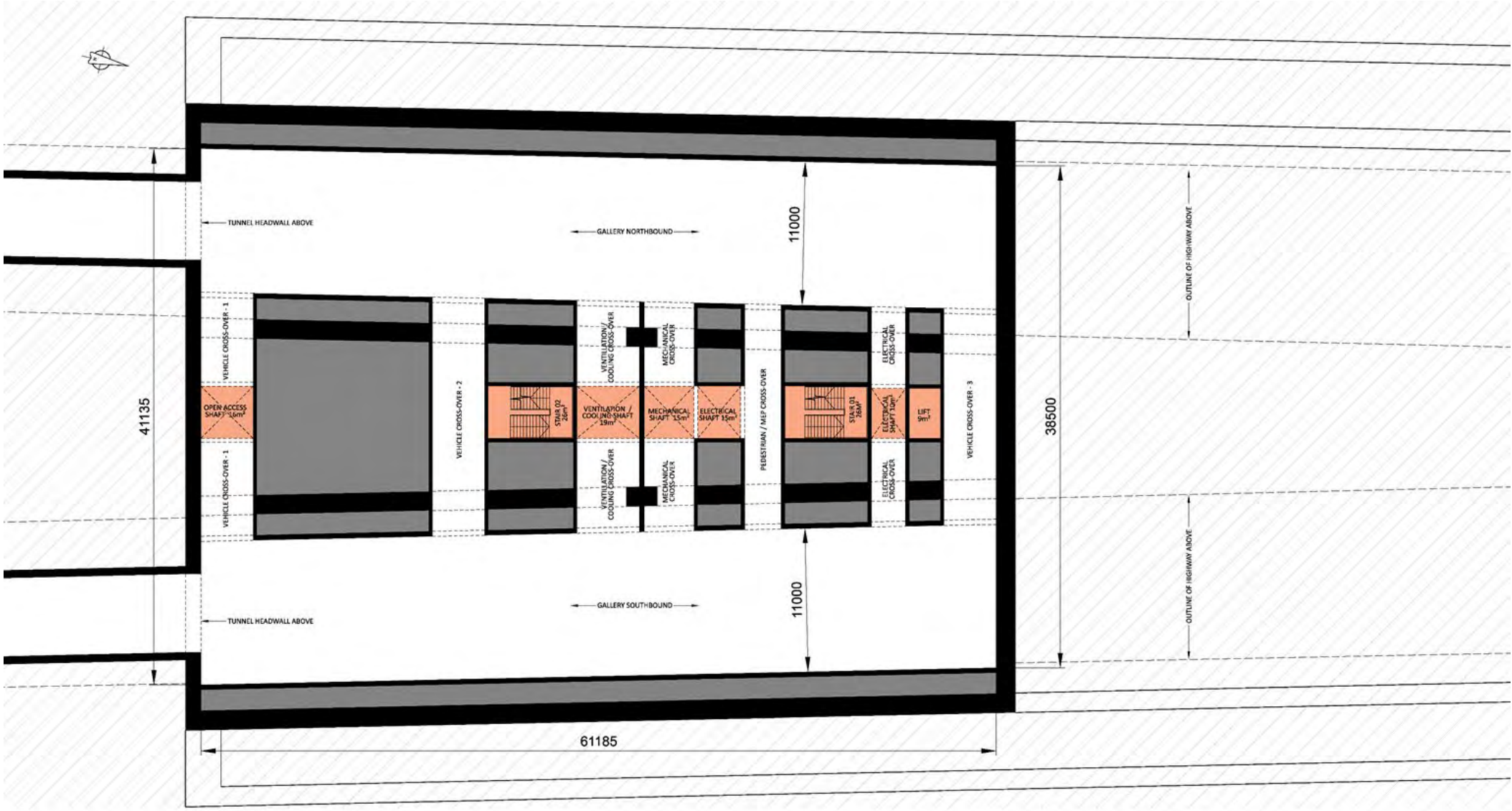




ILLUSTRATIVE PLAN VIEW – NORTH PORTAL AND TUNNEL SERVICE BUILDING



ILLUSTRATIVE LONGITUDINAL SECTION – NORTH PORTAL AND TUNNEL SERVICE BUILDING

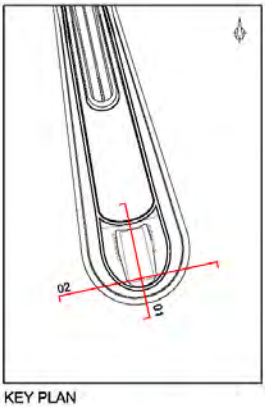
