

[REDACTED]

From: Paul Parker <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 06 February 2025 12:17
To: TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE
Subject: Title of letter/email = Objection to Transport and Work Act Order to the Department for Transport (DfT) for a new busway to the southeast of Cambridge Cambridge

Dear Secretary of State for Transport,

I Paul Parker 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:

- CGP's route cuts across an area of outstanding countryside and historical significance - a unique landscape within the Cambridgeshire region, a biodiverse greenbelt of wildlife and nature.
- GCP's route cuts through a highly valued green space which currently contributes to Cambridgeshire's Carbon Neutral plans.
- CGP's route will run next to a new country park and retirement village, where speeding buses will ruin the peace and rural tranquility. It will also cross the farm track (public footpath) between Stapleford and Babraham which is well-used by residents who enjoy the quiet countryside, and this will be ruined.
- GCP's route will result in blocks of uneconomic farmland, creating an opportunity for developers to infill with new houses. This will mean even greater pressure on our countryside and green belt.
- CGP's route only reaches the very outskirts of many of the villages anyway, making them unlikely to use it anyway. In Shelford, they have bus and train routes that pass through the centre of the village already.
- 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.

Overall, the CGP are utterly misguided in their scheme and seem unable or unwilling to consider the clearly more viable (and cheaper) alternative. I urge you to look into this more closely and consider this alternative option.

Kind regards,
Paul Parker

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