

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 February 2025 10:52
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

Dear all,

I (Dr Caroline Murray, [REDACTED]) am writing to object to the disgraceful proposal to drive a busway through the countryside of south-east Cambridgeshire. The Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) want to build a large Park & Ride car park on the A11/A1307 junction and a new bus road from there to the Cambridge Biomedical Campus.

The bus road would be 5 miles long, built through open countryside, crossing the River Granta twice. It would be a 14m wide tarmac and concrete road but would only be used by buses.

The busway would be a tragedy for the local area. It will:

- * Go over the lower slopes of the Gog Magog Hills, one of the most important landscapes in the Cambridge area.
- * Destroy the habitat of water voles and concrete over the top of Hobson's Brook chalk stream close to Ninewells Nature Reserve.
- * Bisect the River Granta twice creating the need for two huge road bridges.
- * Ruin the tranquillity and countryside views for walkers using the popular Stapleford Farm Track and a new Country Park that will be built on the Gog Magog Hills.
- * Carve up the Green Belt creating parcels of land for future development and further loss of countryside.
- * Urbanise the countryside by creating signalised road crossings and bus stops with traffic lights, signs, lighting and drop-off parking.
- * Destroy the existing and ancient orchard at Coton Orchard, and threaten the existing Garden Centre next to it.

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).

This alternative would avoid building two bridges over the River Granta chalk stream and putting Hobson's Conduit chalk stream into a culvert. This alternative would avoid creating a scar in the Gog Magog Hills landscape, one of the most important landscapes in the Cambridge area. This alternative would avoid building a new road through a countryside park, to the detriment of its future users and nature. This alternative would avoid severing fields close to villages making them vulnerable to future development and further harm to the countryside. This alternative would better serve the planned expansion of the Cambridge Biomedical Campus and serve more of the Campus.

Cycle routes in this area are already under construction and include the Linton Greenway which will connect Cambridge to Babraham, Granta Park and Linton; and the Sawston Greenway that will connect Cambridge to Sawston. Stapleford and Shelford are already served by the DNA cycle path.

I hope you will give my message, and those of hundreds of other objectors, serious consideration.

Yours faithfully,

Carolin Murray