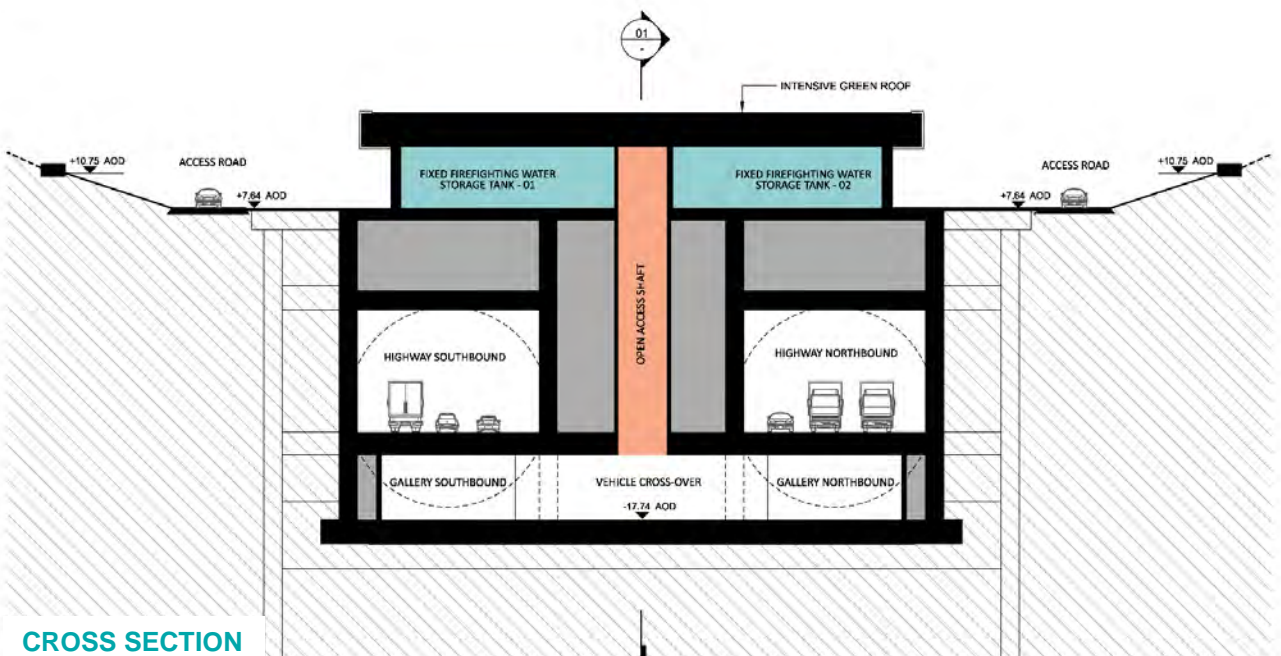
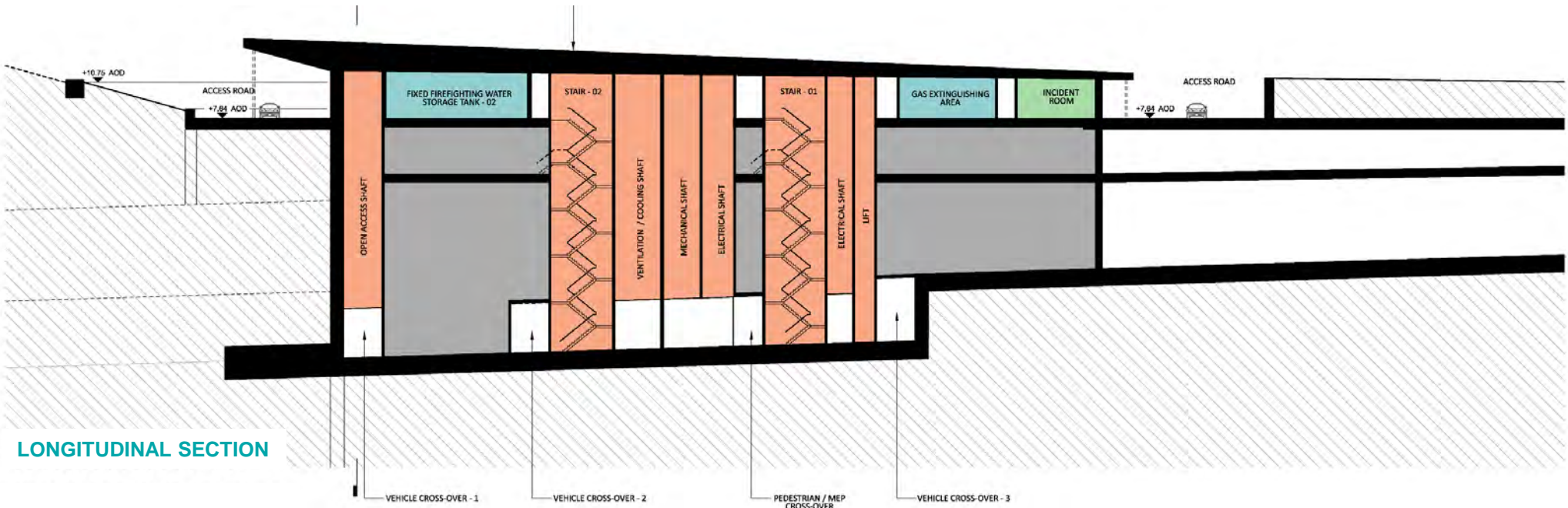




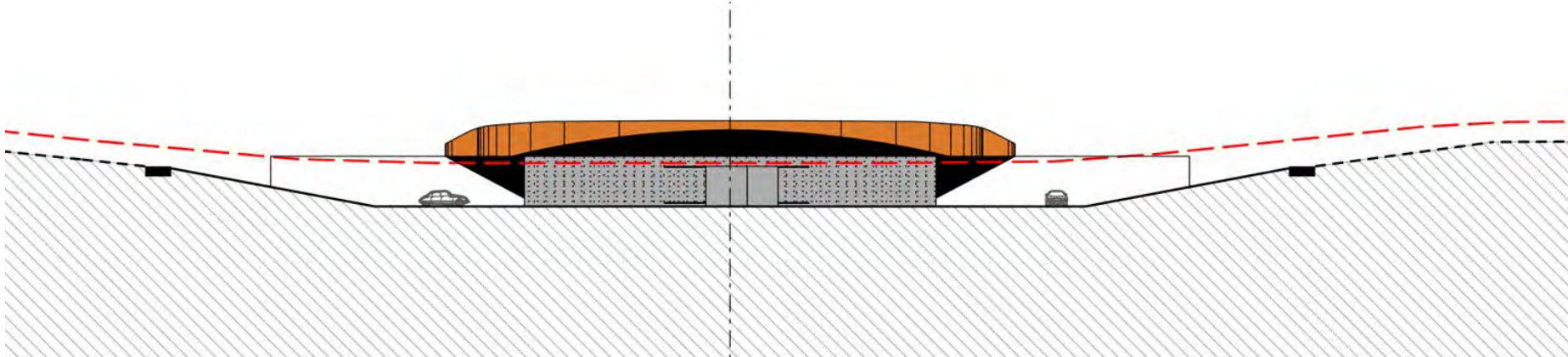
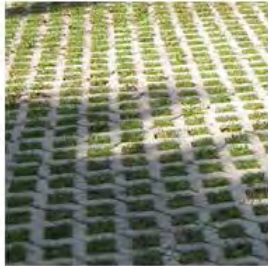
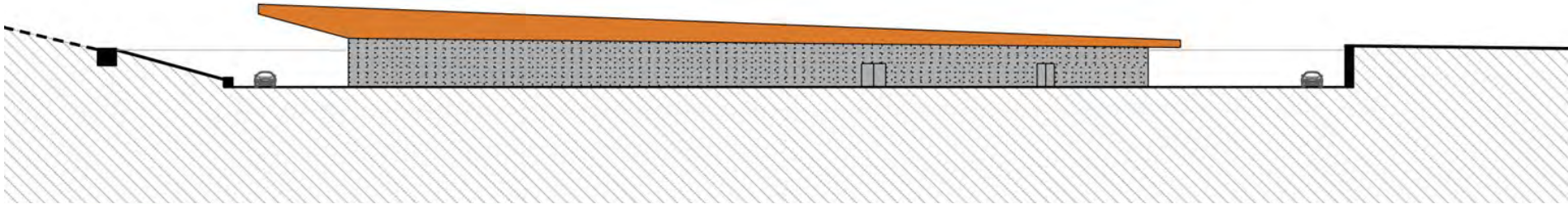
North Portal: Plan at Ground Level

