

Community Liaison Group (CLG)

South – meeting 1

Monday 13 July 26

Welcome & Introductions



CLG Terms of Reference

Purpose

The CLGs hold the project to account on local engagement and provide members with insight to improve how construction and local engagement is delivered. They are to share information on upcoming works, likely impacts and how we propose to communicate these works. They should act as a solution-focused forum, offering advice on:

- Issues that upcoming construction might cause
- Communities likely to be affected
- How impacts can be avoided, managed or mitigated
- The most effective ways to communicate with the wider community (e.g. drop-in sessions, email notifications, leaflet distributions etc.)

Meetings

CLGs will be in-person and held quarterly, or as otherwise agreed by forum members. Consideration for subgroups for specific work or topics is also possible. They will be held in the evening to encourage attendance from community representatives.

Membership

Attendance should be proportionate to the upcoming phase of work, so invites will be provided ahead of activities relevant to specific hosting authorities, including chair, LA officers, councilors and community group reps.

Chair

Independent local community representatives will chair the CLGs. Their role will be to facilitate constructive discussion, identify common ground, summarise differing views, and draw out potential solutions for further exploration where needed.

Administration

Lower Thames Crossing will provide administrative support, with the agenda and any supporting information issued two weeks in advance of the actual meeting.

Meeting minutes will be shared with attendees no later than two weeks after each meeting and published online, along with the presentations and any other relevant information.

Standard agenda items

1. Agree CLG ToR (first session only)
2. Project progress update
3. 6-month look ahead and mitigation
4. Planned communications and engagement
5. Community concerns and feedback
6. Items for future meetings
7. Date of next meeting



CLG Terms of Reference continued

Limitations

CLGs should focus on building constructive relationships around upcoming works and using local insight to improve project delivery. They should not be used for:

Public relations: Promoting or selling the scheme.

Mass communication: CLGs are not public drop-ins, though members can share information with their communities.

Social value: Discussions should focus on construction impacts, not social value initiatives.

Consents: Not a forum for DCO or other consent matters, unless directly relevant.

Land and property negotiations: These must take place privately with individual landowners

Respect clause

To maintain constructive and inclusive CLGs, all attendees must:

Engage respectfully: Treat others with courtesy; express disagreements constructively.

Work collaboratively: Listen actively, share ideas openly, and contribute to shared goals.

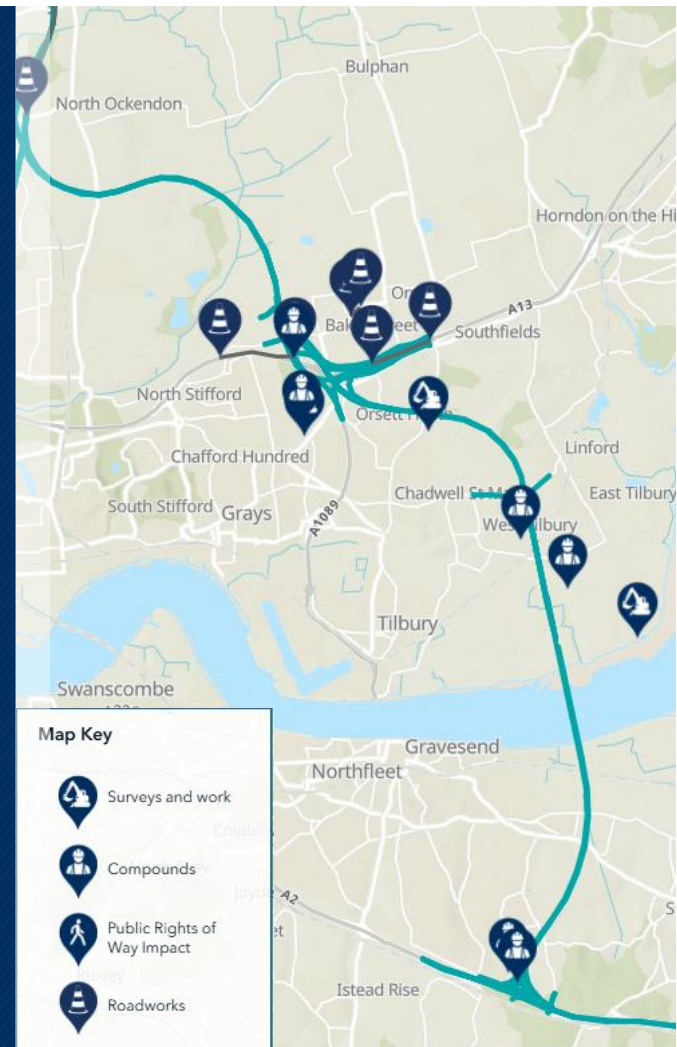
Be prepared: Review materials in advance and participate without interrupting or dominating.

