From: [redacted]
To: TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE
Subject: Objection to Cambourne to Cambridge (C2C) Busway Proposal
Date: 06 January 2025 10:31:23

6 January 2025

Dear Secretary of State for Transport

I am writing to formally object to the Cambourne to Cambridge (C2C) Busway proposal submitted by the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP). My concerns focus on several critical issues that I believe have not been adequately addressed in the current plans.

Flood Impact and Bridge Over Bin Brook
The flood impact modelling for the proposed bridge over Bin Brook on Rifle Range Road lacks sufficient accuracy and detail. Given the increasing frequency and severity of flooding due to climate change, the model does not adequately reflect future risks. Furthermore, the modelling fails to account for the potential impacts on the Gough Way Estate and upstream areas, including access to Gough Way from the A603. The lack of clarity on which flood model has been used, and the point at which the presented plan is cut off, raises significant discomfort. The proposal risks negatively affecting property values and insurance costs, which has not been properly addressed.

Grange Road Congestion and Safety Risks
The section of the busway connecting with Cambridge at Grange Road raises serious safety and congestion concerns. Grange Road is already narrow and insufficient to support more than one bus travelling in a single direction, creating a significant hazard for cyclists and pedestrians. Adding additional buses to this already congested road, particularly during peak times, demonstrates a concerning lack of consideration for residents, cyclists, pedestrians, and local schools. Kings College School has a busy pedestrian and cyclist entrance for pupils and staff which is directly opposite the point at which the proposed busway will intersect with Grange Road. The proposal does not cover significant safety concerns that will be created as a result.

The current information available to the public does not sufficiently demonstrate how these risks have been accounted for in the planning process. At peak times, Grange Road, Maddingly Road, and Barton Road are often congested to the point of gridlock. Adding more traffic will only exacerbate the situation, leading to further delays, frustration, and safety risks.

Alternative Solutions Ignored
Previous alternative solutions, such as routing the busway via Maddingly Road or Adams Road, appear to have been dismissed. These options were more sensible and viable, offering lower costs, faster implementation, and fewer negative impacts on residents and the local environment. The decision to pursue the current proposal seems disconnected from the realities of the area and is highly controversial, involving unnecessary disruption to the countryside and significant financial expenditure that could be better allocated elsewhere.

Environmental and Infrastructure Concerns
The proposal also fails to address the air quality impacts of increased congestion. Adding more buses and traffic to already overburdened roads will undoubtedly lead to further deterioration in air quality, contributing to environmental harm. Additionally, the roads in the immediate area are in a dangerous state of disrepair, posing daily hazards to all users. The proposed scheme seems to disregard these pressing issues and instead exacerbates existing problems.

Conclusion
In light of these concerns, I urge you to reject the current C2C Busway proposal and insist on a comprehensive re-evaluation of the project. This should include accurate flood modelling, a reassessment of traffic and safety impacts, genuine consideration of alternative routes, and a thorough environmental impact assessment. It is crucial to develop a solution that benefits all stakeholders without causing undue harm to the community and environment.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I trust that you will prioritize the well-being of the affected residents and the long-term sustainability of the area in your decision-making process.

Yours sincerely,
Brett Parnham
[redacted]

This email has originated from external sources and has been scanned by DfT's email scanning service.