

# Greater Cambridge Partnership Cambridge South East Transport Better Public Transport Project: Consultation Response

<b>Report No:</b>	<b>CAB/WS/19/049</b>	
<b>Report to and date:</b>	<b>Portfolio Holder Decision</b>	31 December 2019
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**Decisions Plan:**

**The decision made as a result of this report will usually be published within 48 hours. This decision is subject to call-in and is included on the Decisions Plan.**

**Recommendation:** It is **RECOMMENDED** that the Portfolio Holder for Growth:

- (1) Responds to the Greater Cambridge Partnership's Cambridge South East Transport Better Public Transport Project Public Consultation on behalf of West Suffolk Council; and**
- (2) that the Portfolio Holder's response is based on section two of Report No: CAB/WS/19/049.**



## 1. Background / Context

- 1.1 West Suffolk is commenting on the Greater Cambridge Partnership's (GCP) Cambridge South East Better Public Transport Project (the Project), due to West Suffolk being part of the Cambridgeshire functional economic area including part of Cambridgeshire's travel to work area and Cambridgeshire's Housing Market Area.
- 1.2 Public consultation has been launched for the Project, which aims to provide better public transport and sustainable options for those who travel in the A1307 and A1301 area, improving journey times and linking communities and employment sites in the area south east of Cambridge and beyond. The consultation consists of:
  - a new travel hub (park & ride) near the A11/A1307/A505, to give more opportunity for sustainable travel in addition to the existing Babraham Road Park & Ride; three site options A, B or C are proposed (see section 2.3 below).
  - a new public transport route between the A11 and the Cambridge Biomedical Campus via Sawston, Stapleford and Great Shelford
  - new shared-use paths (cyclists, walkers, horse riders, mobility scooters and electric bikes)
  - works would commence in 2022 for completion in 2024
  - one of GCP's consultation events was held in Haverhill on Thursday 10 October at Haverhill Arts Centre.

## 2. Proposals

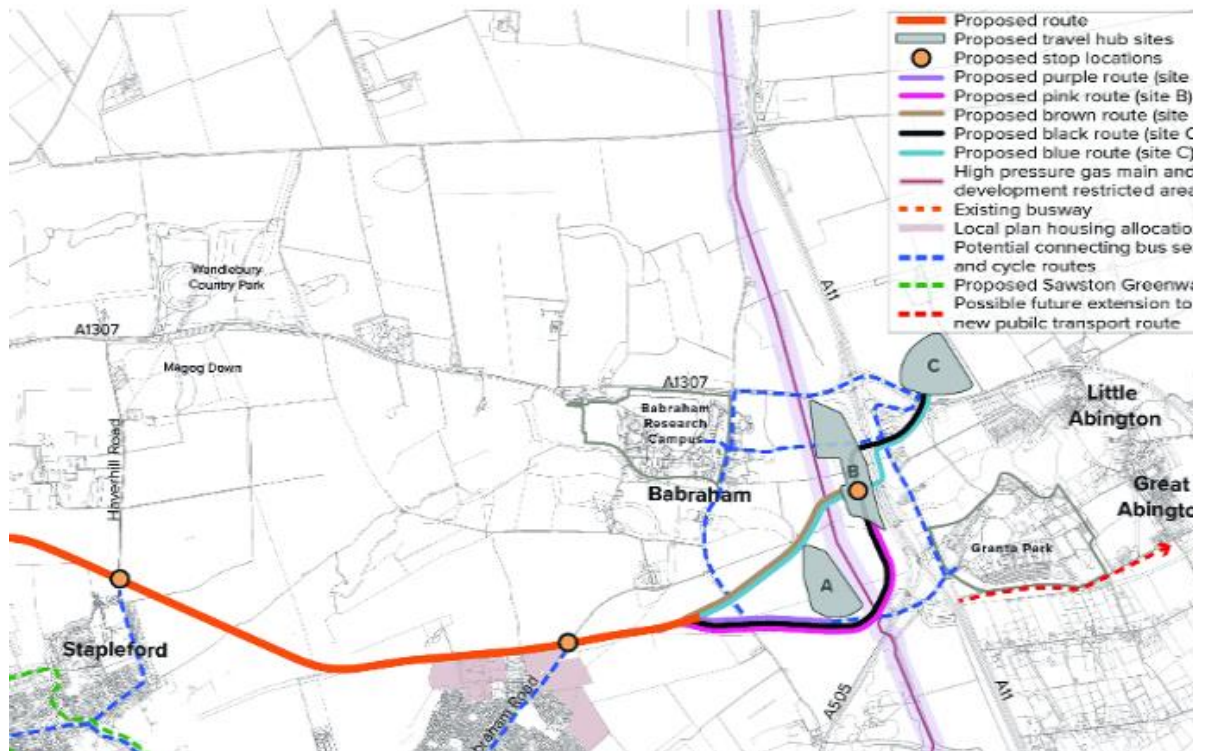
- 2.1 This report outlines the main points of the Project and suggests comments that officers consider should form the basis of a response to the GCP. It is proposed to share West Suffolk's response with Suffolk County Council's Transport Strategy team and Suffolk Growth Programme Board.
- 2.2 The Project proposals are phase one of the emerging Cambridgeshire Autonomous Metro (CAM), which would extend underground through Cambridge to provide high quality, frequent, affordable traffic-free, fast transport. There are ambitions to extend CAM to Haverhill in the future.

