

Wednesday 30 June

By email

Dear Members of the GCP Executive Board

I am writing to you on behalf of the Cambridge Biomedical Campus (CBC) to reiterate our support for the Cambridge South East Transport project, which we see as one of the key solutions to help people travel to the city.

We know the many challenges which coming to Cambridge creates for those taking short, medium or long journeys and we know the desire of many to commute in active and sustainable ways. The difficulty comes in finding solutions which work for as many people as possible, while acknowledging the status quo can no longer be maintained.

Currently, there are 21,000 researchers, industry and clinicians all working on the campus and it is thought that approximately 9% of staff on site live south of Cambridge (toward Linton, Haverhill and beyond). The expansion and relative cost of housing in the area leads us to believe this number will increase in the future and from other areas such as Newmarket, Bury and the M11.

This makes it pressing to find options to help those staff, as well as visitors and patients, coming from this direction, particularly as the demand on services from an ageing and growing population is likely to increase as more people move to the area - all while institutions continue to deal with the challenges of a post-Covid world.

We want to help people get to the campus via the most sustainable, simplest and cheapest means, ensuring that this approach helps to reduce carbon emissions, is reliable and will be available by 2025.

We believe the Cambridge South East Transport route will provide a very important link in connecting the south east of the city and the local research campuses to CBC and on to the city. Given that the existing road network cannot be widened to give un-impeded and reliable access to the city, we believe the off road route is the only viable option.

The opportunities presented by the CSET route to enhance cycling and walking routes, reduce congestion, improve air quality, and connect homes with places of work or study, will be welcomed by thousands of people who would use the route.

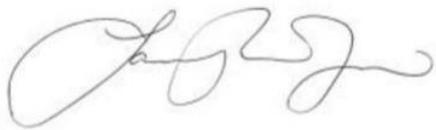
While it is anticipated that organisations on the campus will continue to adopt some element of home working, the vast proportion of our staff still need to be on site to support healthcare delivery, laboratory work and study. We need to be able to give these groups sustainable travel options to reach the campus and other areas of Cambridge.

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We would hope that CSET is able to join up planning with other transport infrastructure schemes as they develop and we know you will look to work closely with local communities to find solutions to issues they have raised on the impact of the current route on the surrounding countryside.

As always the campus is more than happy to help in any way it can to assist the GCP, the city and its residents to improve transport corridors to ensure that Cambridge can function well for its communities.

Yours faithfully,



Laurel Powers-Freeling  
Chair, Cambridge Biomedical Campus Ltd