

From: [REDACTED]
To: [TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE](#)
Subject: Objection to Transport and Work Act Order (Cambs CC, 12 Nov 2024)
Date: 02 January 2025 14:20:22

Objection to Transport and Work Act Order to the Department for Transport for a new busway linking Cambourne to Cambridge as submitted by Cambridgeshire County Council on 12 November 2024

I, Katherine Edgcombe of [REDACTED], am writing to make a formal objection to the above Order.

- I am a resident of Coton but my objections are as a concerned citizen and taxpayer rather than just a resident.
- I am in favour of improved bus transportation and active travel; this project is not the way to provide either.
- The proposals represent a grotesque waste of public money to very doubtful benefit. The travel data ostensibly supporting the option are several years out of date (pre-pandemic). The benefit-cost ratio, which has always been well below Departmental criteria, is likely to diminish still further with the planned provision of East-West rail.
- The proposed route has been pursued by the GCP single-mindedly and with scant attention to the public interest or the public's view. There has been no serious attempt by the GCP to engage with the suggested alternatives, which could provide the same benefits at a fraction of the cost.
- The proposals would also incur a huge environmental cost, as has been widely covered in the national Press. The damage to Coton Orchard is more than just "cutting down a few trees", as described by proponents of the scheme; the whole of this highly valuable and diverse habitat, which hosts twenty-nine red-listed species, would be sacrificed to a misguided determination to push through a badly-designed and unnecessary project.
- It is not clear that any commercial bus company will be able or willing to run buses on this white elephant without very heavy subsidy; this cost, and the cost of maintenance, as seen in Cambridge's other busway, have not been taken into proper account in the plans, and make the benefit-cost ratio even worse.
- This Government has a real need to seek value for money; it has also declared support for our threatened natural environment. On both counts, I urge the rejection of the above Order.

Katherine Edgcombe, January 2nd 2025

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