

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 January 2025 09:50
To: TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE
Subject: THE CAMBRIDGE SOUTH EAST TRANSPORT ORDER

I am Geoffrey Gardner of [REDACTED]

I am writing in a personal capacity as a resident of Stapleford. However I am an "expert" in Busways having previously worked on this exact subject at the Transport Research Laboratory and done research at Imperial College London on Busways and Light Rail. I am aware therefore of the advantages of Busways and am not a rail advocate

I wish to object because:

The cost benefit of the alternative has not been completed. The widening of the A1307 is claimed to be impossible but this has not been sufficiently compared against the £100m alternative. Please give me the cost benefit of a £20m scheme to widen the A1307

The health benefits are over-exaggerated and do not take into account the negatives of existing walkers being reduced because of the lowering of character and barriers to walking. Please re-calculate with this done

The busway gives no advantage to the majority of people living in Shelford Stapleford and Sawston - the number of passengers from there has been exaggerated in the appraisals. Please give more details of your assumptions

The original plans were old and have not been sufficiently revised because of working from home changes. Please tell me how you have adapted. The passenger flows will be less and the congestion is still less than before Covid

I object to these proposals on the grounds of insufficient and improperly conducted consultation with affected residents.

The Local Government Association outlines key principles for consultation, emphasising the "doctrine of legitimate expectation" under common law, which states:

"This is rapidly becoming the most important aspect of the law of consultation. It is now seen as common law, whereby the courts recognize consultees' rights to expect a fair process that incorporates guidance and management promises. The legitimate expectation applies:

- When there has been a clear promise of consultation
- Where official guidance or policies imply a promise to act in a particular way
- Where there is a withdrawal of a benefit with significant impacts to be considered, and the nature of the relationship would create unfairness if there were inadequate consultation

Essentially, where people have come to legitimately expect a process of consultation, for example, with local authority budget cuts or healthcare changes, there are grounds for a judicial review should a public consultation not take place.

Similarly, a consultation must be conducted properly should the choice be taken to embark on one (whether a legal requirement exists for it or not). This is part of ensuring that the consultation process remains a fair one."

Reference: Local Government Association's document on consultation principles
([source](<https://www.local.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Do%20I%20need%20to%20consult.pdf>)).

The failure to conduct a proper consultation process with the affected residents contradicts these principles and undermines the legitimacy of the proposals.

Geoffrey Gardner

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