

[REDACTED]

From: Gerald Allen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 09 February 2025 16:38
To: TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE
Subject: Application by Greater Cambridge Partnership for Works Order for new busway to SE of Cambridge - submitted 09.02.2025

The Secretary of State for Transport,
C/O Transport Infrastructure Planning Unit,
Department for Transport,
Great Minster House,
33 Horseferry Road,
LONDON,
SW1P 4DR.

Dear Sir or Madam,

The unelected quango, the "Greater Cambridge Partnership" are at it again !

This is the organisation responsible for the disastrous Cambridge Guided Busway AKA the Longest Rural Busway in the World, which cost almost 3 times the original (deliberately optimistic ?) budget and then required legal fees (to enable it to sue the contractors to have the snaggings rectified - they eventually settled out of court - terms withheld from the general public) which were so large that they had to withdraw the subsidy for the rural (normal) bus services. This has never been restored.

A friend who was a member of this quango at the time told me that the vast majority were against this bonkers scheme at the start until they were told that this would be paid for in full by monies from HMG and if they didn't spend the money on this project it would be withdrawn. There was suddenly a majority in favour !

The above detailed Works Order is in respect of a scheme which would destroy the countryside in this part of the County when the original scheme (cost approx. £ 100m less) would follow the route of the existing road and avoid the devastation described in the "official" objection copied below.

"I 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:

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."

May I urge you to reject this costly and unnecessarily harmful scheme at the first hearing.

Yours etc.,

(Mr) Gerald Bernard ALLEN

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