Respect confidentiality: While minutes will be published, sensitive information must be handled appropriately.



LTC progress update

- Early work has started across the route, including setting up compounds, archaeology, ground investigations, ecology surveys and habitat creation as part of ecological mitigation.
- Government announced last year that they would provide the final amount of public funding and gave the green light to private investment – formal market engagement due to start later this year.
- New road on track to open in early to mid 2030s.



Kent Roads

Skanska



New habitat area on land east of Thong



Current view of Kent Roads works area (south to north)



Once LTC is in operation

Land and logistics

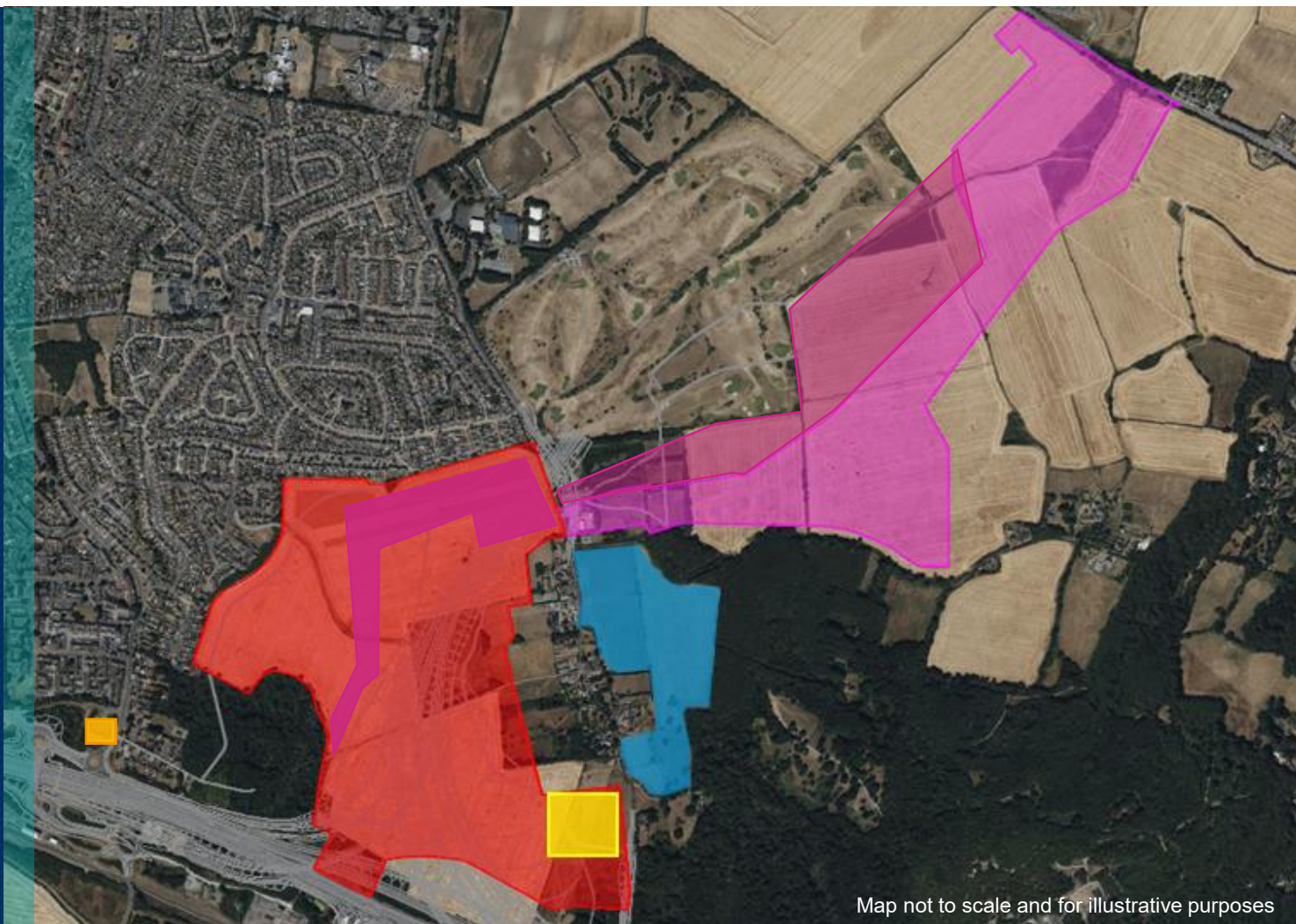
 LTC South- Marling Cross

 A2 site land taken in Jan 26 south of Riverview

 A2 site compound / main welfare

 New habitat area east of Thong - complete

 National Gas Transmission (NGT) works area from Feb 26



Map not to scale and for illustrative purposes

So far this year

- Boundary fencing around A2 site and east of Thong Lane
- Surveys;
 - Ecology for protecting and relocating existing habitats
 - Utility for locating existing assets to refine design
 - Ground investigations to support detailed design
 - Archaeology to protect and preserve historic features
