



Ramblers Association Cambridge Group

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Response to draft Cambridge Biomedical Campus Supplementary Planning Document

Introduction

On behalf of the Ramblers Association Cambridge Group this is a response to the consultation on the draft Cambridge Biomedical Campus Supplementary Planning Document. As Ramblers our primary area of interest is in the maintenance and enhancement of Public Rights of Way (PROW).

1. Access to Nine Wells.

We support your statement "Improve the integration between the Campus and the surrounding communities by enhancing walking...". However, you should be aware that the currently proposed CSET guided busway will replace the DNA cycle path with the busway and remove the current footpath access to Nine Wells. This will have a negative impact on the Campus (as well as nearby Hobson's Park & Clay Farm) preventing people accessing Nine Wells and the surrounding countryside. It would be good if you could advise the CSET project against such a strategy.

2. Car parking provision.

We understand that the size of the provision of car parking is a compromise between the demand for spaces and the space available. However, the car parking policy fails to take account of the impact that the lack of parking space provided has on the area surrounding the Cambridge Biomedical Campus, particularly the residential streets.

In 2011 the 'Parking Strategy' document for the Cambridge Biomedical Campus, produced by the Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, recognised the impact that parking by users of the Cambridge Biomedical Campus had on surrounding areas:

It recognises the need for future car parking provision to be provided in a sustainable and timely manner to meet ongoing development requirements, but without creating an excess of supply leading to additional car trip generation. However, it also reflects some existing suppression of demand for parking on-site, currently being met on street in the surrounding area and at the Babraham Park and Ride site and recognises and supports the need for the introduction of controls to mitigate these uses.

Source: 11_0780_REM-TRANSPORT_ASSESSMENT_-_APPENDIX_A_SECTIONS_1_-_5-625168 (inc. Parking)

The same 'Parking Strategy' document, Section 1, states:

“The Strategy also recognises the need to eliminate over time any hospital related on street parking in adjacent residential areas and any use of Babrahams Park and Ride site for Hospital staff parking.”

The above commitments should be reflected in the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

In addition, the SPD should recognise that the charges levied on car park users have a significant impact on whether they will park on-site or off-site. It should be a requirement that such charges on any car park on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus should not be so high as to encourage off-site car parking and ideally there should be no charge on employees working at Cambridge Biomedical Campus.

3. Separation of cycling and walking.

The SPD should require clear separation of walking and cycling routes, including potential use of different surfaces and heights.

The Committee
Cambridge Ramblers Association
20/01/2025