Portals & Associated Landscape











## Landscape Integration and Tilbury Fields



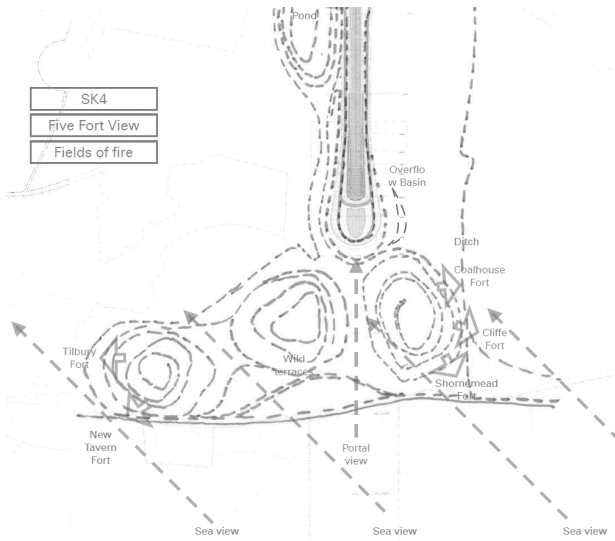
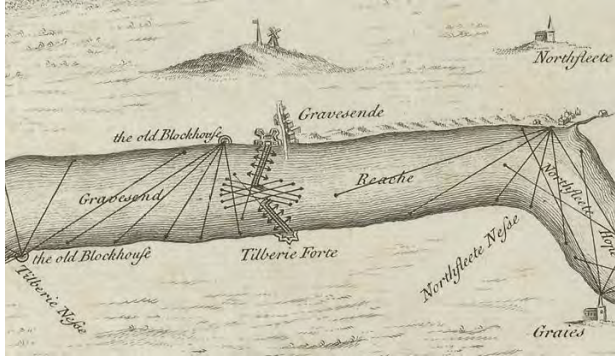
### Key

- 1. Portal
- 2. Tilbury Viaduct
- 3. Tunnel Service Building
- 4. Tilbury Fields
- 5. Water vole habitat
- 6. Jetty (to be retained)
- 7. Woodland planting
- 8. Portal access roads
- 9. Main River culvert



