

7 April 2015



Sent by email to:
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Dear Sir/Madam

Draft London Riverside Opportunity Area Planning Framework

Thank you for your email of 12 February inviting comments on the Mayor of London's Draft London Riverside Opportunity Area Planning Framework.

The Thames Gateway Kent Partnership welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Mayor's proposals for Opportunity Areas in East London, and on the implications for North Kent and the wider Thames Gateway.

Given the location of the London Riverside Opportunity Area in relation to North Kent, we have few substantive comments to make on this occasion. Nevertheless we would wish to make the following observations:

- We note that the only reference to the **Thames Gateway** in the Introduction (Section 1) is in the map reproduced from the London Plan at Figure 1.4. We suggest that, in addition, in Section 1.2, there should be a specific reference to London Riverside's position as a key location within the Thames Gateway. The Thames Gateway remains a national priority area for growth and London Riverside contains some of the most important development sites in the Thames Gateway, such as Barking Riverside. We would welcome the Mayor's continued recognition of the Thames Gateway as a national priority area for growth being highlighted in the Framework.
- Section 1.5 refers to "new river crossings and other potential options being considered to support development in the longer term, such as **Crossrail extension** to Bexley Riverside Opportunity Area and Ebbsfleet Garden

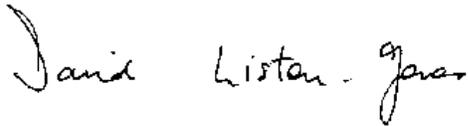
City.” It is TGKP’s view that consideration of the possible extension of Crossrail should look beyond Ebbsfleet to Gravesend. In addition, we would suggest that the draft be amended so as not to imply that the issue of Crossrail extension is something that can be left for the “longer term”. TGKP considers that, given the major plans for Ebbsfleet Garden City, the proposed London Paramount entertainment resort at Swanscombe Peninsula and the ongoing growth and regeneration across North Kent, an early re-examination of the business case for Crossrail extension is essential.

- We note the consideration being given to ***new river crossings*** in east London (Section 1.5 and 4.4.2). The new crossings potentially have implications for traffic flows and connectivity in North Kent. We request that the GLA and TfL continue to consult with TGKP, local authorities and other key stakeholders outside the GLA boundary as these proposals are refined.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on this draft Opportunity Area Planning Framework.

As this email is being sent during the election ‘purdah’ period the Partnership is not publicising its response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Liston-Jones". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

David Liston-Jones
Chief Executive
Thames Gateway Kent Partnership