[redacted]

From: Alice Trowsdale <[redacted]
Sent: 12 February 2025 08:16
To: TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE
Subject: Objection to Transport and Work Act Order – Proposed Busway Southeast of Cambridge

Dear Sir/Madam,

I, Alice Trowsdale, of [redacted] am writing to formally object 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," submitted by the Cambridge Greater Partnership on 9 January 2025.

My objection is based on the following grounds:

1. **Unnecessary Construction in Open Countryside**
The proposed busway would introduce five miles of new road through unspoiled countryside. A viable alternative—previously proposed by the applicant in 2018—could achieve similar transport and economic benefits while minimising environmental damage. This alternative involves sections of bus lane adjacent to the A1307 and only one mile of new road.
2. **Environmental and Ecological Impact**
The proposed route would require two bridges over the River Granta chalk stream and the culverting of Hobson's Conduit chalk stream, both of which are environmentally significant. The alternative avoids this disruption and preserves these natural watercourses.
3. **Destruction of the Gog Magog Hills Landscape**
The Gog Magog Hills are one of the most important landscapes in the Cambridge area. The busway would create an irreversible scar on this landscape, harming both its visual appeal and ecological integrity.
4. **Harm to a Countryside Park and Its Users**
The proposed route would cut through a countryside park, reducing its value for recreation and conservation. The alternative avoids this unnecessary intrusion, protecting both nature and public enjoyment of the space.
5. **Severance of Agricultural Land and Future Development Risks**
The new road would fragment fields close to villages, making them more vulnerable to future development pressures. The alternative plan minimizes this impact by following existing transport corridors.
6. **Failure to Serve the Cambridge Biomedical Campus Effectively**
The proposed busway does not adequately serve the planned expansion of the Cambridge Biomedical Campus. The alternative would offer better connectivity to this crucial employment and research hub.
7. **Existing and Planned Cycling Infrastructure**

Major cycling improvements are already underway in this area, including the Linton Greenway (connecting Cambridge to Babraham, Granta Park, and Linton) and the Sawston Greenway (connecting Cambridge to Sawston). Additionally, Stapleford and Shelford are already well-served by the DNA cycle path. Given these investments, the busway's justification appears weak.

As a resident of Stapleford, I question the necessity of this busway for our community. The proposed bus stops are on the outskirts of villages and uphill, making them inconvenient for many potential users. I do not believe this route effectively serves local needs.

For these reasons, I urge the Department for Transport to reject the current application and instead support a more sustainable and less damaging alternative.

Thank you for considering my objection.

Yours sincerely,
Alice Trowsdale

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