From: [redacted]
To: TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Objection to Greater Cambridge Partnership Proposal for Transport and Work Act Order for new Cambourne-Cambridge Busway
Date: 01 January 2025 16:36:48

Transport Infrastructure Planning Unit
Department for Transport
Great Minster house
33 Horseferry Road
London SW1P 4DR

Dear Secretary of State for Transport,

We the undersigned, being residents and voters living in Newnham, Cambridge, wish to object formally and most strongly to the "Application for a Transport and Work Act Order to the Department for Transport for a new busway linking Cambourne to Cambridge" which was made by the Greater Cambridge Partnership on November 12, 2024.

The grounds for our objection are that in our considered view:

The proposed busway represents an extraordinary waste of precious public money, costing a huge sum for very little real benefit in terms of possible small increases in bus passengers and quicker access to Cambridge

The environmental damage, such as the destruction of much of the historic Coton Orchard Wildlife Site and the building of a large busway hub in what is at present a western green belt for Cambridge, is unacceptable at a time of climate change and declining biodiversity which is severely impacting eastern England.

The increased flow of buses through Newnham along busy roads (Grange Road and Sidgewick Avenue) which are currently heavily used by cyclists and pedestrians will undoubtedly increase the likelihood of accidents, injuries and even fatalities, while transport congestion will reduce any time savings for bus passengers

The traffic and movement predictions by which the busway case was originally justified several years ago are very questionable post-Covid, and in the light of the present government's clear intention to build a new and expensive rapid transport link between Cambourne and Cambridge in the shape of the East-West railway, eliminating the need for a separate busway.

Yours faithfully,

Dr David Keeble and Dr Valerie Keeble

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