 - Drones for sub surface data to inform design process
- Creation of vehicle access via A2 (ongoing)
- Completion of LEOT – left for one year to mature
- Vehicle/plant crossing over Thong Lane (A2 Site to NGT east), including daytime traffic lights during working hrs
- NGT preperation works



July

August

September

October

November

Main works

Continue site set-up for A2 site compound - site offices; creation of internal access roads; A2 access

Surveys

Ground investigation borehole surveys

Archaeological work– ongoing into 2027

Ecology

Wildlife surveys, habitat creation, and relocation of protected species

Early works (NGT)

Temporary logistics compounds set up and internal access roads

Thong Lane cross over

Mobilisation - National gas transmission (NGT) diversion

Demolition of Bayliss building and hard standing

Other

Design

Relocate bat bunker in Shorne Woods Country Park

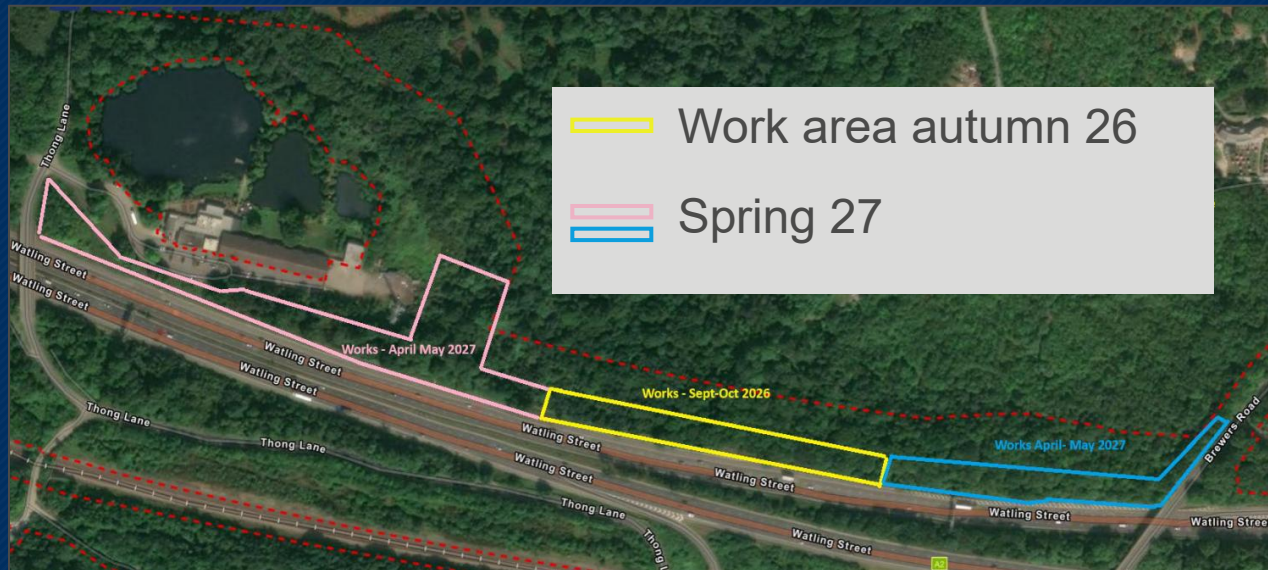
- Existing bat shelter (an old air raid shelter) located in woods between Inn on the Lake and Brewers Road will be impacted by the gas main diversion.
- A new bat shelter is to be constructed approx. 1.5 km further west, north of Park Pale, between Aug and Oct 26



Early work for SGN diversion - A2/Shorne Wds Country Park

Relocation of great crested newts (GCN) ahead of utility diversion works in summer 2027, including;

