

THAMES CROSSING ACTION GROUP

www.thamescrossingactiongroup.com

Gravesend to Tilbury Ferry Consultation

Introduction

Thames Crossing Action Group (TCAG) represent thousands of people who are opposed to the hugely destructive and harmful, not fit for purpose £10bn+++ proposed Lower Thames Crossing (LTC). More info on us and our concerns and issues with the proposed LTC can be found on our website www.thamescrossingactiongroup.com.

This representation was prepared and submitted by Laura Blake, Chair of TCAG on behalf of the group in response to the Kent County Council Gravesend to Tilbury Ferry Consultation¹. TCAG can be contacted via email – admin@thamescrossingactiongroup.com.

Comments

We felt it necessary to respond to this consultation in light of the fact that we are campaigning against the proposed LTC, and that National Highways have repeatedly referred to the ferry crossing an alternative means of public transport to cross the river.

We feel this is relevant since the proposed LTC offers no provision for cross river active travel, and that it would not be viable for public transport/buses due to the lack of adequate connections².

We also note that since the consultation launched there has been media coverage³ that there have been discussions between Thurrock Council and the Port of Tilbury, the latter having previously supported the subsidy of the ferry, and it is hoped something can be agreed.

We know that there is public support and wish for alternative modes of crossing the river, rather than by road.

In this day and age it is also essential that there are alternative sustainable options to cross the river.

Evidence shows that more roads lead to more traffic, induced demand, and that there is a definite need for modal shift, so we need to ensure that alternative modes of crossing the river are available and affordable to encourage and support this.

¹ <https://letstalk.kent.gov.uk/ferryconsultation>

² <https://www.thamescrossingactiongroup.com/ltc-public-transport-and-nmu/>

³ <https://thurrock.nub.news/news/local-news/political-dexterity-as-council-leader-engineers-upbeat-moments-from-a-tricky-situation-216933>