



Lake Lothing
**THIRD
CROSSING**

Community Newsletter

Autumn 2016



BENEFITS



Reduce community severance between north and south Lowestoft



Encourage more people to walk and cycle



Open up opportunities for regeneration and development



Reduce congestion and delay on the existing bridges over Lake Lothing



Improve bus journey times and reliability



Accommodate planned growth



Reduce congestion in town centre



Reduce accidents

Welcome to the first Lake Lothing Third Crossing Community Newsletter

By Councillor Guy McGregor, Member with Responsibility for Outside Bodies



Suffolk County Council, as the relevant Highway Authority, will lead the delivery of the Third Crossing and it is my responsibility to make sure this happens in time and within budget. This is the first of our community updates so I hope you find it informative.

I was absolutely delighted when David Cameron MP, the former Prime Minister, announced his support for a Lake Lothing Third Crossing in 2015. The county council moved quickly and we submitted the outline business case to the Government by Christmas 2015. In spring 2016 Central Government confirmed we would receive a £73.39m grant to build the bridge, following successful planning and a final business case. As soon as we secured the confirmation a report went to Suffolk County Council Cabinet and the funds were allocated to take the bridge through the planning process and develop the bridge design.

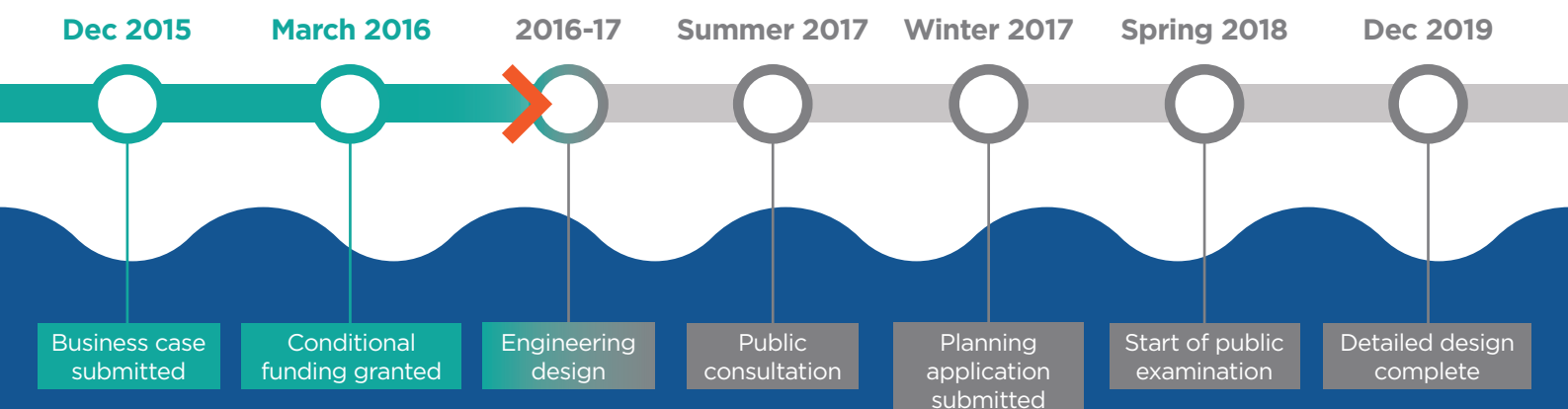
As we roll out this exciting new bridge project I will be working with Peter Aldous MP and Councillor Colin Law, Leader of Waveney District Council, to make sure the community knows exactly what is happening. We have got this far by working in close partnership with Waveney District Council, Central Government, local businesses and members of the public with an interest in Lowestoft's future. I will of course make sure that we also work closely with the port, the much needed flood defence project, Network Rail and Highways England, who are responsible for the existing Bascule bridge. Peter Aldous MP has agreed to chair a regular meeting with key partners in Lowestoft and I will be there with my team of senior officers so we understand the concerns of Lowestoft's residents at every stage.

I know you are all keen to see the bridge built and some of you have asked about the potential impact of BREXIT. Peter Aldous MP has reassured us all that the Government funding is firmly committed subject to a successful planning application and the business case continuing to show high value for money.

In this community newsletter you can read about why a new bridge is needed, where the bridge is going and exactly what happens next. If you have any points you wish to raise, please contact the team at lakelothing3rdcrossing@suffolk.gov.uk.

