

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority

Consultation Response: Eastern Access

Dear

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the consultation. The CPCA welcome the opportunity to continue to work with the GCP on the development of this scheme that form a fundamental component to the CAM project.

It is important that due consideration is given to all active travel modes (including e-scooters and equestrian users) to ensure a holistic and integrated transport network is provided for the people of Cambridgeshire. It is imperative that these options align with the Local Transport Plan and the recently adopted CAM: LTP sub-strategy. These schemes need to be embedded into the overarching transport network and offer a viable, sustainable alternative to the private car. The interchanges need to offer seamless transfer between modes and be in accessible locations to help reinforce the sustainable transport message.

When designing the active travel component of the proposed schemes, it is essential that due consideration is given to end users and provide the appropriate level of infrastructure. The routes must be planned, designed, built and maintained to be inclusive for all members of society. The schemes should form part of a network-wide plan and be integrated into the wider active travel network. This should ultimately ensure that existing and proposed routes are coherent and address the travel needs of the area. Trip generators include education sites, retail, healthcare facilities, businesses and public transport facilities; therefore, due consideration should be afforded to the links to these origins and destinations.

The Eastern Access scheme will form an important component to the public transport and active travel “offer” to the east of Cambridge. With the anticipated growth in the east of Cambridge, including the expected development of the current Marshall site, there is a need to ensure that the various components of the Eastern Access scheme are integrated into the plans and delivered for this area of the city; thereby decreasing the dependency on the private car to/from any planned development.

The Eastern Access scheme must complement the wider CAM project, especially the tunnelling section of the project. CAM’s tunnelled section will offer the opportunity for access into and across the city in a timely and effective manner for Cambridgeshire’s residents and therefore it is imperative that the Eastern Access scheme seamlessly integrates with this component.

In addition, during the development of the Eastern Access scheme it is important that due consideration is given to the potential impact on the Fen Ditton and Milton interchanges on the A14. Both these interchanges offer vital connections to the north, east and central Cambridge and therefore it is important that the Eastern Access scheme does not adversely impact on the operation of these key junctions and seeks to improve them whenever possible.

Regards,

Mayor Palmer (Chair of the Combined Authority’s Transport & Infrastructure Committee)