# Tilbury Fields: Inspiration

# Portals & Associated Landscape



1. TilburyFort

2. New TavernFort

3. Shornemead Fort

4. Cliffe Fort

5. Coalhouse Fort Wing Battery

6. Coalhouse Fort

7. East TilburyBattery



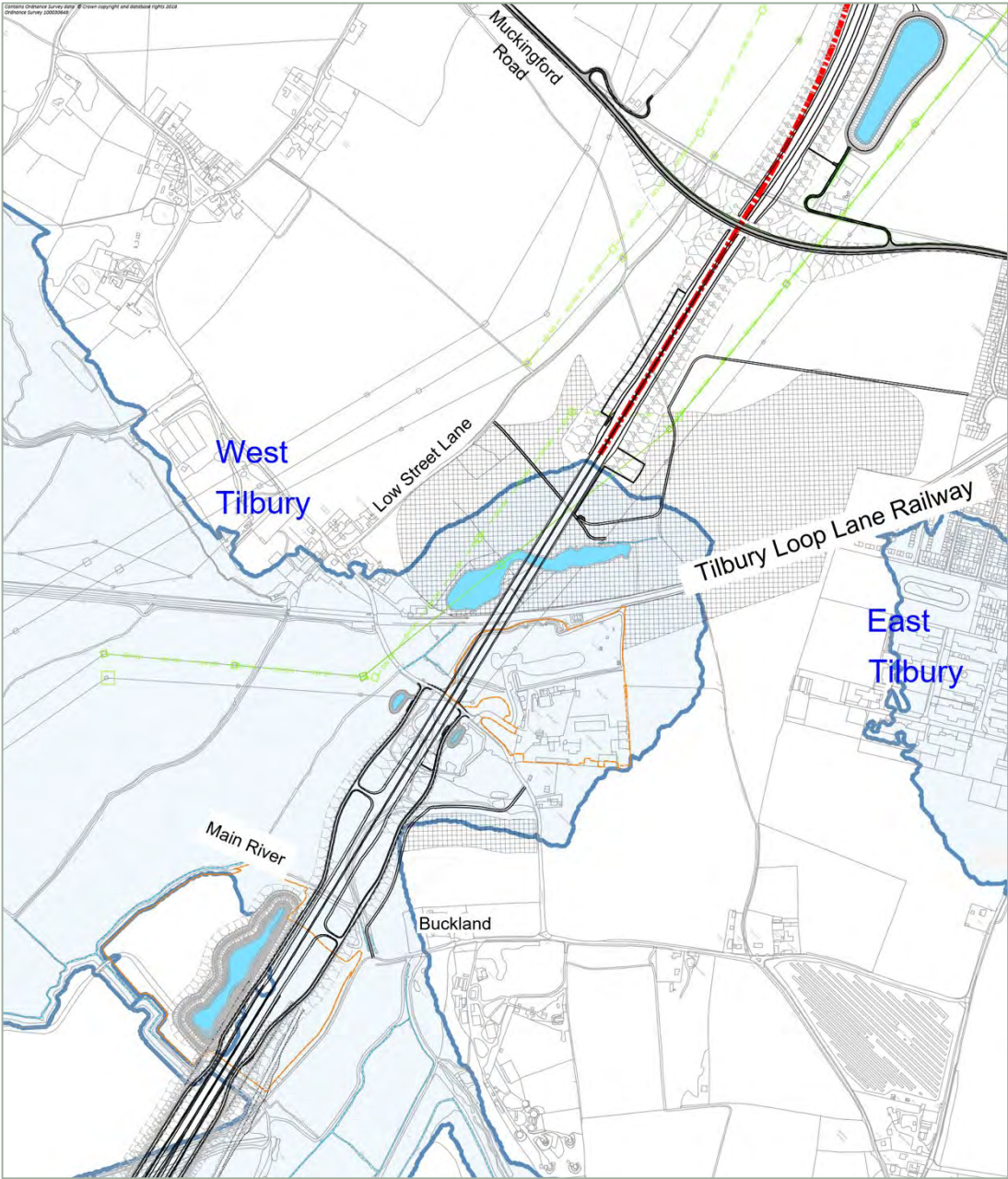
## Tilbury Fields: Plan and Placemaking

## Portals & Associated Landscape

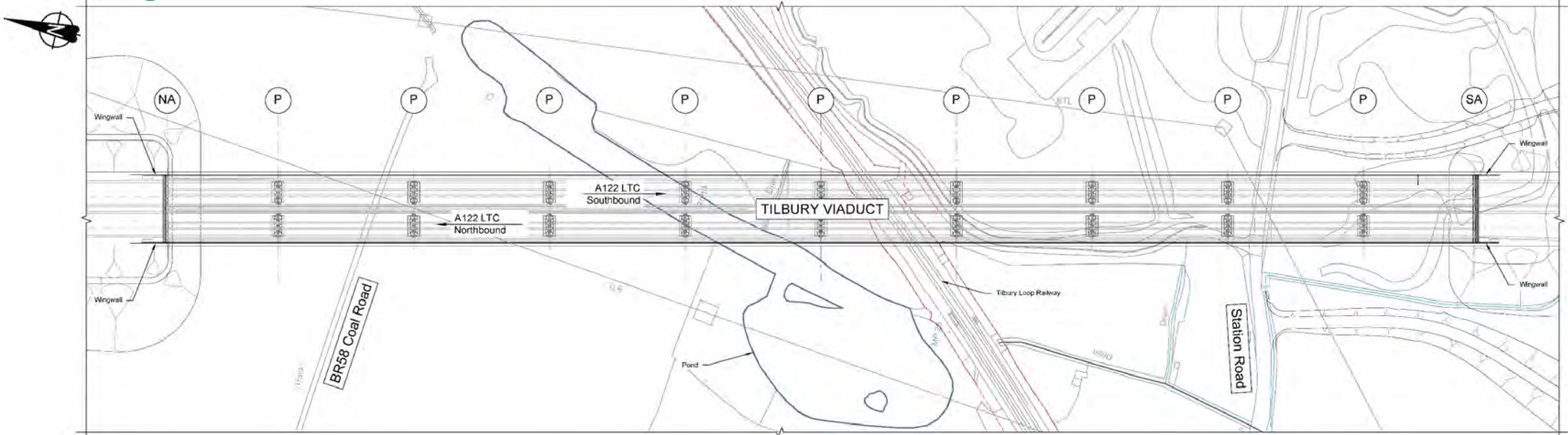




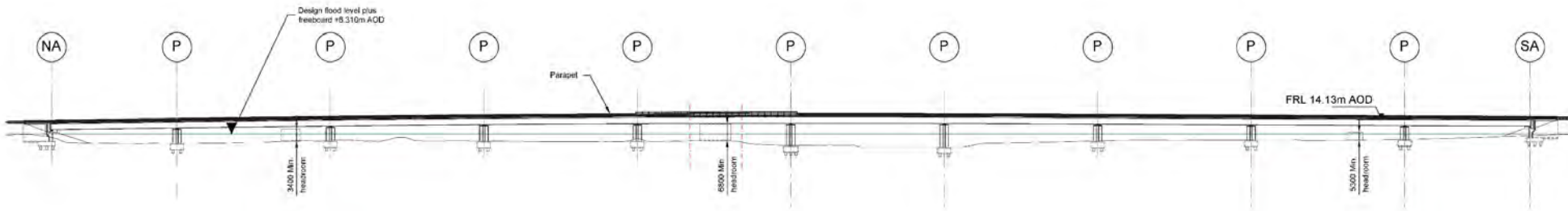
# The Tilbury Viaduct



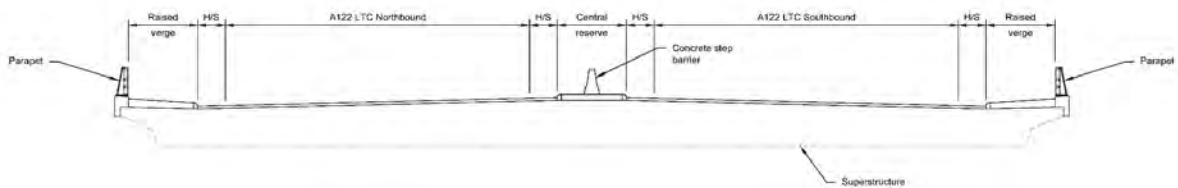




PLAN 1:1000



ELEVATION 1:1000



TYPICAL SECTION 1:100

LEGEND

	EMBANKMENT/CUTTING
	NORTH ABUTMENT
	PIERS
	SOUTH ABUTMENT
	HARDSTRIP
	FINISHED ROAD LEVEL
	NATIONAL RAIL BOUNDARY
	DESIGN FLOOD LEVEL



