

1. PURPOSE OF THE SERVICES

Transport for London (hereinafter referred to as TfL' or 'the Authority') is investigating the provision a new pedestrian and cycling crossing of the River Thames between Rotherhithe and Canary Wharf.

The new river crossing is intended to improve cross-river connectivity. The crossing will provide pedestrian and cycle links to improve access to jobs, facilitate business activity, support housing development, enhance the resilience of the transport network and encourage more sustainable travel.

1.1 Background

In October 2016 the Mayor announced that TfL would be leading the development of a new pedestrian and cycling crossing of the River Thames between Rotherhithe and Canary Wharf.

This project is one of a number of proposed new river crossings for London which are intended to improve cross-river connectivity in London. Over the past year, TfL has been exploring the need and options for this new crossing and has provisionally concluded that a bridge is the preferred option. The need for a crossing is a high priority due to the following:

- Both Canada Water on the Rotherhithe peninsula and the Isle of Dogs are designated as Opportunity Areas where significant housing and employment growth is anticipated in the coming years.
- Significant cycling growth has taken place in central and inner London.
- Central to the Mayor's Healthy Streets London vision is to encourage walking and cycling with safer and more appealing routes to create a better city for all Londoners. Improvements to cycling access and capacity are required if continued growth is to be supported, particularly for employees living in south London, for whom the options for crossing the Thames onto the Isle of Dogs (to access Canary Wharf) are limited.
- The section of the Jubilee line between Canada Water and Canary Wharf is increasingly crowded in the peak hours. However there are no convenient alternative options for travelling at surface level due to the position of these growth areas on peninsulas of the Thames. Improving the accessibility of the Rotherhithe peninsula for walking and cycling would provide existing and future residents of the area with an alternative active travel option.
- The Authority is currently consulting on its work to date assessing three options. The consultation opened on 8 November 2017 and completes on 8 January 2018. Details of the consultation can be found here:

<https://consultations.tfl.gov.uk/rivercrossings/rotherhithe-canarywharf/?cid=r2cw-crossing>

After the consultation, the Authority will determine a single option to take forward for further design development.

- 1.1.1 the Authority intends to apply for an Order through the Transport and Works Act (TWA) to obtain the consents and powers required for constructing and operating a bridge crossing.