

From: [REDACTED]
To: [TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE](#)
Subject: Cambourne to Cambridge Busway
Date: 06 January 2025 18:46:59

Dear Sir

You will be considering this application for a Transport and Works Order for the proposed Cambridge to Camborne busway. I object to the application.

1 - If it is successful, the busway will be built at the cost of an irreplaceable, ancient and extremely rare orchard environment. Its ecological value is high and it will be a good gene bank. The orchard is held by a Cambridge-based charity to protect it from development specifically because of its importance – both nationally and in particular to Cambridge. The orchard should be preserved.

2 - The application impacts good quality agricultural green belt land which is unaffected by the revision to the NPPF. The value to the setting of Cambridge of the orchard and other affected land held by the charity at the Gog Magog Hills is being given far too little weight. Cambridge does have a public transport need but putting a new bus way through green belt land is destructive and inappropriate.

3 - The GCP is also giving too little weight to preserving good quality productive farmland – soil takes millennia to develop and good farmland once lost is gone for ever. We cannot afford to just keep digging it up. I appreciate that your department is transport, but the nation needs to preserve what it can of its agriculture and food security in this precarious world. Please look more holistically at this application.

4 – the application is contrary to the wishes of great number of local residents. Over 22,000 petitioned for bus lanes on existing roadways rather than a new bus way.

5 - I should like to draw to your attention the number of applications currently active or in the pipeline concerning Cambridge. Many of these will have a very major impact on the nature of the city and its immediate surrounds. In the past - but in this century - there have been public discussions focussing specifically on the topic of how and if the development of Cambridge should take place, the height of the rooflines, the greenbelt and the necklace villages surrounding it etc. Today the concerns of local residents - who have cared for and worked in the area and do not want to see Cambridge changed out of all recognition and historic assets in the landscape and setting destroyed - are being ignored. There needs to be a public discussion of the overall future of Cambridge as a whole, rather than all these individual projects emerging which fragment the energies of the local electorate and effectively prevent them from engaging effectively because there is so much simultaneous proposed change - 'Everything, everywhere and all at once'. This present application for the busway should not be considered in isolation. The overall impact of all the proposed development in Cambridge should be looked at in the round and the public should be enabled to engage fully in that discussion.

Yours

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