Tilbury Vladuct: Aerial View

Highways & Associated Landscape

















# Mardyke and Orsett Fen Viaducts

## The Nature of the Existing Landscape



6.2 Mardyke Area



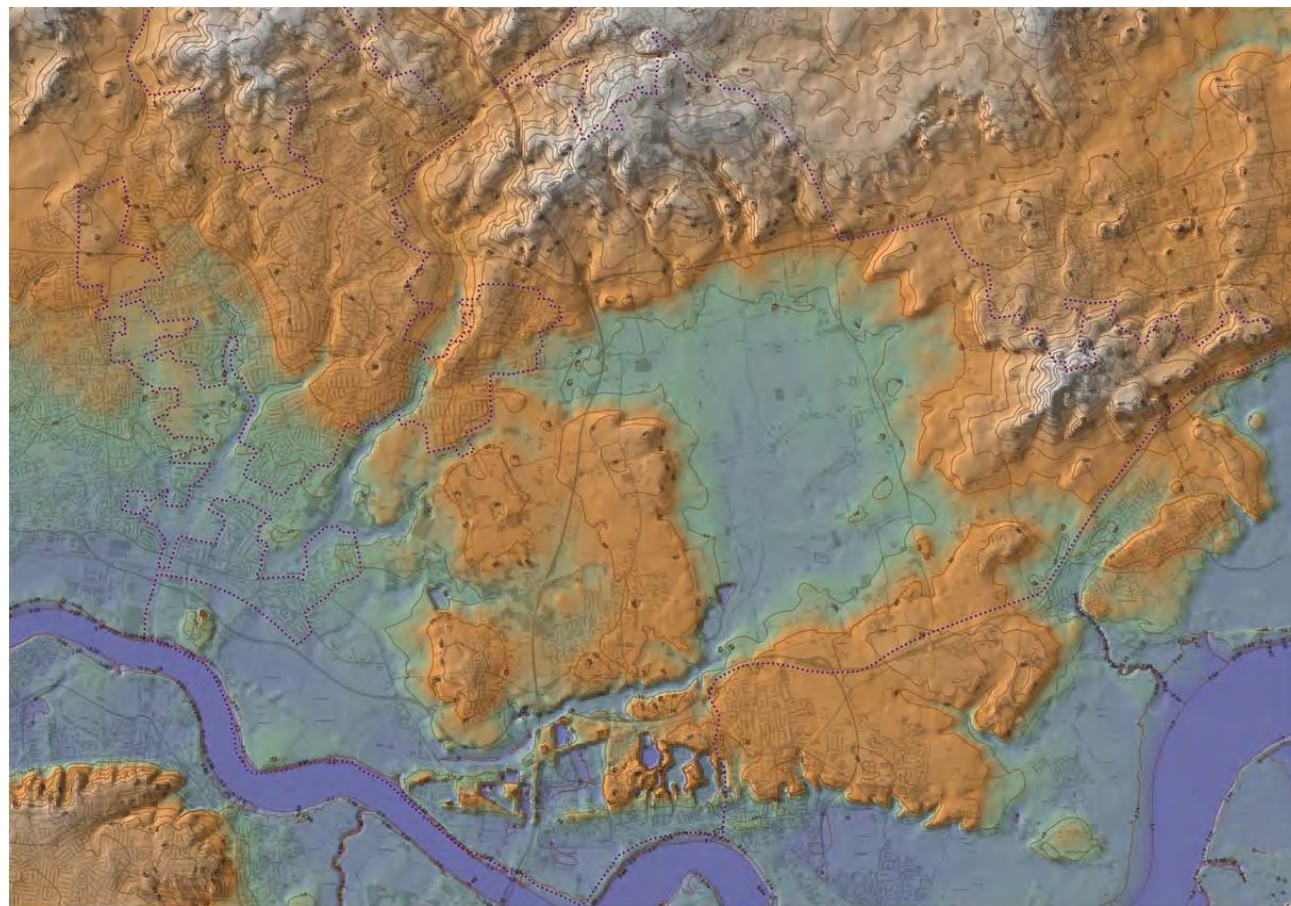
6.3 Mardyke Area



6.5 Mardyke open land

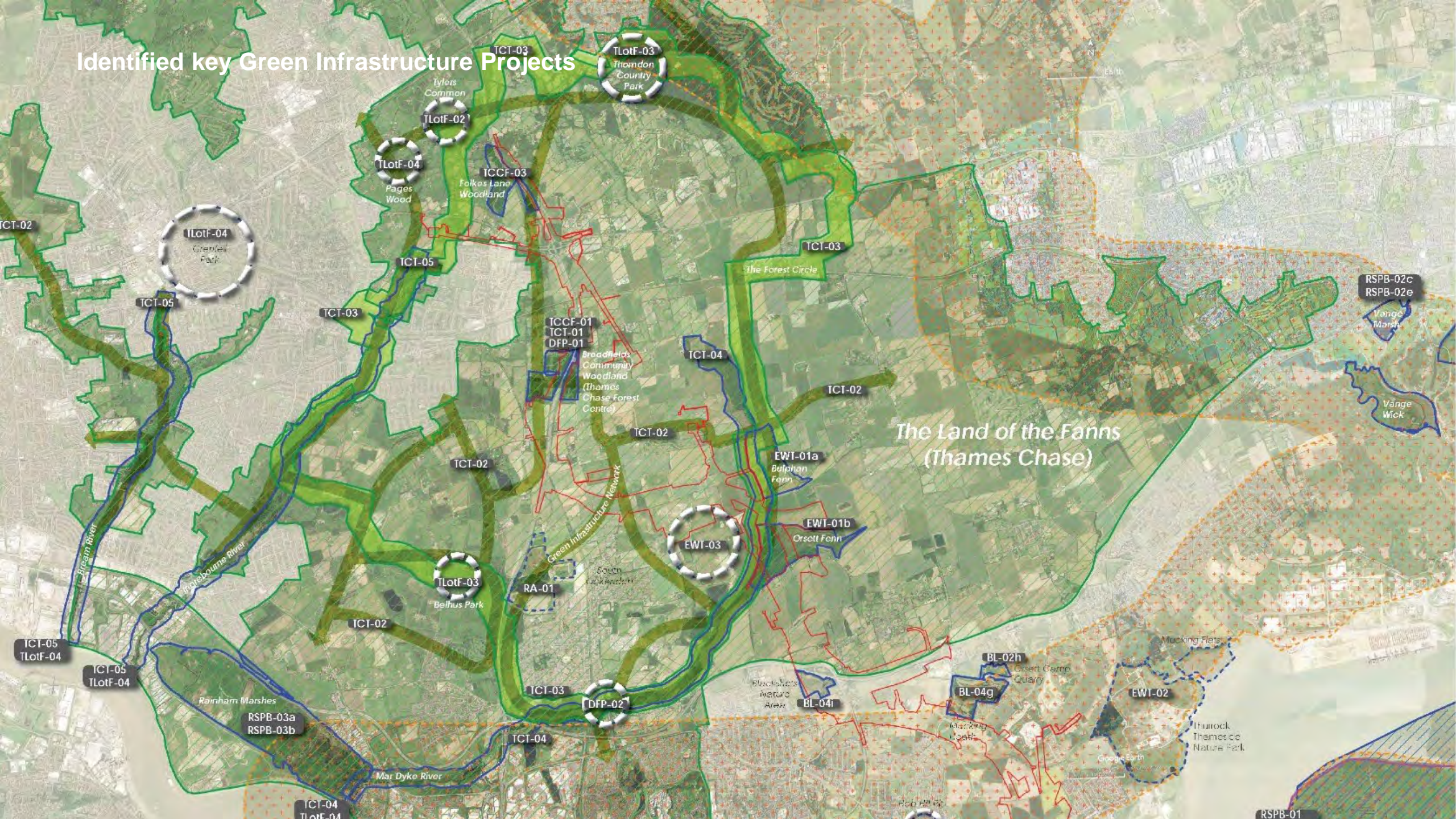


6.6 Mardyke open land

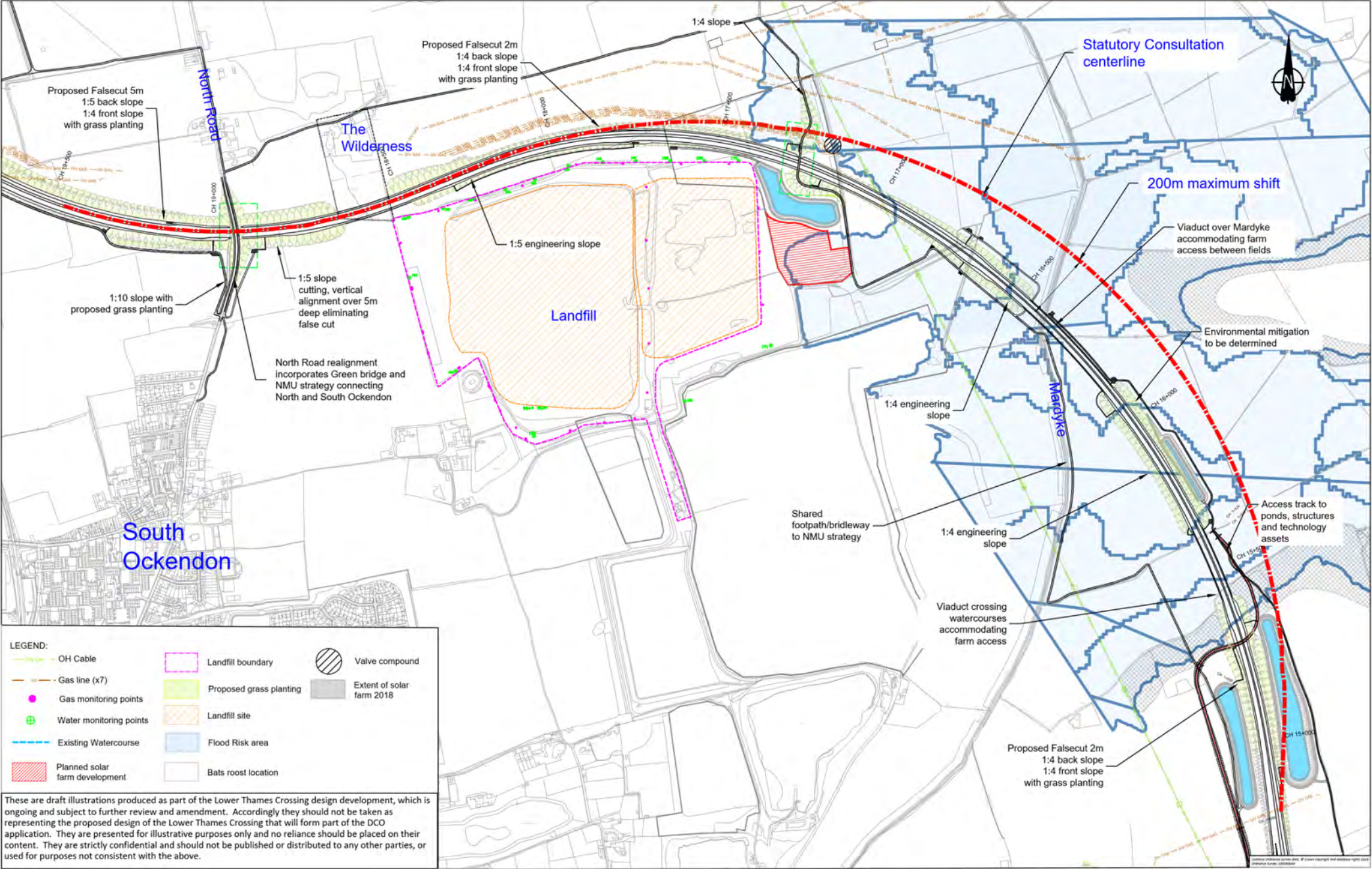




Identified key Green Infrastructure Projects







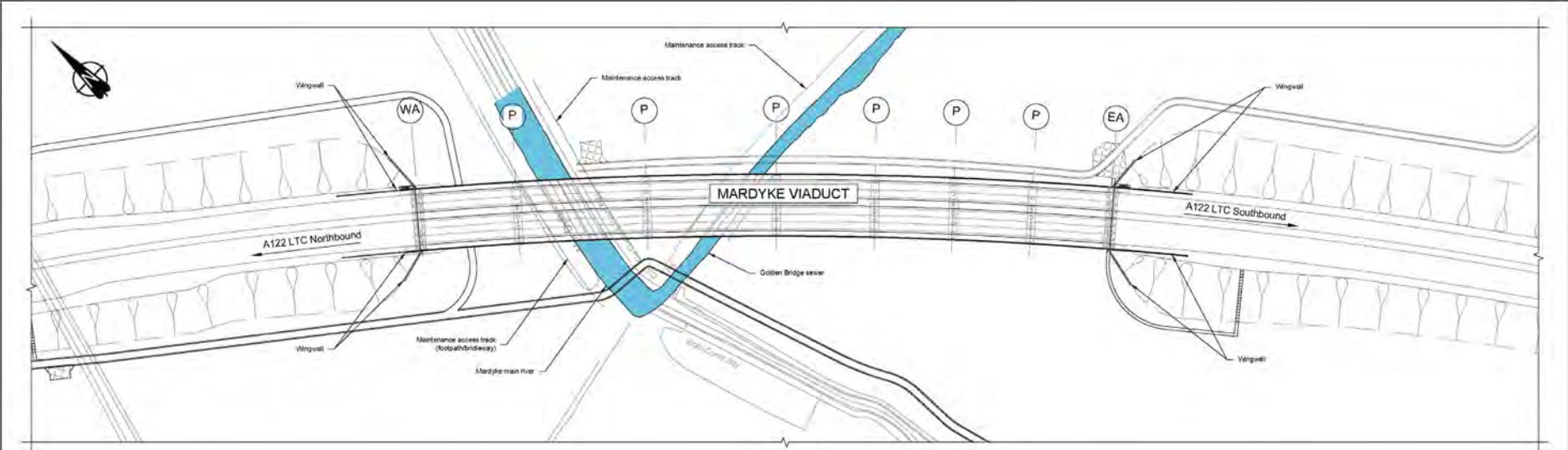


## Approach to Landscape

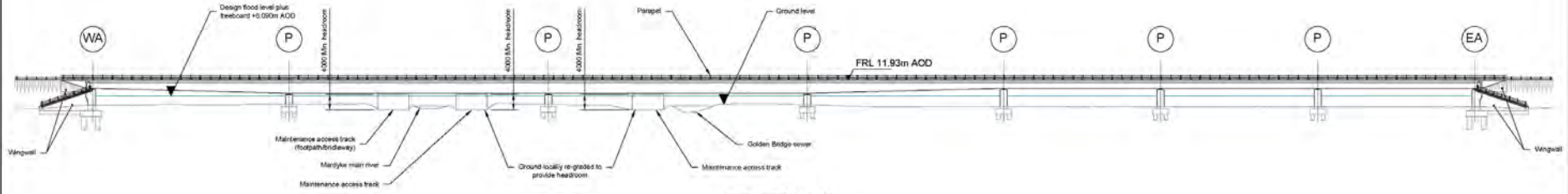
- Flood levels require LTC to be raised above ground level
- No “screening” earthworks can be provided in the flood zone
- New earthworks will create new skyline horizons and foreshorten views.
- landscape designed to strengthen historic fenland character to create a more visually engaging space in the foreground - lessening the impact of the road and engineered banks.
- Pockets of wooded wetland also break up the road alignment, provide ecologically valuable habitat and mask level changes



