

Introduction

Suffolk County Council is seeking your views on our proposals for a new crossing over Lake Lothing in Lowestoft.

The existing bridges over the lake at Mutford Lock and the A47 Bascule Bridge are inadequate to meet current and future traffic demand. Delays and congestion are a common occurrence for drivers, particularly during peak hours, and pedestrians and cyclists often have long and difficult journeys as they travel across the town.

A crossing will open up opportunities for regeneration and create a new link between north and south Lowestoft.

This new crossing presents an opportunity to introduce a focal point for the town, enhancing its identity. This will help to regenerate the area and attract new investment in the local economy.

This is a significant project for Lowestoft and it is important residents, businesses, landowners and all those affected by, or interested in, the project have their say.

THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Our proposals for the Lake Lothing Third Crossing aim to improve journeys and connectivity, help meet the aspirations for economic prosperity and provide a new feature in the town for all users to enjoy for years to come.

The project will include a new multi-span bridge from Waveney Drive to Peto Way. The bridge will be a single carriageway road with facilities for pedestrians and cyclists.

The proposed design includes new roundabouts to the north and south of the lake to help connect the traffic smoothly into the existing road network, as well as provide public spaces for people to enjoy.

Changes to the road layout include a new access from Waveney Drive to Riverside Business Park and closure of Durban Road at its junction with Waveney Drive.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

We aim to minimise impacts on the environment, local communities, local businesses, road users and residents as much as possible.

As part of the consultation, a report called the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) has been produced to give information about the potential environmental effects and measures to reduce them. This report and the Non-Technical Summary can be viewed online or at the consultation events.



THIRD CROSSING BENEFITS



Reduce congestion and delay on the existing bridges over Lake Lothing



Reduce congestion in town centre



Reduce community severance between north and south Lowestoft



Your Local Consultation Events

We are holding a series of events to provide an opportunity to meet the project team and ask questions. Everyone who is interested in the project is welcome to attend any of our drop-in events.

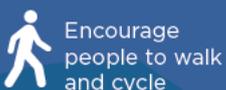
Location	Date	Time
Gunton Estate Community Hall Hollingsworth Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR32 4AY	Tuesday 5 September 2017	12noon - 7pm
Lowestoft Library Clapham Road South, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR32 1DR	Saturday 9 September 2017	10.30am - 4.30pm
Spinnaker Room (Kessingland Library) Marram Green, Hall Road, Kessingland, Suffolk, NR33 7AH	Tuesday 12 September 2017	2.30pm - 7.30pm
Kirkley Centre 154 London Road South, Lowestoft, NR33 0AZ	Thursday 14 September 2017	1pm - 7.30pm
Waveney District Council Council Offices, Riverside, 4 Canning Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR33 0EX	Friday 22 September 2017	2pm - 7pm
Commodore Mission Hall 26 Gorleston Road, Oulton Broad, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR32 3AG	Monday 25 September 2017	2pm - 7pm
St Marks Church, Bridge Road, Oulton Broad, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR33 9JX	Friday 29 September 2017	1pm - 7pm

You can also view information at the deposit locations below during normal opening hours:

Waveney District Council	Lowestoft Library	Oulton Broad Library	Waveney District Council - Marina Customer Service Centre	Kessingland Library	Suffolk County Council
Council Offices, Riverside, 4 Canning Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR33 0EX	Clapham Road South, Lowestoft Suffolk, NR32 1DR	Bridge Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR32 3LR	Marina, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR32 1HH	Marram Green, Hall Road, Kessingland, Suffolk, NR33 7AH	Endeavour House, 8 Russell Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 2BX



View documents and complete a questionnaire from 4 September at www.suffolk.gov.uk/lakelothing3rdcrossing



Encourage people to walk and cycle



Improve bus journey times and reliability



Reduce accidents



Open up opportunities for regeneration and development



Accommodate planned growth



Have your say

The consultation is your opportunity to express your views on the project. This consultation will run for six weeks from **Monday 4 September - Monday 16 October 2017**.

PLANNING APPLICATION PROCESS

The Secretary of State for Transport has directed that Lake Lothing Third Crossing is to be treated as a Project of National Significance for the purposes of the Planning Act 2008. As such, we are required to make an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to obtain permission to construct, operate and maintain the project.

Following the formal public consultation, we will carefully consider all responses received and produce a report on the consultation.

This report will form part of our DCO application, to the Secretary of State.

The Planning Inspectorate will examine the application and make a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Transport, who will decide on whether or not the project will go ahead.

We currently intend to make our application for development consent in early 2018.

Your comments

Between **Monday 4 September, 12.01am and Monday 16 October 2017, 11.59pm** you can use the following methods to respond to the public consultation:

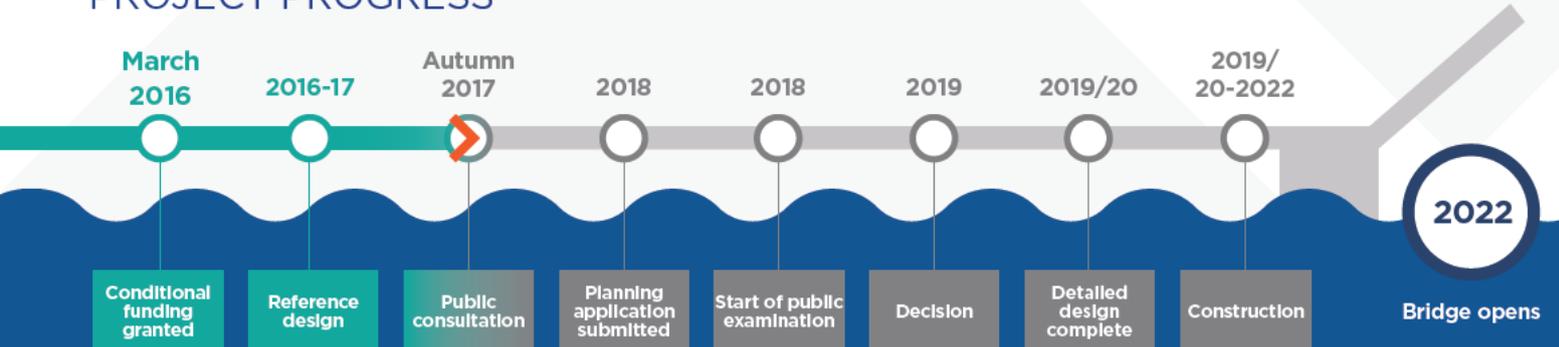
- Go online to access the consultation documents and fill out a questionnaire at: **www.suffolk.gov.uk/lakelothing3rdcrossing**

