



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

The Rt Hon Heidi Alexander MP
Secretary of State for Transport
Department for Transport
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR

Our Ref: FC/AN144482

30 January 2025

Dear Minister,

Re: [REDACTED]

I enclose a copy of a communication I have recently received from my constituent, the contents of which are self-explanatory.

I would be grateful if you could let me have a reply dealing with the points my constituent raises.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Anneliese Dodds MP

Dear Anneliese Dodds,

When Labour was in opposition it stressed the need to invest more in sustainable transport, both to tackle climate and other environmental concerns and to address the way in which recent policies have exacerbated inequalities. Yet in recent days there has been much talk of taking a very different approach, which I believe would be socially, economically and environmentally disastrous.

Turning to the proposed Lower Thames Crossing, it would, if approved:

cause 7 years of construction misery and costs

provide only 5 years of relief at Dartford (when it opens in 2032 or later)

cost at least £10bn

bring only £3bn of benefits - thus representing effectively a £7bn loss to the economy

In addition, if private finance is used, tolls at Dartford and LTC are likely to be higher. Even with private finance, the public will still have to pay for all the additional roads and road widenings needed to make the LTC function.

A public transport crossing and investment in rail freight would bring better benefits at lower cost. However, if the LTC is approved these benefits would be jeopardised.

Added to all these objections it would concentrate, yet again, infrastructure investment in the South East.

I urge you to oppose it.