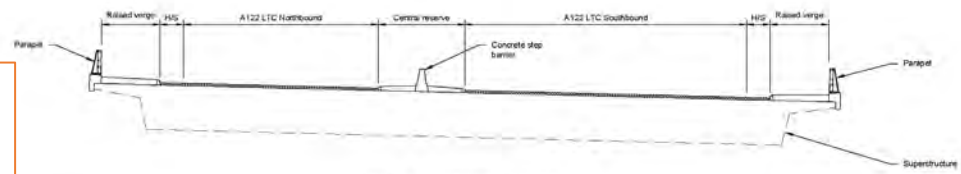




PLAN 1:1000



ELEVATION 1:500



TYPICAL SECTION 1:100

LEGEND

- EMBANKMENT/CUTTING
- WA WEST ABUTMENT
- P PIER
- EA EAST ABUTMENT
- DESIGN FLOOD LEVEL
- FRL FINISHED ROAD LEVEL

NOTES:

1. The design and location of the structure is shown here for illustrative purposes only and will be subject to detailed design development in accordance with the provisions of the Development Consent Order (TR010032/APP/3.1).

Scale bars for 1:100 (A1), 1:500 (A1), and 1:1000 (A3) scales.

highways england logo

LOWER THAMES CROSSING

DCO Application  
TR010032/APP/2.13

STRUCTURES PLANS 5(2)(o)  
WORK NO. 8B  
SHEET 54 OF 75

HE540039-CJV-BOP-SZZ ST000000 -CR-CB-10084



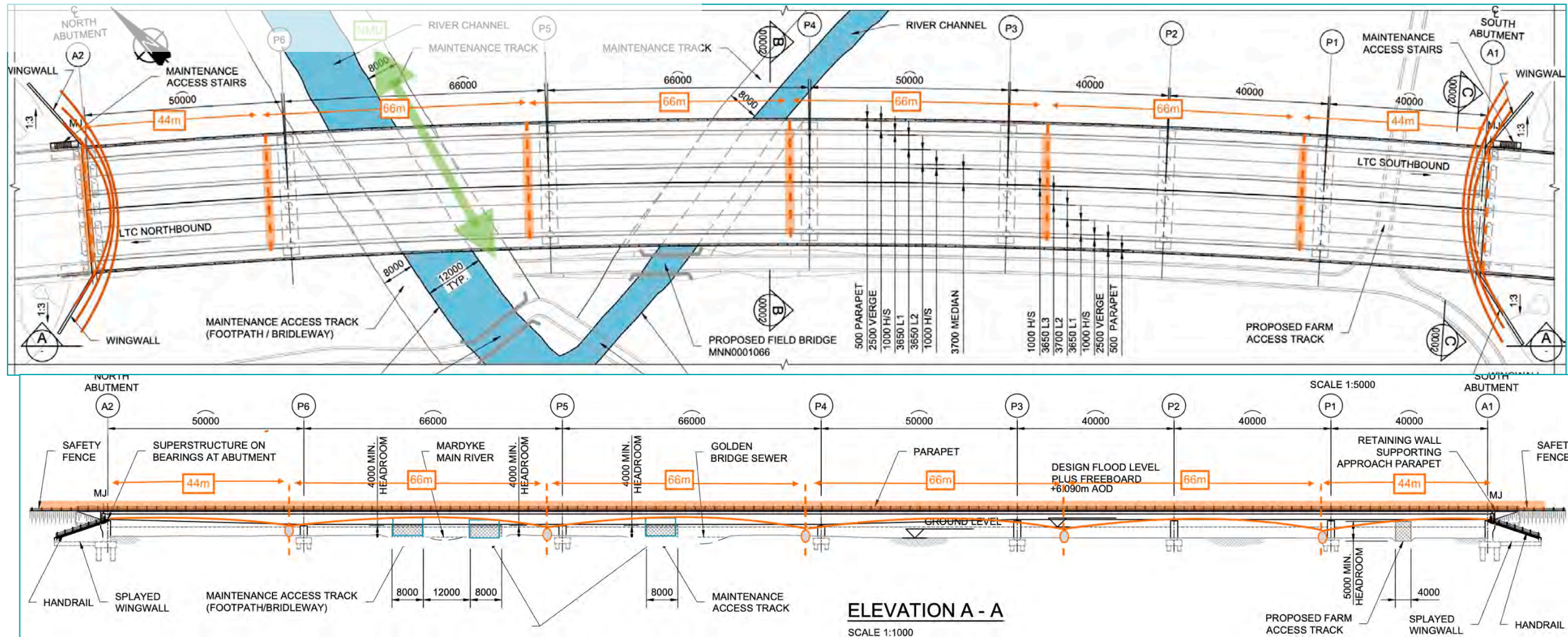




PROPOSED OPTION : 60m equal spans – 360m long viaduct

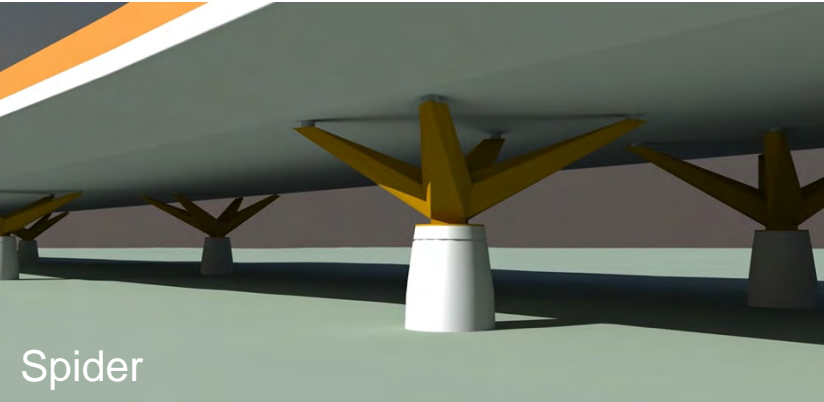
Viaduct Design

- One less pier and foundation arrangement
- Arched spans
- Gabion abutments
- No regraded lower ground in fenland etc
- Standard beam lengths