Photographer: Mike Page

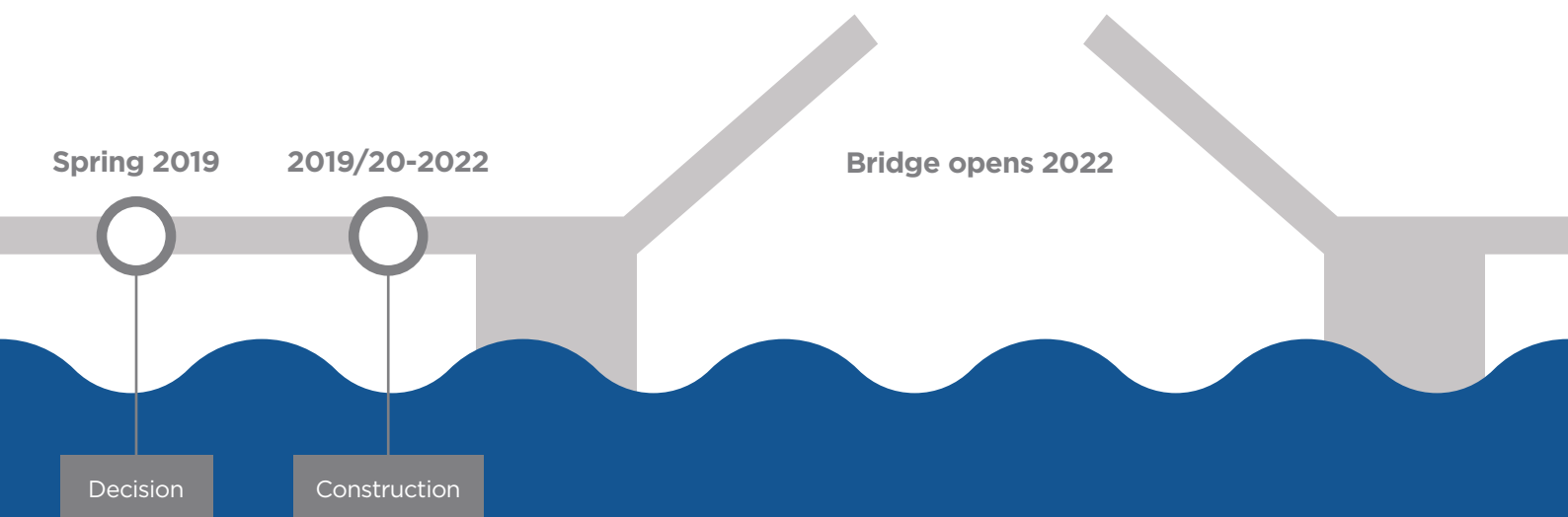
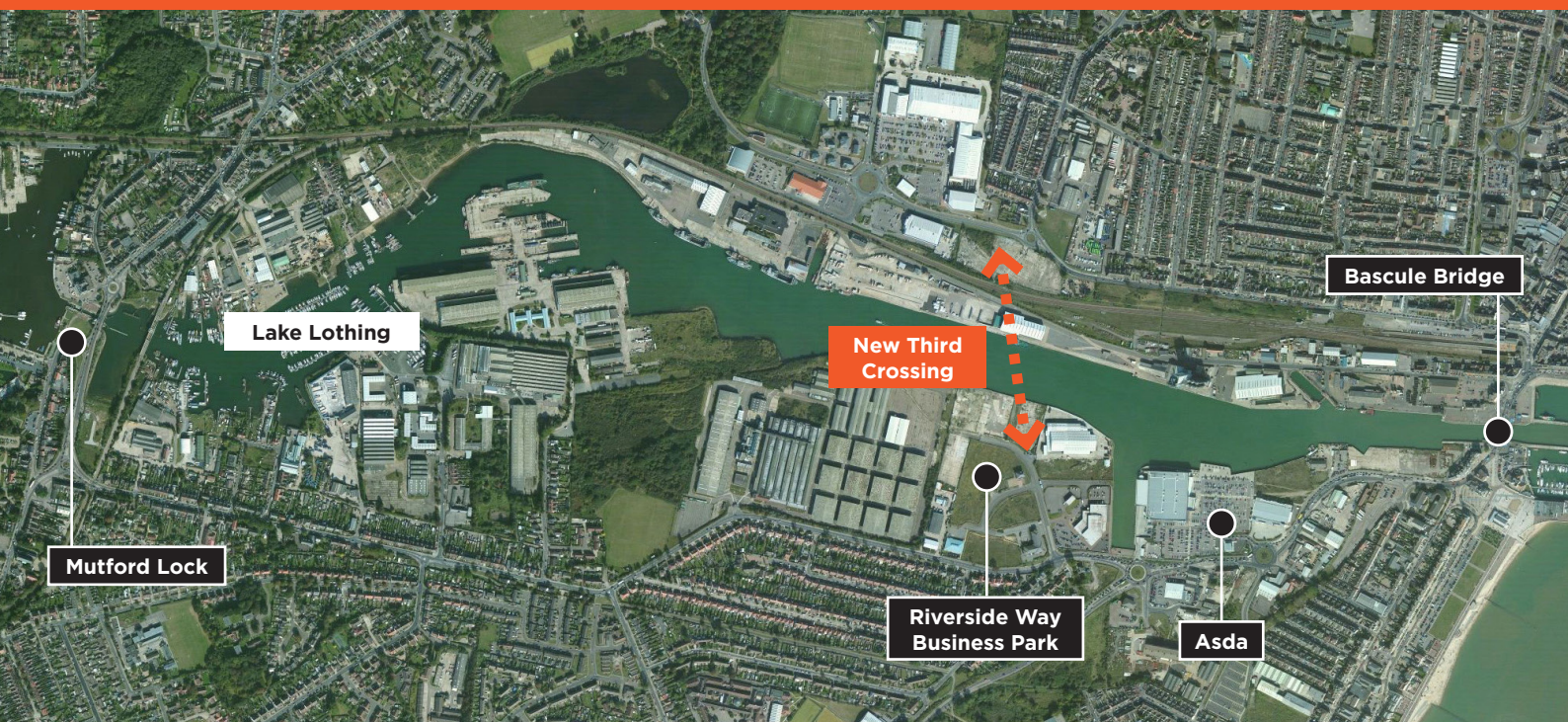
PROJECT PROGRESS

