

[REDACTED]

From: The Dees <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 04 February 2025 23:24
To: TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE
Subject: 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",

Christopher and Sarah Dee of [REDACTED] are 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:

1: The construction of 5 miles of new road through open countryside is a colossal waste of tax payers money, is hugely damaging to the environment and is unnecessary to deliver the the required improvements in transport. Similar benefits could be achieved by a much cheaper and far less damaging alternative scheme was first proposed in 2018 which would involve building a similar busway alongside the A1307 road which a much shorter 1 mile section of off road busway. This alternative scheme has not been seriously considered by the GCP.

2: The proposed busway will cause enormous damage to the local environment.

It will: a) Require two bridges to be built over the river Grants chalk stream and putting Hobsons Conduit chalk stream into conduit.

b) Create a scar in one of the most important local landscapes - Magog Down.

c) Require the busway to be built through a countryside park which will be detrimental to the landscape and its users.

d) Cut across fields close to the villages it passes creating parcels of land ripe for development which would further damage the landscape and

put strain on already overstretch local services, in particular the GP practice.

The alternative scheme alongside the A1307 would avoid all of these negative consequences whilst costing a lot less money.

3. The proposed new cycle path alongside the bus route would be superfluous to requirements since The Shelford and Stapleford are already served by

The DNA path which is much closer to the village centres. Other cycle routes are already under construction - The Linton Greenway and the Sawston

Greenway, so this new path is unlikely to seem much cycle traffic.

4. The alternative scheme would better serve the Biomedical campus whilst costing less and causing less damage to the local environment.

5. It has been suggested that this route was chosen to serve the villages that the busway passes but this is nonsense since the busway is a long way

outside the village centres (more than a mile from the centre of Great Shelford for example) and uphill with poor pavements and no parking. As

residents of Stapleford we will not be using the busway, or the cycle path since both will be far too inconvenient to get to. Only those who are very fit

and have the time to walk or cycle the distance out of the village to reach the bus stops will use it. For this reason we cannot see it being used by many

local residents. Why cycle out to the busway when you could just use the DNA path to cycle into Cambridge?

As local residents we are dismayed by the proposal to destroy our countryside and villages with this expensive and unnecessary white elephant of a road cutting through precious countryside and destroying the landscape forever. Once built it cannot be 'unbuilt' and any future development which occurs as result of the parcels of land created, with the increased pressure on local services that would bring also cannot be undone. Therefore we would urge the Secretary of State for Transport to reject this scheme in favour of the far less damaging and far less expensive alternative proposed scheme.

Christopher and Sarah Dee

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