



# APPLICATION ACCEPTED!

Lake Lothing Third Crossing Project takes the next step as the planning application is accepted by the Planning Inspectorate

PLUS



## NEW SUFFOLK COUNTY

Council leader  
gives backing  
to project

## UPDATE ON

PROCUREMENT AND  
GROUND INVESTIGATIONS

HOW YOU CAN HAVE YOUR  
SAY AND SEE THE LAKE  
LOTHING THIRD CROSSING  
MADE A REALITY



**Suffolk**  
County Council



## Hello, and welcome to the Summer 2018 Lake Lothing Third Crossing newsletter.

This is the first edition since I became leader of Suffolk County Council, and I'm delighted to write to you and introduce this key publication.

Some people in Lowestoft have doubted whether they would ever see the much-needed Third Crossing. But the recent acceptance of our application for a development consent order by the Planning Inspectorate brings the reality one step closer.

Suffolk County Council is committed to delivering this project, which will reduce congestion in the town and connect the north and south of Lowestoft. With this crossing, the road network will be able to operate more efficiently, and the iconic design of the bridge presents the opportunity to introduce a new focal point for the town, enhancing its identity.

The construction of the Lake Lothing Third Crossing will be a signal to the businesses in the region that Lowestoft is open and ready for business. It will also

help to regenerate the area and attract new investment for the local economy.

The existing bridges over the lake at Mutford Lock and the Bascule Bridge are important, yet inadequate. The congestion and delays in the town that currently exist cannot go on. While there have been improvements to local roads in recent years, the third crossing remains a crucial missing link.

If we are serious about bringing the growth and regeneration that Lowestoft deserves, we must bring an end to the often long and difficult journeys across the town. These are faced too frequently by all road users, including cyclists and pedestrians.

Once we receive final approval from the Secretary of State, we will build this bridge.

Please enjoy the rest of the newsletter.

**Councillor Matthew Hicks**  
Leader of Suffolk County Council

## The application process - the six steps



### Pre-Consultation

This covers the period up to July 2018 when we developed our proposals and consulted widely.



### Acceptance

The inspectorate, on behalf of the Secretary of State, has decided that the application meets the required standards to proceed to examination. Examination will include determining whether the developer's consultation has been adequate.



### Pre-Examination

You can register as an interested party (this can be done on the Planning Inspectorate **website**, you have until 11:59pm on 24 September 2018). You will be kept informed of progress and opportunities to put your case. Inspectors will hold a Preliminary Meeting and set the timetable for examination.

# How the application was submitted

Lowestoft's Lake Lothing Third Crossing project has taken an important step forward with the submission and acceptance of the application for a Development Consent Order to the Government's Planning Inspectorate offices in Bristol.

Councillor Matthew Hicks (Leader of Suffolk County Council and cabinet member for economic development and infrastructure,), Councillor Mark Bee (leader of Waveney District Council) and Peter Aldous MP all met in Lowestoft to mark this key milestone in the project. They even helped to load the 14 boxes of folders and files into the van!

Members of the project team then secured the boxes and left Lowestoft for the 250 mile cross-country drive. Even in the modern world of file sharing and electronic media, it is a requirement that a submission of this importance is hand-delivered.

Councillor Hicks, said: "Today marks another important stage of bringing the new Lake Lothing Third Crossing to Lowestoft. I would like to thank everyone who has been involved in this huge infrastructure project so far, for taking the time to talk to us and supporting us along the way. I was delighted to report to our Cabinet that an overwhelming 96% of those who responded, said they want the bridge. We will deliver it."

The Planning Inspectorate had 28 days to

accept the application. There will now be a pre-examination stage, where local interested parties will be invited to be involved in the process. You can register as an Interested Party on the Planning Inspectorate **website**.

Once this period is over, the Planning Inspectorate will have up to six months to carry out the examination and hear the views of local people.

Within three months of the examination period coming to a close, a report (complete with a recommendation), will be prepared for the Secretary of State for Transport, who then has three months to decide on whether to grant or refuse a development consent.

Following this, the finalised design will become public and work will begin by the end of 2019.