- Vegetation clearance and translocation of ancient woodland soils along the edge of the A2 - impact on the woods reduced as much as possible
- Translocate GCN and other reptiles
- Vehicle access via A2, with crossing over 177 cycle route (access maintained throughout)



NGT diversion

Lower and divert an existing national gas below LTC

Screening bunds
(grass seeded)

Main vehicle access
via A2 – plant
crossing over Thong
Lane with traffic lights
(working hours only)

Main vehicle access for
NGT east via A226

NGT east

Archeology now and site set up.
New pipework across fields (up to 4m
deep) from spring 27 until autumn 28



A2 site / NGT west

4 shafts (9m/ 6m diameter /19m deep) and two
small connecting tunnels (1.5 internal diameter)



NGT timescales and mitigation

Timescales

- Site set-up from Aug 26 - large plant for shaft construction from Autumn 26
- Completion of work in winter 28

Working hours

- Extended working hours possible for completion of works, such as concrete pours
- 24hr working for;
 - Possible for building small tunnels belowground (in 2027 (more info to follow)
 - testing and commissioning of asset

Mitigation

- Screening bunds, generators away from residential properties, appropriate lighting during 24hrs working (more info to follow)

Community engagement

- Targeted communication ahead of any disruptive work – door knocking, events, letters, emails etc.

Potential community issues and mitigation

Construction traffic

- Construction traffic on Thong Lane – main A2 access in early use now and full use from late 2026
- Use dedicated routes and stagger deliveries to reduce traffic on local roads, live tracking and automated number plate recognition (ANPR)

Environment

- Impact on Shorne Wds CP – drop-ins at centre
- Impact on Claylane Woods – translocation of ancient woodland soils

Residents

- Increase in work and ensuring informed engagement
- Disruption to neighbours – targeted site layout designs and best practice measures;
 - dust suppression such as with water bowsers
 - acoustic blankets
 - festoon lighting
 - road sweepers
 - screening bunds

Public Rights of Way

- Closure and diversions of PRowWs – ensure diversion routes are kept clear of vegetation and fencing regularly checked

