

An aerial photograph showing a complex highway interchange with multiple lanes and overpasses. The surrounding area includes residential housing, agricultural fields, and a large body of water in the distance under a cloudy sky.

Lower Thames Crossing

Skills update

8 June 2022



Jess Power

Skills, Education & Employment (SEE)
Manager

I manage and coordinate my team to ensure we and our contractors meet the overall ambitions of the project.

Our goal is to provide sustainable benefits for local people through new employment, new business, skills and careers engagement.



The Dartford Crossing – a vital link



50 million
crossings a year and traffic
volumes are increasing

Designed for



135,000 vehicle crossings a day

Can operate at above



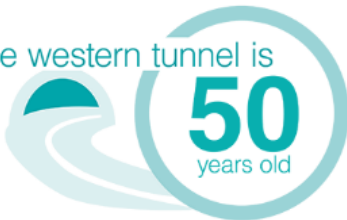
180,000 vehicle crossings a day



Has one of the highest
incident rates on the
strategic road network



It can take
3 to 5
hours
for the roads to clear
following a closure

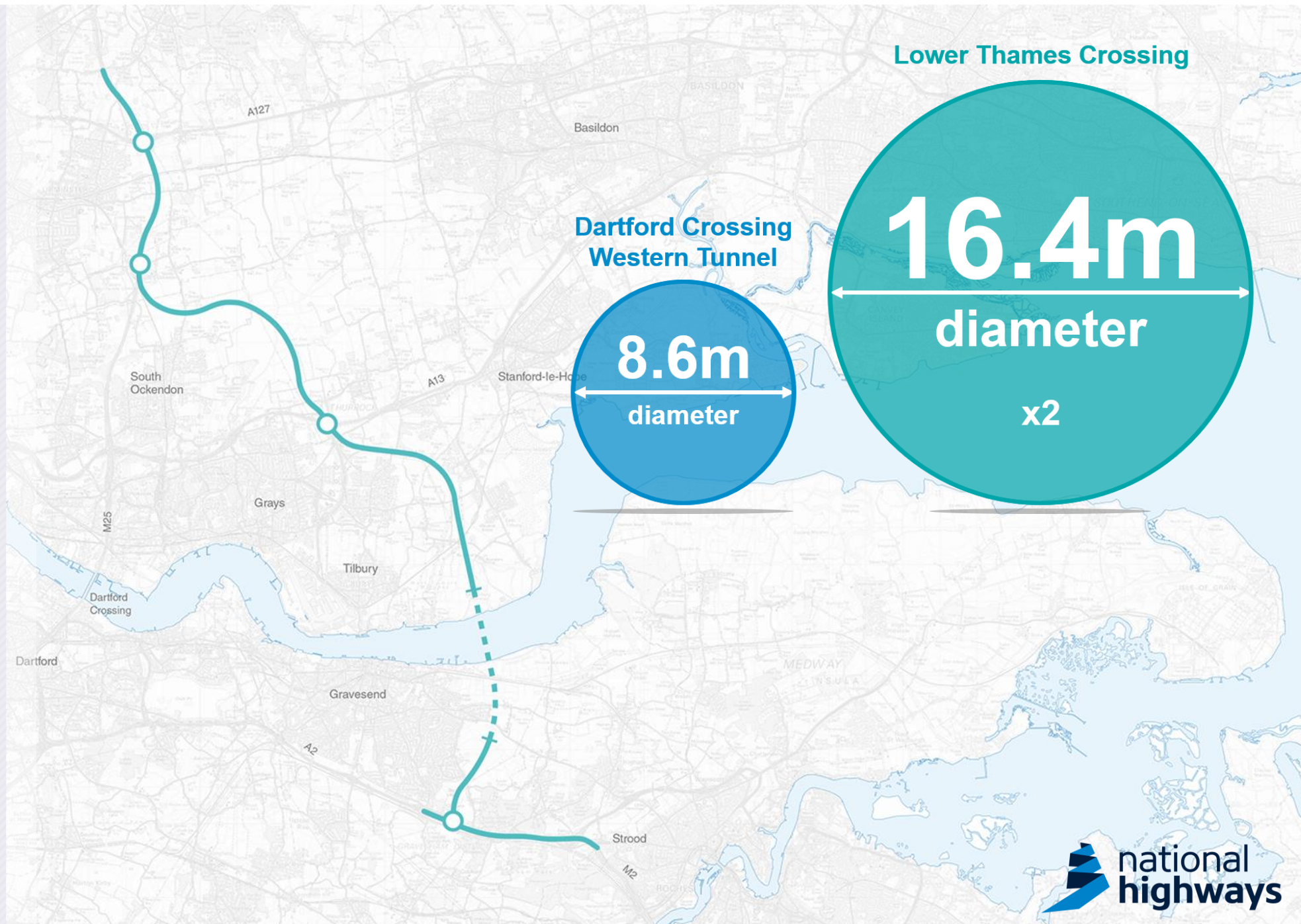


The western tunnel is

50
years old

The most ambitious road project in 35 years

- 14.3 mile link between the A2/M2 to the A13/A1089 and M25
- A new connection through the longest road tunnel in the UK
- Will nearly double the road capacity across the Thames east of London
- Take over 13 million vehicles off the Dartford Crossing and approach roads



The story so far...

