

From: [REDACTED]
To: [TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE](#)
Subject: Objection to Transport and Work Act Order to the Department for Transport for a new busway linking Cambourne to Cambridge as submitted by Cambridgeshire County Council on 12 November 2024.
Date: 05 January 2025 18:09:58

Dear Madam Secretary of State,

Work Act Order to the Department for Transport for a new busway linking Cambourne to Cambridge as submitted by Cambridgeshire County Council on 12 November 2024

I am James R Miller of [REDACTED], and write to object to the /Application for a Transport and Work Act Order to the Department for Transport for a new busway linking Cambourne to Cambridge/, as submitted by the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) on 12 November 2024.

Objection Context

The need to improve transport from the new town of Cambourne to the City of Cambridge has been pressed by the GCP and others for about a decade. Proposed solutions, presentations, public discussions, champions and detractors, etc have been frequent. Yet in a decade requirements have changed; working from home, new towns, new industry, the East-West Rail link and so on. The plan has not changed to reflect this.

Objections have been continuous, and in the tens of thousands. Yet the protagonists stick dogmatically to the same mantra. That is, a "busway" is needed for the final approach to the City, and it requires a new cross-country bus-specific route from the A1307 Madingley Mulch roundabout to Cambridge Grange Road area.

The need for this has never been satisfactorily justified.

Objections

/Misleading/ Congestion is on the inbound final approach in the morning rush-hour only; mostly private cars, which cannot possibly all come from Cambourne. They must also be from the many other towns and villages west of the City. Many seek the M11; others the Madingley park-and-ride. Few will need bussing to Grange Road. /Cambourne to Cambridge/ is simply a label. The matter is then about more than this.

/Illogical/ A logical "busway" solution consistently proposed by off-road objectors is to add a bus lane to the A1303 by widening it into Cambridge to get buses to Grange Road. This sensible proposal is always simply ignored by the GCP, always without explanation.

/Ugly/ The off-road busway marches for a mile across open land atop the falling south side of Madingley Hill above Bin Brook valley. It then smashes its way through the ancient and beautiful Coton Orchard, and needs another bridge over the M11. This is the beginning of the subsumation of the tiny village of Coton into Cambridge. The Villager's concerns are totally ignored. Why?

/Mission Creep/ The proposed off-road busway (for many years called a /guided busway/, which is a very different thing) from A1303 Madingley Mulch roundabout to Grange Road area is thus just a road. This road will, in time, be attractive to other services, such as emergency vehicles, then taxis, scooters, bicycles, pedestrians, cars Inevitably this road will encourage and enable development of the area

by the landowner, Cambridge University, a former member of the GCP.

Summary

When something makes little sense, yet is relentlessly pursued, it is natural to object, especially in view of the huge direct costs known to be involved vs the meagre return, and to plead for the logical solution of on-road bus-lane. I ask you please to refuse the Work Act Order.

Yours sincerely,

James Miller
2025 Jan 05

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