Tunnels & Approaches

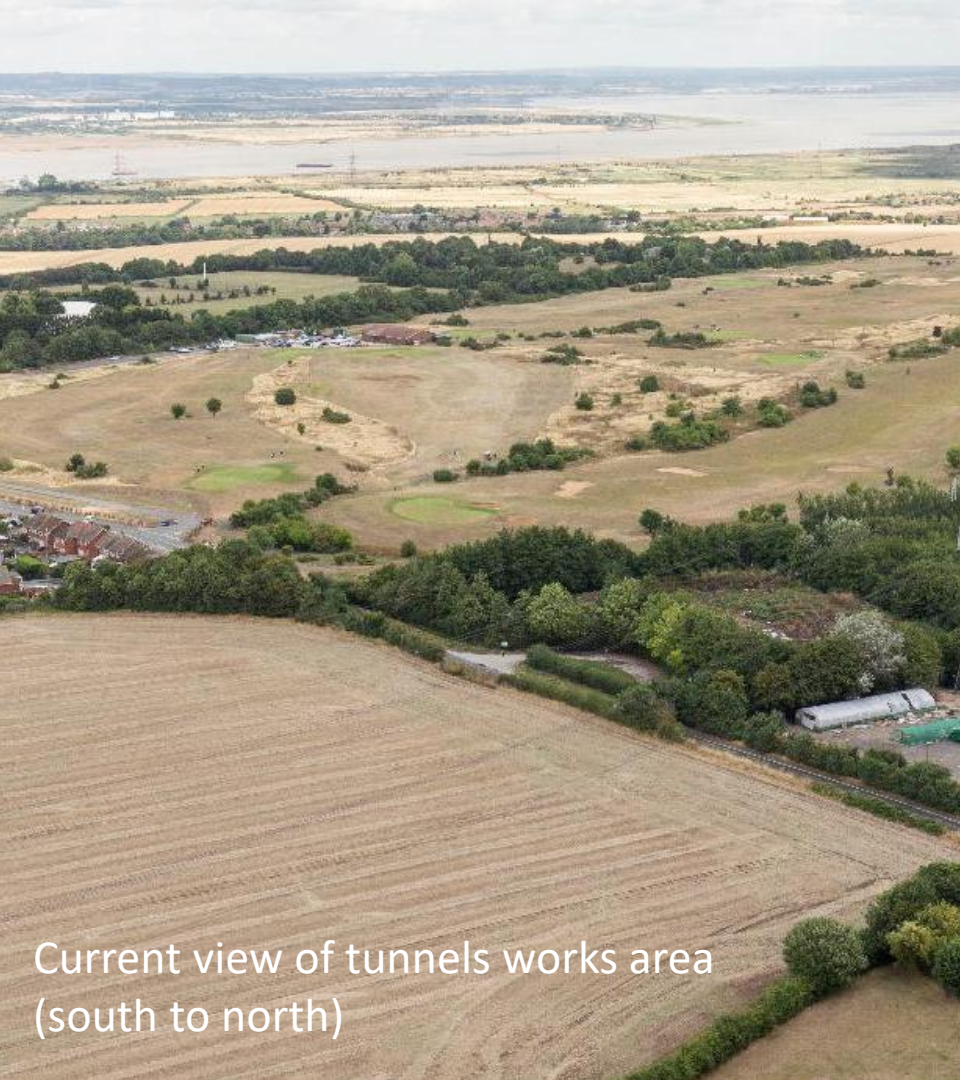
Bouygues TP Murphy JV



Tunnels and approaches – scope of works

- 4,25km long twin-bore tunnel
- 3 lanes of traffic in each tunnel
- Approach roads to and from the portals (approx. 1km on each side)
- North and South Portals
- Tunnel Boring Machine diameter: 16.41m
- Cross passages connecting the tubes with 150m spacing





Current view of tunnels works area
(south to north)



Once LTC is in operation

Archaeology & ecology surveys - spring to summer 26

- Initial archaeology trial trenching surveys started in March 26
- 280 digs completed to date and due to be finished in July 26
- Ecology surveys are ongoing into/throughout 2027 in the wider area, including on some land north of the A226 and marshes near the River Thames



Archaeology photos and finds



Trial trench



Slot through Bronze Age ring ditch



Iron Age pit with pottery under excavation



Complete Iron Age vessel



Roman copper alloy brooch



Substantial Roman enclosure ditch

Overnight utility surveys – August 26

What: Walkover surveys (radar mapping)

Where: A226 (Gravesend and Rochester Road), Lower Higham Road and A289 (Hansted Road)

When: W/C 10th August - approx. 30 – 60 mins per location

Advance notice letters to be provided to any impacted residential properties



2027 look ahead / milestones

- Summer 2027 – further archaeological work following trial digs
- Spring / summer 2027 – compound establishment, including creation of vehicle access points



