

[REDACTED]

From: Elaine Murdie <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 06 March 2025 16:08
To: TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE
Subject: Objective to Transport and Work Act Order to the Department of Transport (DfT) for a new busway to the southeast of Cambridge

For attention of the Secretary of State for Transport

c/o Transport Infrastructure Planning Unit,

Department for Transport

6 March 2025

Dear Secretary of State

My name is Elaine Murdie of [REDACTED] and I am making a formal **objection** to the Application for a Transport and Work Act Order to the Department for Transport (DfT) for a guided busway between Cambridge Biomedical Campus and a new travel hub facility at the A1307/A11/A505.

My objections are based on the following:

The proposed busway cuts through farmland and involves crossing the River Granta twice. This would involve major disruption to the area, disruption to farming activity and also large amounts of infrastructure.

The busway would also involve ripping through part of the Ninewells Nature reserve. There may be plans to mitigate any negative effects, however, it will take years for the ecology to recover.

The cycle lane on the existing busway to St Ives was an afterthought and as such was not designed properly and subsequently floods for 3-4 months of the year making it unusable to cyclists.

There have been three fatalities on the busway between the Biomedical Campus and St Ives. Others have also suffered life-changing injuries. Buses going at speed and pedestrians is not a good mix. The fatalities on the route south of Cambridge caused the busway to close for 18 months whilst there was a consultation as to what should be done to reduce accidents. The result was that a barrier was constructed along part of the busway separating the buses from pedestrians and cyclists. In order to be completely safe, I would suggest busways require barriers along its whole length which is not practical.

Emergency vehicles will not be able to use the busway. Neither will 'private' buses which feed into the Babraham Research Campus, The Wellcome Trust Genome Campus and other scientific campuses south of Cambridge.

The estimated cost of the busway is £160 million (probably more) whilst the alternative proposal is £60 million. Surely in this time of fiscal prudence, the cheaper, and I would argue the better option, should be considered.

In summary, the proposed busway would be a totally unnecessary and costly destruction of the countryside of South Cambridgeshire.

Best regards

Elaine Murdie

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