

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 08 February 2025 18:54
To: TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE
Subject: Objection to Transport and Work Act Order to the Department for Transport (DfT) for a new busway to the southeast of Cambridge Cambridge

FAO Ms Heidi Alexander, Secretary of State of Transport

I, Dr Natalie Caves of [REDACTED] am 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:

The construction of 5 miles of new road through open countryside is unnecessary to deliver improvements in transport. Similar transport and economic benefits can be achieved by building a version of the scheme first proposed by the applicant in 2018. This would involve building sections of bus lane adjacent to the A1307 and 1 mile of new road (busway). I believe that this approach is also cheaper than the current proposal.

This alternative would avoid building two bridges over the River Granta chalk stream and putting Hobson's Conduit chalk stream into a culvert. It would also avoid creating a scar in the Gog Magog Hills landscape, one of the most important landscapes in the Cambridge area, and keep this area as a popular and well used countryside park.

I understand that there are plans to expand the Cambridge Biomedical Campus and that the busway is important. However the campus will arguably be served better by the cheaper 2018 scheme and I do not understand why Cambridge County Council have declined to consider this less costly, both in terms of environmental damage and financial outlay, scheme. It seems to me that in this they are being negligent in their duty to provide a good service without wasting resources, and I wonder what else may be at play that makes the more expensive and more destructive option preferable.

For all these reasons I object 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 it currently stands. I urge the Secretary of State

to review all the options as a better solution that improves transport and the economy without destroying the countryside exists.

Best regards,

Natalie Caves