Artist impression of southern tunnel entrance site layout

Key site area

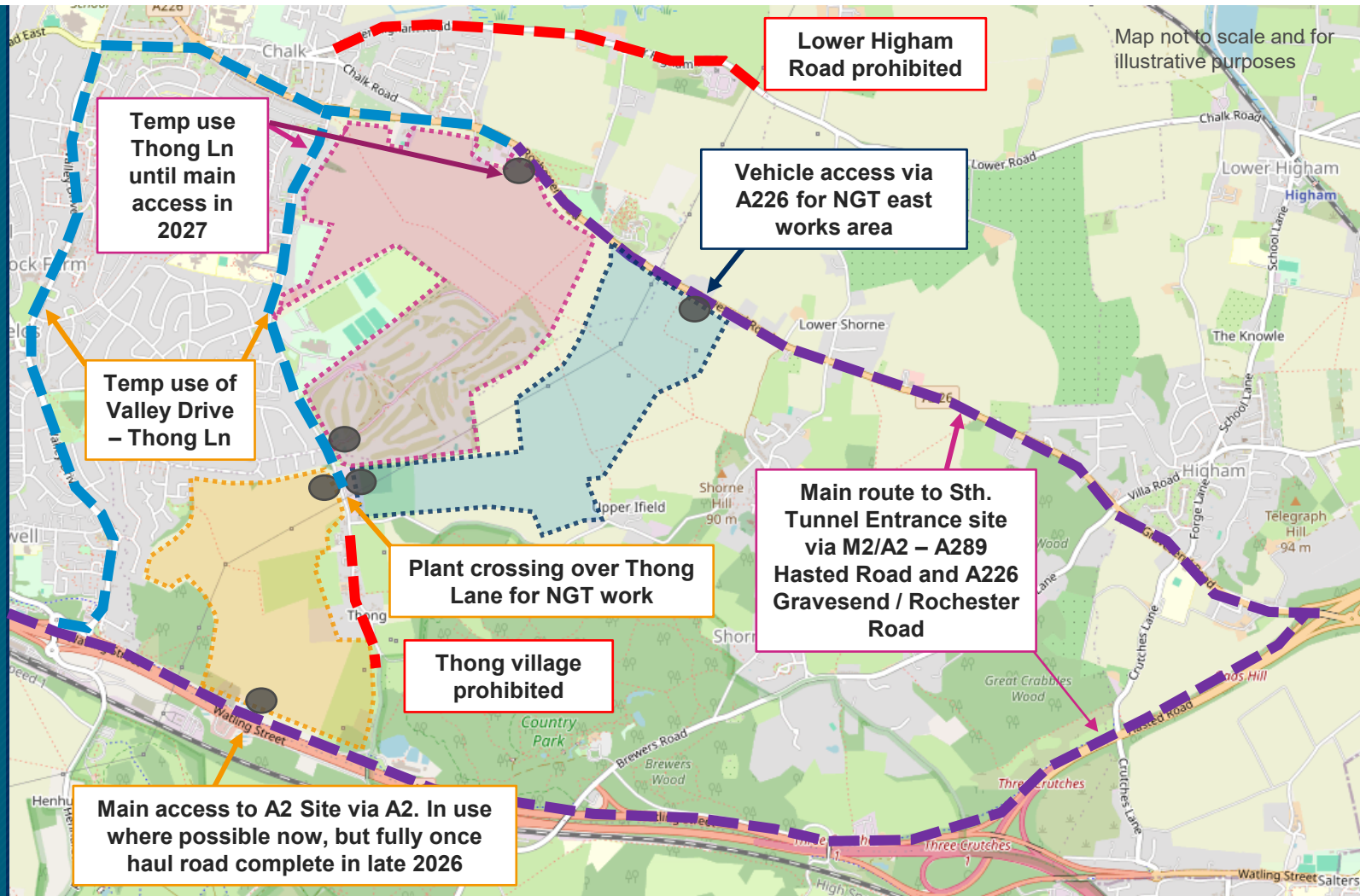
- 1 Site offices, welfare and carpark
- 2 Plant yard and workshops
- 3 Tunnel entrance and approach ramp cutting
- 4 Chalk Park landscaping area
- 5 South Tunnel Entrance Service Building
- 2 to 3m high bund

Mitigation measures to reduce impact on community

- The site compound will be located as far as practicable from nearby residential properties
- A 2–3m high bund will provide visual and noise screening for residents to the west of site (adjacent to Thong Lane)
- Dust, noise and vibration monitoring - standard best practice and local authority agreements
- Reduction in materials, vehicle movements, carbon etc.:
 - Single tunnel boring machine (TBM) removing the need for an additional access road from the M2/A2
 - Temporary construction road upgrade for permanent use
 - Re-use of excavated material to create Chalk Park – 320,000 less lorry movements
 - Ongoing design optimisation
- Piloting electric and hydrogen-powered plant now to be used in south

Vehicle routes

Exploring relevant mitigation for managing vehicle movements, including live tracking



Community feedback – all

- What are the main issues that are impacting your communities at the moment?
- What are the upcoming issues?
- How can they be avoided, managed, or mitigated?
- What else should be considered to reduce the impact in the future?
- Feedback on information shared?
- Anything else?



Engagement and communications

- Project-wide community roadshow in March, with next one planned in Autumn
- 5 resident notification letters this year – continue ahead of key works
- Localised mailing list coming for targeted email updates and quarterly progress newsletter
- Two drop-in sessions in early August at Shorne Wds CP re local work
- Monthly drops-ins at Cascades Leisure Centre – 4:30pm to 6:30pm
 - Thursday 23 July
 - Wednesday 12 August
 - Tuesday 15 September
 - Wednesday 21 October
 - Wednesday 18 November
 - Tuesday 15 December
- CLGs established



Community surveys

Annual satisfaction survey

- To support areas in need of improvement - baseline conducted in Spring 26
- Survey around;
 - Awareness and anticipated impacts of LTC (plans, interaction, construction and operational impacts etc.)
 - Expectations for construction (safety, visual, cleanliness, traffic management, parking, noise, air pollution, lighting etc.)

Community engagement survey

- How people want to hear from project (subject / method) to help shape localised engagement
- 4,000+ responses – 1,200+ from Kent – 300+ from DA12 postcode
- Email was preferred channel for receiving all updates (general, construction and local/major road network traffic management)
- South email updates launching soon

