

Alice Lawman
Spatial Planning
National Highways
Woodlands
Manton Lane
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MK41 7LW

7th March 2025

via email : transportinfrastructure@dft.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam

Cambridge South East Transport Phase 2 (CSET)- Transport and Work Act Order application

This letter consists of National Highways' Representation in respect of the Transport and Work Act Order (TWAo) application by Greater Cambridge Partnership (the Applicant) for consent to a guided busway between a new A11 travel hub and Cambridge Biomedical Campus.

National Highways is the government owned company which operates, maintains and improves the Strategic Road Network (SRN) as the strategic highway company appointed under the provisions of the Infrastructure Act (2015) and in accordance with the Licence¹ issued by the Secretary of State for Transport.

National Highways is a statutory consultee to the planning process. It has a specific obligation to deliver economic growth through the provision of a safe and reliable SRN, in line with the provisions set out in DfT Circular 01/2022: The strategic road network and the delivery of sustainable development². The Circular sets out how National Highways will work with developers to ensure that specific tests are met when promoting a scheme. This includes ensuring the transport impact is understood, any mitigation (or other infrastructure) is designed in accordance with the relevant standards and that environmental impacts are appraised and mitigated accordingly.

National Highways recognise the aims of the scheme is to provide a new busway, travel hub and walking cycling route to improve people's journeys to Cambridge from

¹ [Highways England: licence \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/108888/Highways_England_Licence.pdf)

² [Strategic road network and the delivery of sustainable development - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/108888/Strategic_road_network_and_the_delivery_of_sustainable_development.pdf)



the communities to the south east of the city as well as providing links to the Biomedical Campus, Granta Park and Babraham Research Campus. The new travel hub will be situated near the A11 junction with the A1307. The scheme aims to meet the following objectives:

- Providing more choice;
- Supporting job growth; and
- A sustainable focus.

In principle, National Highways support the schemes objectives, aligning with principles of sustainable development set out in the Circular 01/22. Paragraph 6 of the Circular states, '*...it will [the company] will support initiatives that reduce the need to travel by private car and enable the necessary behavioural change to make walking, wheeling, cycling and public transport the natural first choice for all who can take it.*'

National Highways has met with the Applicant and its consultants on several occasions prior to the submission of the TWAO and has reviewed the application documents. This has enabled National Highways to form a general understanding of the impacts of the proposed Development on the SRN.

The principal concerns to National Highways relate to impacts on the SRN is the permanent acquisition of plot numbers 138 and 141. National Highways wish to make the inspectors aware that Plot numbers 138 and 141 form part of land registry title CB240907 which covers the A11. A plan identifying the overlap between the National Highways Title, CB240907 and the land required for the proposed development has been attached to this representation.

Whilst National Highways do not object to the principle of the proposed development nor the acquisition of the identified plots of land, the mechanism to achieve the transfer of the land has yet to be agreed. National Highways will continue to work with the applicant to identify a suitable and legal disposal for the permanent acquisition of Plot number 138 and 141. National Highways are keen to resolve this issue as soon as possible and work with the applicant to find a suitable solution to ensure the safeguarding of the A11.

Please contact me if you require any further information.

Yours Sincerely

Alice Lawman

Alice Lawman – Spatial Planner

National Highways Spatial Planning (East)