

From: [REDACTED]
To: [TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE](#)
Subject: Objection to the Transport and Work Act Order for the Cambourne to Cambridge busway
Date: 08 January 2025 15:59:06

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

Dear Secretary of State for Transport,

I, Oliver Hadelor of [REDACTED], am writing to make a formal objection to the Application of the above Order.

I am strongly objecting to the off-road section between Madingley Mulch and West Cambridge. This off-road section would have significant negative effects on wildlife and habitats, including the irreparable destruction of a 100-year old orchard. Suitable on-road alternatives on the A1303 for this public transport route are available but they have never been properly assessed by the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP). It seems that over the past ten or so years GCP, and organisations or individuals closely associated with it, have deliberately skewed their assessments in favour of the off-road option. One can only wonder who of these organisations or individuals will directly or indirectly benefit from the off-road option, e.g. through a future increase of the value of land by unlocking development sites.

The cost benefit ratio of the proposed off-road busway is extremely low and does not seem to meet the Department of Transport's criteria for supporting this kind of infrastructure. The off-road bus does not bring people to where they work and would have detrimental effects on other parts of Cambridge. It has been a continuous aspect of the consultations and planning for this bus way that GCP would use a piecemeal approach rather than to look at the scheme as a whole. The construction and lasting environmental costs of the off-road scheme are much higher than the on-road alternative. Furthermore, two more infrastructure projects are proposed or will be delivered shortly. The first is the GCP-proposed greenway between Comberton and Cambridge whose construction is under way. It will already provide the walking and cycling facilities that are included in the off-road busway proposal, making the latter redundant. The second is East-West Rail which will provide a link between Cambourne and Cambridge, and specifically Cambridge South station.

While I agree that public transport provision in and around Cambridge should be improved, I do not support this off-road bus scheme.

Yours sincerely,

Oliver Hadelor

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