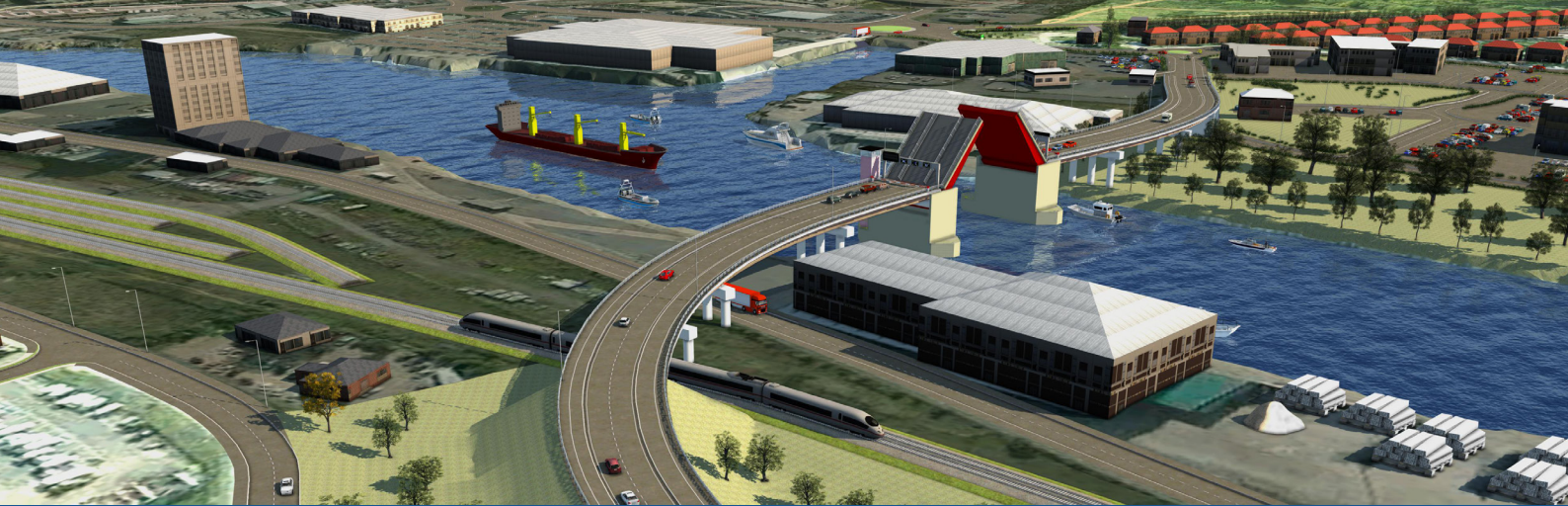


WHERE IS THE BRIDGE GOING?

A comprehensive and robust option selection process was adopted to generate and assess options for the scheme, leading to the clear identification of a preferred option. In the preparation of the outline business case the preferred scheme is the Central Bridge option. It is the least expensive of the short-listed options, it produces the highest benefits, it is most likely to deliver the objectives, and it has a high level of public and business support. Whilst the general location has been decided, further investigations are needed to fix the exact location and alignment in order to minimise impacts and get the best bridge design.

The bridge would link from the A12 via Waveney Drive on the south side, to Denmark Road and Peto Way on the north side of Lake Lothing.





WHY IS A NEW BRIDGE NEEDED?

Lake Lothing divides Lowestoft between north and south. The road crossings in the east and west are inadequate for existing traffic demand. The problem of congestion has blighted the town for years, and Lowestoft's inadequate road network is a serious disincentive to people coming to the town. Congestion causes real problems for business; it discourages existing firms from expanding and discourages new businesses from moving into the area.

There have been improvements to local roads in recent years, but the third crossing remains a missing link. Provision of an extra crossing will reduce severance, and allow the road network to operate efficiently, providing vital extra capacity. It will reduce congestion, helping Lowestoft to attract investment and achieve its full potential as a place in which to live and work.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

The bridge and supporting highway network is now being designed, so that the scheme can be taken through the planning process in 2017 to obtain the necessary planning consents.

In the next three months we will be:

- Progressing the exact location of the bridge and how it relates to existing roads and properties
- Developing the engineering design details of the bridge
- Carrying out ground investigations
- Progressing environmental studies
- Considering the design for the bridge and adjacent structures
- Continuing to engage with key stakeholders and landowners

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

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

Polish

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

Bengali

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

Lithuanian

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

Romanian

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

Russian

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