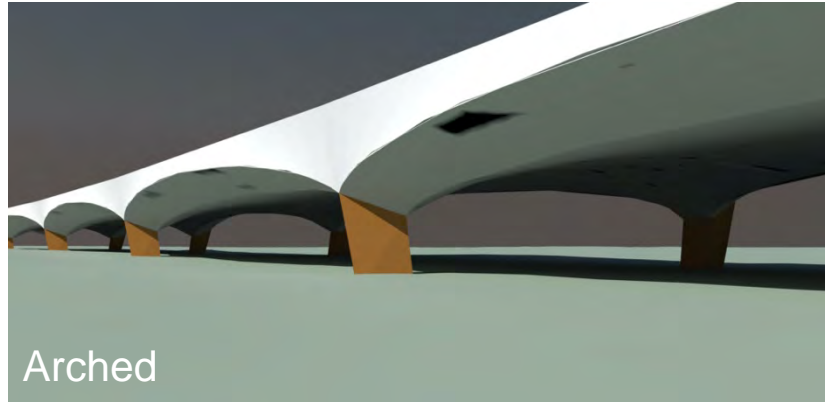


## Pier & deck concepts developed which respond to feedback and design principles

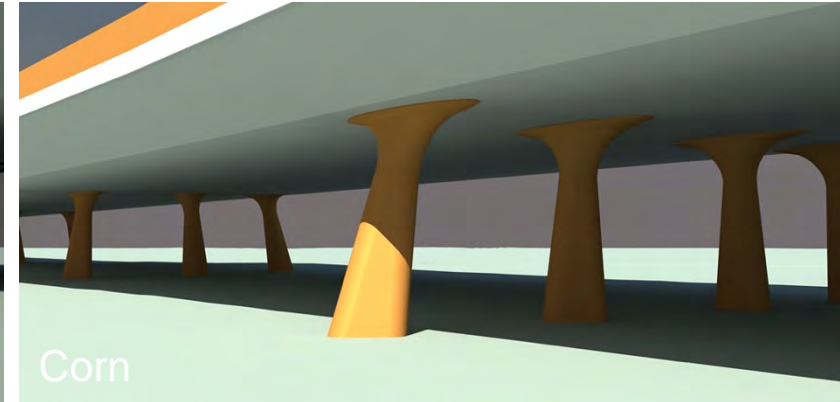
## Viaduct Design



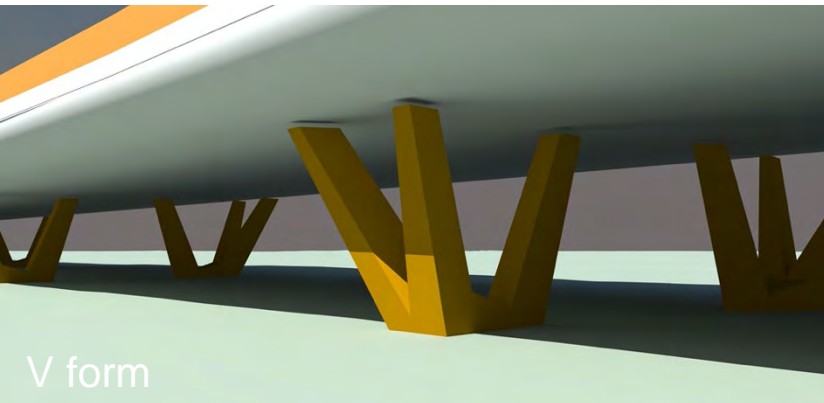
- Minimal visual impact at eye level
- Minimal footprint on fenland - reducing ground works
- Light touch deck



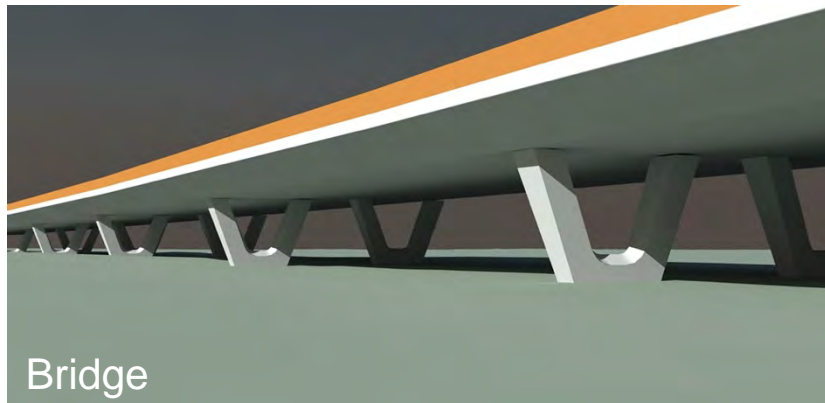
- Minimal visual impact at eye level
- Minimal footprint on fenland reducing ground works
- Longest spans



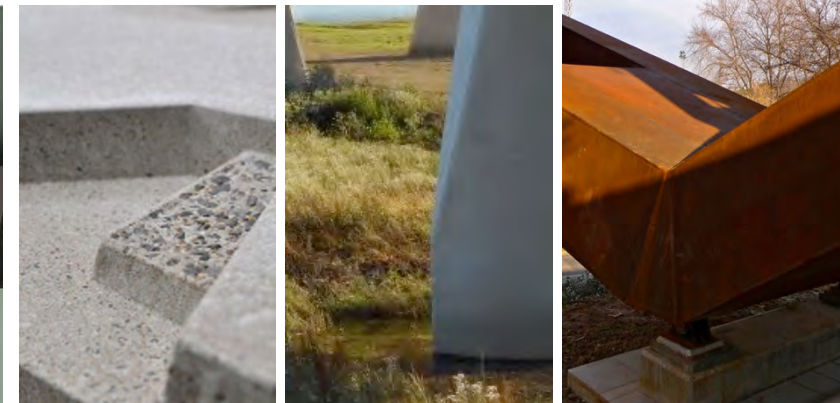
- Minimal visual impact at eye level
- Streamlined footprint on fenland
- Contextual farmland response



- Developed further following HEDP review
- Some commonality with architectural bridge piers
- Aims to reduce ground works



- Common form with architectural bridge piers
- Developed from engineer's solution for Tilbury
- Architectural refinement of an assumed approved solution



### Materials

- DFMA opportunity to increase quality in detail and finish
- Material pallet to suit the project wide brand





# Examples of design Issues still under discussion

- Further structures to be enhanced
- Design quality control measures
- Possibility of Design Codes being part of the DCO resubmission
- Further approvals
- Width and design of certain structures
- North Portal design and wider landscape integration
- Tilbury Viaduct design
- Open Space provision around the A13 Junction



Questions?

