

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 January 2025 15:07
To: TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE
Subject: Objection to Transport and Work Act Order to the Department for Transport (DfT) for a new busway to the southeast of Cambridge Cambridge

I, Professor Robert Turner, of [REDACTED] am writing to make a formal objection to the "Application for a Transport and Work Act Order to the Department for Transport (DfT) for a new busway to the southeast of Cambridge", as submitted by the Cambridge Greater Partnership on 9 January 2025. The grounds for this objection are the following:

The construction of 5 miles of new road through open countryside is unnecessary to deliver improvements in transport. Similar transport and economic benefits can be achieved less expensively and far less disruptively by building a version of the scheme first proposed by the applicant in 2018. This would involve building sections of bus lane adjacent to the A1307 and 1 mile of new road (busway).

This alternative would avoid building two bridges over the exceptional River Granta chalk stream and putting the unique Hobson's Conduit chalk stream into a culvert.

This alternative would avoid creating an ugly scar in the Gog Magog Hills landscape, one of the most important and ancient of landscapes in the Cambridge area. Furthermore, it would avoid endangering the ecological health of the Ninewells Nature Conservancy Area, a precious fragment of ancient woodland enclosing millenia-old chalk springs, almost a 'sacred grove' in its character. Ninewells was a major source of Cambridge's clean water supply for several centuries, and the secluded peace of the area is cherished by local residents and hardworking medical staff at the nearby Addenbrookes Medical Campus.

In addition, this alternative route would avoid building a new road through a countryside park, to the detriment of its future users and nature. It would avoid severing fields close to villages making them vulnerable to future development and further harm to the countryside.

In terms of practicality, the A1307 alternative would better serve the planned expansion of the Cambridge Biomedical Campus and indeed provide more convenient access to more of the Campus.

Cycle routes in this area are already under construction and include the Linton Greenway which will connect Cambridge to Babraham, Granta Park and Linton; and the Sawston Greenway that will connect Cambridge to Sawston. Stapleford and Shelford are already served by the excellent and well-used DNA cycle path.

On behalf of Cambridgeshire residents, and everyone who values dear and ancient landscapes, I beg you to reconsider the vulgar, damaging and horribly expensive scheme that has been thoughtlessly put forward.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Robert Turner