Spring 2016



Public
consultation

April 2017



DfT chooses
preferred route

October 2018



Statutory
consultation

July 2019



Ground
investigations
begin

Jan 2020



Supplementary
consultation

Route to road opening

July 2020



Design refinement
consultation

Autumn 2020



DCO Submission

Start main works
competition

Summer 2021



Community Impacts
Consultation

2022



DCO Re-submission

2023



DCO Decision
& Final
Business Case

Award contracts &
start on site



2029-2030



Targeted road
opening

The UK's Greenest Road

- Explore carbon neutral construction
- Drive further continuous carbon reduction
- Help the UK reach net zero by 2050

“We will push the boundaries and show how we can help the UK reach net zero”

Matt Palmer, LTC Executive Director

Lower Thames Crossing a 'pathfinder' in move toward carbon neutral construction

Working with a range of partners to identify, test and scale-up innovative ways of building and maintaining low carbon infrastructure



Cutting emissions

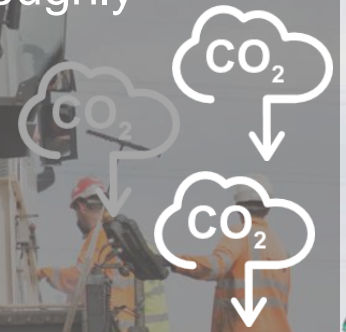
So far, we've been able to cut carbon by optimising the design, refining how we plan to build the road and what materials we would use.

We're setting high expectations for our delivery partners and we'll continuously work with them to drive our carbon footprint down even further including:

- Using zero carbon energy sources
- Reusing a considerable amount of waste
- Making use of existing low-carbon materials
- Using our procurement process to incentivise continual carbon reduction.