*Consideration should be given to extending the CAM to Haverhill in the first phase of the project, given the high number of staff at Cambridge Biomedical Campus who live in the CB9 postcode (as identified in the Cambridge Biomedical Campus Transport Needs Review, which was commissioned by GCP).*

### 2.3 Potential Locations for the New Travel Hub (park & ride) site near the A11/A1307/A505

The new public transport route would be entirely off-road, only interacting with other traffic at junctions. Junctions between existing roads and the new public transport routes would be controlled by traffic lights. There are three potential locations shown as sites A, B and C overleaf:





Source: <https://consultcambs.uk.engagementhq.com/CSET-consultation-2019>

#### 2.4 Travel hub (park & ride) site A – feedback

- a) Traffic from the A1307 would have to divert onto the A11/A505 to reach the site.
- b) Gas line and greenbelt constraints may mean it is difficult to expand the Park and Ride if necessary.
- c) Potential increased traffic on the A505.
- d) Out of the way/desire line for A1307 traffic from Haverhill direction.

#### 2.5 Travel hub (park & ride) site B – feedback

- a) On the direct route into Cambridge from the A1307 and A11 – welcome alignment, consideration should be given to a northern off-slip off the A11 directly into the park and ride.
- b) Concerns regarding additional traffic at A11 Fourwentways, and maintaining connection to the strategic road network at the A11 for residents and businesses east of the A11 including Haverhill.
- c) Site constraints (gas line) and River Granta make future expansion of this park and ride site difficult.
- d) Good location midway between Babraham Research Campus and Granta Park.

#### 2.6 Travel hub (park & ride) site C – feedback

- a) The new off-road public transport route is welcome. However, West Suffolk is concerned regarding the impact of 2,000 additional cars on the Fourwentways roundabout.



- b) *The location and access arrangements of the park and ride at site C should be modelled and assessed with regard to how 2,000 additional cars on the Fourwentways roundabout and the proposed new roundabout at the entrance to the park and ride could negatively impact the connection of residents and businesses to the east of the A11 (including Haverhill) to the Strategic Road Network on the A11.*
- c) *Consideration should be given to a park and ride site in this location, which is located close enough to the A11 to provide a southbound A11 off slip directly into the park and ride.*
- d) *Site C is not located in the green belt and offers the best opportunity for future expansion if needed.*

2.7 At this stage of project development site and with the information provided, site C is the preferred site.

### **3. Alternative Options**

3.1 GCP are consulting on three potential travel hub (park & ride) options at this time. A final option has not been determined.

### **4. Consultation and engagement**

4.1 GCP held a consultation event in Haverhill on 10 October.

### **5. Risks**

5.1 The feedback on each option considers risks and issues attached to each site with the information available.

### **6. Background documents**

For information on the consultation:

<https://consultcambs.uk.engagementhq.com/CSET-consultation-2019>

For information on the Project:

[https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/transport/transport-projects/cambridge\\_south\\_east/](https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/transport/transport-projects/cambridge_south_east/)

