

From: Joanna Jasiewicz <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 01 March 2025 08:10
To: TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE
Subject: Objection to Transport and Work Act Order to the DfT for a new busway southeast of Cambridge

Subject: Formal Objection to the Transport and Works Act Order for the proposed busway to the southeast of Cambridge

To the Department for Transport,

I (Dr Joanna Jasiewicz) am writing to formally object to the application for a Transport and Works Act Order submitted by the Greater Cambridge Partnership on 9 January 2025 for the proposed busway to the southeast of Cambridge. My objection is primarily based on the significant and irreversible harm this project would cause to the local countryside and biodiversity, particularly at a time when we must prioritise environmental protection in the face of climate change and widespread biodiversity loss.

The proposal to construct five miles of new roadway through open countryside is not only unnecessary but also environmentally damaging. A more sustainable and less destructive alternative already exists—one initially proposed by the Greater Cambridge Partnership in 2018. This alternative involves building short sections of bus lane alongside the A1307, with only one mile of new road. It would deliver similar, if not greater, transport benefits while preserving the natural landscape.

Unlike the current proposal, the 2018 alternative would avoid:

- Constructing two large bridges over the River Granta chalk stream and threatening the historic Hobson's Conduit chalk stream—both of which are environmentally sensitive and irreplaceable.
- Carving a large concrete road through the open countryside, severing fields and habitats, and disrupting local wildlife.
- Damaging the Magog Down Hills, a cherished and historically significant landscape that is visited daily by hundreds of residents for recreation and wellbeing.

Additionally, this alternative would be more effective in serving the Cambridge Biomedical Campus. It could be delivered more quickly and with bus stops positioned far more conveniently for those working at and visiting the campus.

Beyond environmental concerns, I also object to the scheme on the grounds that it fails to adequately serve the villages along its route. The proposed bus stops are located outside the villages and on elevated ground, making them inconvenient and impractical for most residents, who are therefore unlikely to use the service.

Given the availability of a much less damaging and more practical alternative, I urge the Department for Transport to reject this application and require the Greater Cambridge Partnership to pursue a transport solution that meets local needs without causing such extensive environmental harm.

I appreciate your time in considering this objection.

Yours sincerely,
Dr Joanna Jasiewicz

Contact details:



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