Cllr Mark Bee, leader of Waveney District Council, said: "This project

is of great significance to Lowestoft, Waveney and the East of England. I'm looking forward to many residents and businesses benefiting from the crossing and the easing of traffic going through the town."

Waveney MP Peter Aldous, said: "We are now one step closer to contributing to the regeneration of Lowestoft. I'm confident that when then crossing is complete, the town and local area will benefit from the economic development that the crossing will bring."

## SUBMISSION FACTS

14 boxes of folders

Approx. 154kg in weight

Total of 448 Documents

Approx. 26,600 pages, the length of 80 football pitches if put together



## Examination

You can send in your comments in writing.  
You can request to speak at a public hearing.  
The Inspectorate has **6 months** to carry out the examination.



## Decision

A recommendation to the relevant Secretary of State will be issued by the Inspectorate within **3 months**. The Secretary of State then has a further **3 months** to issue a decision on the proposal.



## Post-decision

There is the opportunity for legal challenge.



## Ground Investigation update

Geosphere Environmental, a local ground investigation (GI) company were awarded the contract for the initial GI works. Investigations started in the summer of 2017 and were completed in the spring of 2018. This work obtained additional geotechnical and environmental information needed to complete the initial design, and for the Environmental Statement needed for the DCO application.

The new GI information broadly confirmed the previously available data which reduces the project risks. However, it has also extended to depths now sufficient for the pile design, which is essential to complete the final detailed design.

We have also investigated the quay structures on both banks. Additional boreholes required at the base of Lake Lothing will be carried out later in 2018 by the appointed Design and Build contractor. Results from these investigations will be used in the design of the bridge piers and associated works.

## PROCUREMENT UPDATE

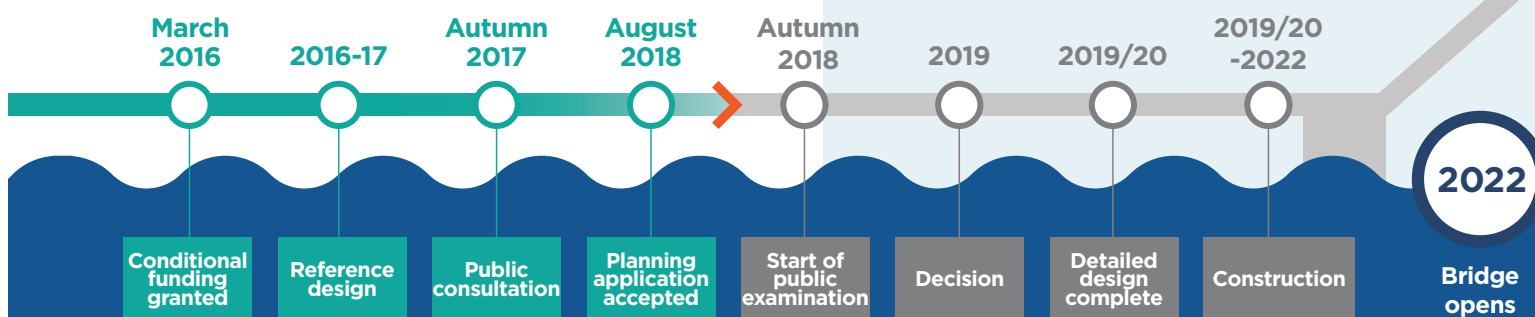
Suffolk County Council is undertaking a tender to award a Design and Build contract for the Third Crossing, with the award anticipated during Autumn 2018. The process began last year, attracting interest from several international contractors and firms able to support delivery of the project.

When the contract is awarded, the successful contractor, working with the council's project team, will be holding a 'Meet the Contractor' event; where local companies will be able to meet the winning bidder and explain the services they can provide, which could be used in the delivery of the third crossing.

The name of the successful bidder will be published in a future edition of this newsletter.



## PROJECT PROGRESS



## FIND OUT MORE

**Email:** [lakelothing3rdcrossing@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:lakelothing3rdcrossing@suffolk.gov.uk)  
**Web:** [www.suffolk.gov.uk/lakelothing3rdcrossing](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/lakelothing3rdcrossing)  
**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

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

Polish

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Bengali

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