

[REDACTED]

From: david villiers <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 25 February 2025 17:29
To: TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE
Subject: Formal Objection to Busway Application – Environmental Concerns

Subject: Formal Objection to Busway Application – Environmental Concerns

Dear Sir/Madam,

My brother-in-law lives in Great Shelford and during a recent visit we saw an exhibition of the plans for a new busway. As a strong advocate for the protection of our countryside, I am deeply concerned about the irreversible environmental damage this proposal would cause.

Therefore, I am writing to express my 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," submitted by the Cambridge Greater Partnership on 9 January 2025.

The construction of five miles of new road through open countryside will permanently alter one of Cambridge's most valuable landscapes, the Gog Magog Hills. This area is not only of ecological significance but also an essential green space for local communities. The proposed scheme would require the construction of two bridges over the River Granta chalk stream and the culverting of Hobson's Conduit chalk stream—actions that will have severe consequences for the region's biodiversity and hydrology.

Additionally, the new road would cut through a designated countryside park, diminishing its recreational value and harming local wildlife. It would also sever agricultural fields near villages, leaving them vulnerable to further speculative development and reducing the rural character of the area.

An alternative already exists. The 2018 scheme proposed by the same applicant would achieve the same transport benefits while minimizing environmental harm. It would involve only one mile of new road and avoid the destruction of ecologically and culturally significant landscapes. I am informed that it would cost £100m less than the proposed option. This is madness. Given the urgency of protecting our natural spaces, I strongly urge the Department for Transport to reject the current proposal and instead support a more sustainable alternative.

Thank you for considering this objection. I trust that due weight will be given to the need for sustainable transport solutions that respect our countryside and heritage.

Yours faithfully,
David Villiers

[REDACTED]

service.