- Complete a questionnaire or send other feedback to us at:

LL3X Consultation Team
Freeport RTUL-KAKE-BCTR
PO Box 73943 (Lake Lothing)
London
EC4P 4HN

- View and pick up consultation documents and a questionnaire at Lowestoft, Oulton Broad and Kessingland Libraries, the council offices at Riverside, Waveney District Council's Marina Customer Service Centre or Suffolk County Council's Endeavour House in Ipswich.
- Attend a public consultation event and complete a questionnaire or leave one at a deposit location.

PROJECT PROGRESS



Contact the project team

Email: lakelothing3rdcrossing@suffolk.gov.uk **Call:** 03456 318 842 (open Mon-Fri 8.30am-6pm)

If you need help to understand this information in another language please call 03456 066 067.

Se precisar de ajuda para ler estas informações em outra língua, por favor telefone para o número abaixo. 03456 066 067

Portuguese

Jeigu jums reikia šios informacijos kita kalba, paskambinkite 03456 066 067

Lithuanian

Jeżeli potrzebujesz pomocy w zrozumieniu tych informacji w swoim języku zadzwoń na podany poniżej numer. 03456 066 067

Polish

Dacă aveți nevoie de ajutor pentru a înțelege această informație într-o altă limbă, vă rugăm să telefonați la numărul 03456 066 067

Romanian

এই লেখাটি যদি অন্য ভাষাতে বুঝতে চান তাহলে নিচের নম্বরে ফোন করুন 03456 066 067

Bengali

Если для того чтобы понять эту информацию Вам нужна помощь на другом языке, позвоните, пожалуйста, по телефону 03456 066 067

Russian

If you would like more information in another format, including audio or large print, please call 03456 066 067.





Suffolk County Council news release:

Under strict embargo until 12.01am Friday 18 August 2017

For further information contact: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Proposed designs for Lake Lothing Third Crossing shown for the first time as consultation begins next month

Lowestoft's position as one of the UK's key areas for off-shore renewable energy has been noted as Suffolk County Council today unveils the proposed design for the town's £90million Lake Lothing Third Crossing.

The bridge has been in development ever since conditional funding was granted by the Department for Transport in March 2016 with the crossing design not only focusing on its functionality, but also its look and potential to become a new emblem for the town.

The crossing draws inspiration from the town's imposing wind turbine, 'Gulliver' and the design ensures the crossing fits into the existing road network and waterways ensuring the port and railway operations will be able to continue.

The bridge will be required to open to maintain the Port of Lowestoft's operations, the proposed crossing will be 12 metres above the high tide levels, significantly higher than the A47 Bascule Bridge, enabling a larger number of vessels to pass under the new crossing without a need for it to open.

To open the bridge, hydraulic pistons lift the bridge deck, which rolls back on the vertical part of the structure, that contains a counterweight, holding the bridge at a specific angle to allow vessels to pass through safely. A control tower would operate the bridge – although no decision has been made on its location yet.

The structure is being designed with all users in mind as well – specific gradients are being used to restrict the height of the bridge.

The public will be invited to have their say on the new bridge designs as part of the consultation, which is due to begin on Monday 4 September.

Cllr Colin Noble, Leader of Suffolk County Council, said: "The design of the bridge reflects the forward-thinking attitude of the town and ensures the crossing will be an iconic place in the town alongside its primary role as a route for all road users.

"Inspiration has come from the area surrounding the town and industries emerging from Lowestoft.

"I'm really impressed with the designs and I believe this has the potential to become an iconic structure not only in Suffolk, but across the country."

Member of Parliament for Waveney, Peter Aldous said: "The design stage is yet another important milestone of progress towards the Third Crossing over Lake Lothing becoming a reality.

"What is suggested here gives Lowestoft an iconic symbol of future growth based on renewable energy. This illustrates the positive future Lowestoft will have in the next few years.

“I encourage people to fully take part in the consultation as this is their bridge and their views about it are very important.”

Cllr Mark Bee, Leader of Waveney District Council said: “This exciting design, reflecting Lowestoft's growing status as a key location for renewable energy, will be a real talking point for the town. We would encourage people to comment on the proposed design once the consultation begins next month.”

ENDS

Councillor contacts

Councillor Colin Noble (Con), Leader and Cabinet member for Economic Development, 07545 423795, colin.noble@suffolk.gov.uk

Councillor Sandra Gage (Lab), Leader of the Labour Group and Opposition Spokesperson for Transport, Planning, Environment and Waste, 07714 597998, sandra.gage@suffolk.gov.uk

Councillor David Wood (Lib Dem), leader of the Liberal Democrat, Green and Independent Group, 01473 328269, 07545 423831, david.wood@suffolk.gov.uk