We've cut the amount of carbon expected from construction by roughly

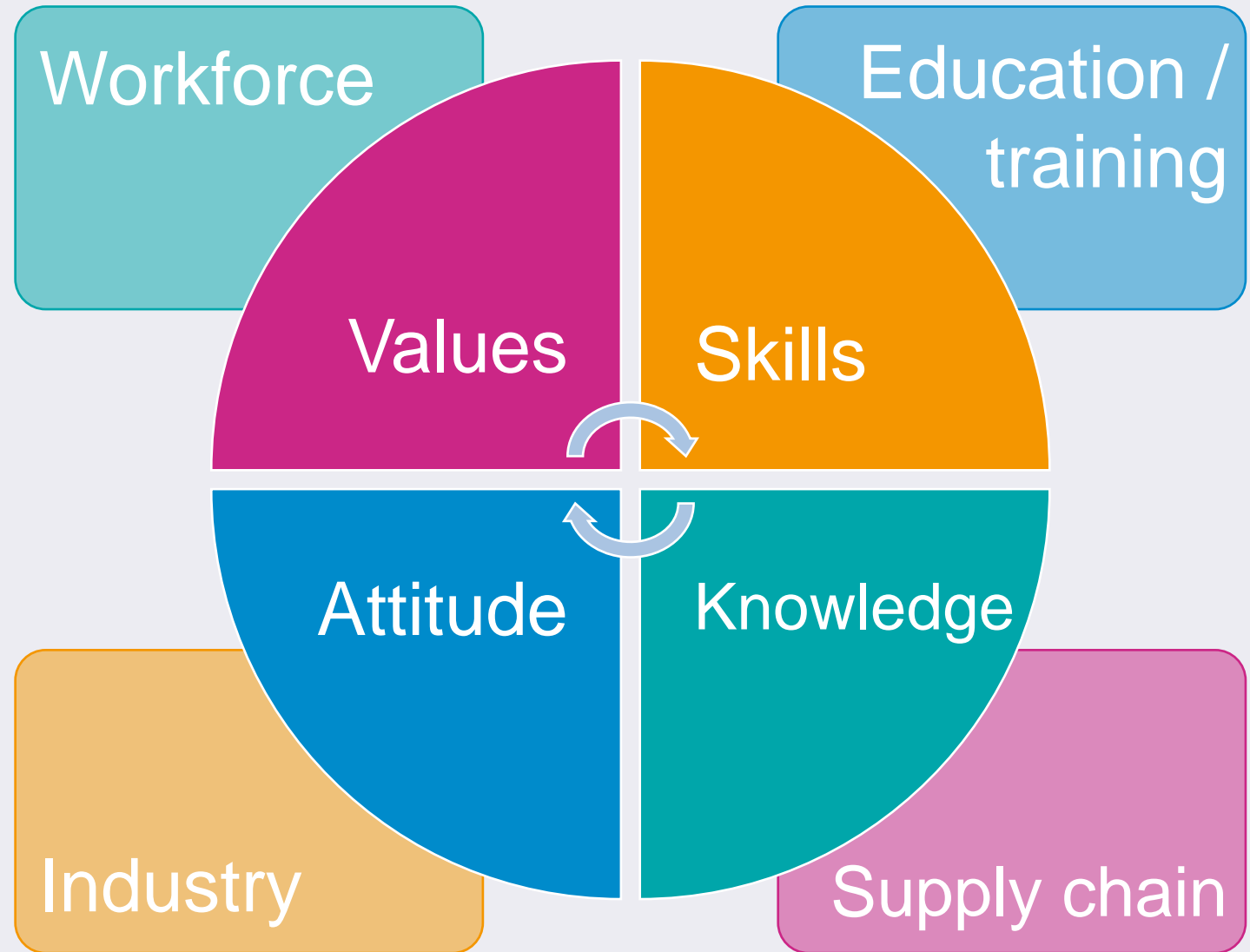
**one
third**



Next – focus areas

We need to identify, test and scale-up innovative ways of building and maintaining low carbon infrastructure

- Partnerships with industry, education and other projects
- Learning from what already exist
- Work to support local, government and National Highways ambitions to reach Net-Zero.



SEE Objectives

Create a skills legacy

Address the skills gap and change training standards for building low carbon infrastructure.

Bring new jobs and training

Create life changing opportunities for local people through new inclusive jobs, training and placements.

Inspire future careers

Assemble the next generation of talent through affective engagement with local students and educators.

Support business growth

Provide local businesses and SMEs with the tools to win new work and maximise economic benefits during and after construction.

SEE ambitions

Local workforce

A workforce made up with people from within 20-miles of the project



Raise local skills

Provide the tools to higher skilled job and minimise the skills gap



Green skills

Everybody trained to do their job more sustainably



Newly Employed

Hundreds of new jobs for people experiencing unemployment



Inspire future careers

Lots of meaningful engagement whilst addressing the teacher shortage



Local economic growth

Build more resilience in local businesses



SEE - one year on...

#NAW22



 national highways

“After 16 years in banking, I decided to go back into education to future proof the rest of my career for my family”



Apprenticeships
National Apprenticeship Week
7th to 13th February 2022

National
Careers Week

 national highways

Simi's career journey
Carbon project manager

NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK 2022



1,500 young
people engaged



20+ STEM
ambassadors

THE

CAREERS & ENTERPRISE

COMPANY

Cornerstone
& employer



Business engagement - one year on...

First major UK infrastructure project to use procurement to reduce carbon

Invited shortlisted bidders to tender for the £1.9 billion contracts to build the roads, green bridges, parks and woodlands



To help us achieve carbon neutral construction, we're putting carbon at the forefront of everything we do, including procurement to set the right behaviours from the start

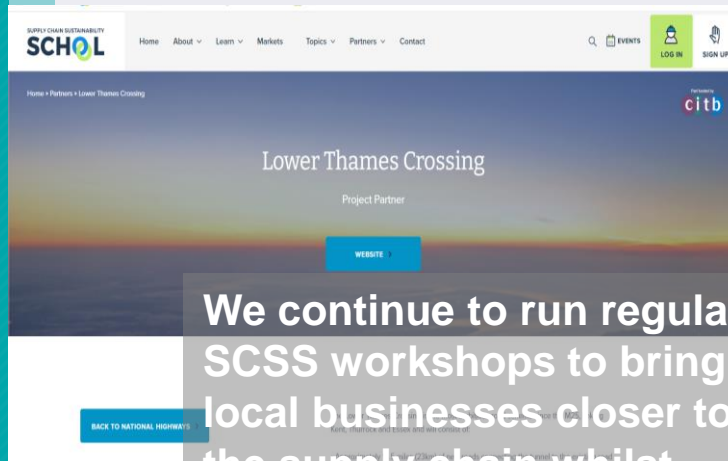


SME Directory

Highways England is supporting SMEs interested in working on the Lower Thames Crossing



We now have over 650 businesses registered on our SME directory



We continue to run regular SCSS workshops to bring local businesses closer to the supply chain whilst building their skills and knowledge

Event in Feb 2022 bringing business and stakeholders together to exchange ideas, skills and innovations around the carbon agenda

Road to Net Zero Construction Webinar
Exploring low carbon infrastructure



Questions?



lowerthamescrossing.co.uk



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