

George Lloyd

From: Shaun Hughes <smghughes@gmail.com>
Sent: 25 April 2021 18:48
To: C2Caudit
Subject: Re: Independent Audit of the Cambourne to Cambridge Better Public Transport Project

Hi Phil,

Many thanks for extending the deadline for submissions. Please accept the following as the submission from the Hardwick Climate Action Group.

The Hardwick Climate Action Group, a community group of Hardwick residents who are concerned about global warming, submits this response to the C2C audit process. It's an expression of our deeply felt opposition to the route of the C2C past Hardwick that would result in most of the trees and bushes between St Neots Road and the A428 being destroyed.

Our opposition consists of many points in respect of these 500 mature trees and thousands of bushes:

1. They form a substantial sequestration of at least 1000 tonnes of CO₂, which would take 40-50 years of growth elsewhere to be replaced. As the Paris agreement which the UK must comply with requires net zero emissions by 2050, this sequestration won't be replaced in time by planting the equivalent number of trees elsewhere.
2. They are a vital wildlife corridor joining the mature woods between Madingley and Caldecote that encourages diversification and is an unmeasurable benefit to the mental health of Hardwick residents that brings them into daily contact with nature. This wildlife resource can't be replaced by growing the equivalent number of trees elsewhere.
3. The original planning proposal for the A428 was approved with the understanding that these trees would provide a natural screen between Hardwick village and the A428 traffic. With their removal this invalidates that planning permission. Would the route of the A428 so close to Hardwick have been approved without such an effective screen?
4. Fortunately for Hardwick, this screen of vegetation is also an excellent barrier to the air pollution from the A428 traffic. An investigation into the air pollution effects of vegetation reported by DEFRA ([Impacts of Vegetation on Urban Air Pollution](#), 2018) predicts that the air pollution from the A428 affecting Hardwick would be doubled if they are removed. This is particularly concerning for the children attending the primary school which is only a few hundred metres away. In the light of the recent coroner's report into the death of Ella Kissi-Debrah the government's response might well make the removal of these trees illegal.
5. The C2C proposal has never explained why this route between St Neots Road and the A428 is optimal. It makes no logistical sense for the Park and Ride to be located to the north of the A428 and then have the C2C route cross the A428 twice at the same Dry Drayton roundabout. It would make more sense for the C2C route to stay north of the A428 between the Park and Ride and Madingley roundabout, This would become even more important when the route for the Metro is planned. It would be a tragedy if the Metro route was located to the north of the A428 and the trees were destroyed for no benefit at all.
6. The only reason for crossing the A428 twice would be to provide a slightly more convenient stop for Hardwick residents, but there already exists a safe pedestrian bridge over the A428 for a northern

route. The pragmatic solution would be for the C2C busses to use St Neots Road and existing bus stops for Hardwick residents until at least the Metro route was agreed. It's important to note that the maximum capacity of the C2C is 6 buses per hour, which is about 600 passengers per hour, and given there will be another 5850 houses built in Cambourne and Bourn (not including the 10's of thousands that could be approved in the next local plan) then during morning peak times these buses will be full by the time they reach Hardwick. So this consideration of a convenient stop is irrelevant for Hardwick commuters.

Regards,

Shaun Hughes
On behalf of the Hardwick Climate Action Group

On Tue, Apr 20, 2021 at 10:13 AM C2Caudit <c2caudit@sharedintelligence.net> wrote:

Dear Colleague,

As I said in my e-mail of 25 March, the deadline for further representations on the constraints and assumptions is 23 April.

I am writing to let you know that I have accepted a request from one of the parish councils in the area to extend the deadline until **9.00 am on Monday 26 April**.

This reflects the fact that many people who are preparing submissions have full time jobs and may need to use some time that weekend to complete their submission.

All the best,

Phil Swann



PHIL SWANN
Director
Shared Intelligence

T: 0202 7756 7600
M: 07843 387 578
E: phil.swann@sharedintelligence.net
W: www.sharedintelligence.net
Follow us:  

Shared Intelligence Limited is a company registered in England and Wales no. 3943980
Three Tuns House 109 Borough High Street, London, SE1 1NL, United Kingdom