

THAMES CROSSING ACTION GROUP

www.thamescrossingactiongroup.com

5th March 2023

Ref: TCAG-MHRH-SLTC-230305

Dear Mr Harper and Mr Holden

We write to you as Secretary of State for Transport and Roads Minister specifically regarding our concerns that the proposed £10bn+ Lower Thames Crossing (LTC) road project would be a 'Smart' Motorway by stealth.

Paragraph 2.2.6 of Section 6.2 of the [Transport Forecasting Package](#) (from the official LTC Development Consent Order documents) states:

"In common with most A-roads, the A122 would operate with no hard shoulder but would feature a 1m hard strip on either side of the carriageway. It would also feature technology including stopped vehicle and incident detection, lane control, variable speed limits and electronic signage and signalling"

Paragraph 6.2.3 of Section 6.2 of the same document states:

"Notwithstanding that the Project is to be designated as an all-purpose trunk road (APTR), the mainline is coded as a three-lane motorway (except for the northern section between the M25 and A13 where the southbound direction has two lanes)"

'Smart' technology + motorway design = 'Smart' motorway.

Since this evidence shows the proposed LTC would be a 'Smart' Motorway by stealth, will you at very least immediately pause the project, if not scrap it, in keeping with the Government's pause on 'Smart' Motorways?

Thanks and kind regards,

Laura Blake

Chair – Thames Crossing Action Group

admin@thamescrossingactiongroup.com

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