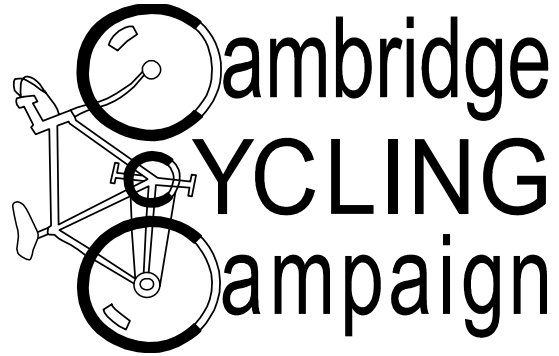


December 18, 2005

Our ref: L06003>  
Your ref:

Cabinet Councillors  
Cambridgeshire County Council  
Castle Court, Shire Hall  
Castle Hill  
Cambridge CB3 0AP



**Cambridge Cycling Campaign**

P.O. Box 204, Cambridge CB4 3FN  
01223 690718 (phone & fax)  
contact@camcycle.org.uk  
www.camcycle.org.uk

Dear Councillor,

**Cambridge Southern Fringe Cycle Issues  
Cabinet Meeting 20/12/05, Agenda Item 11**

Cambridge Cycling Campaign is greatly concerned that the processes for effective spending of the GADG monies seem to have been flawed.

There was only one publicly issued document in the early stage and no informal meeting of stakeholders for these works. Despite the limited time available under GADG, better consultation in such a process would have saved much effort and time by many parties, and hopefully resulted in a more effective spend of the money.

We are very concerned that most of the projects on which this money has been spent fail to meet the minimum standards for facilities in the draft Local Transport Notes on Cycling.

We are also concerned that none of this money has been used to meet any of the first four out of six measures listed in table 3.6 of 'Hierarchies of Provision' in the draft LTN '*Policy, Planning and Design for Walking and Cycling*' despite the fact that a similar table appears in *Cycle Friendly Infrastructure*, 1996 and has appeared in other Government documents.

There has been no 'Traffic Reduction', no 'Speed Reduction', no 'Junction Treatment, Hazard Site Treatment, or Traffic Management', and no 'Redistribution of the Carriageway'.

The Campaign cannot support the spending of cycle money on projects that do not improve the conditions for cyclists, or do not meet modern standards, or follow Government advice. We are sure that Cabinet Members would not be happy supporting bus lanes, traffic lights, car parks etc. that failed to meet the minimum standards in Government Guidance. Cycling represents over 25% of trips in Cambridge and hence needs to be treated as a serious means of Transport. We do not understand why cyclists should expect only to get substandard facilities.

Cambridge Cycling Campaign wishes to work with Officers and Members to improve facilities for Cyclists in Cambridge and the surrounding area. There are a number of possible items both in the City Special Planning Guidance on cycle routes, and in the Greenwheel/Camcycle Rings project which we believe should be achievable in the sort of timescale available using GADG and similar funding streams

### **Sheep's Green Bridge**

Regarding the facilities on Sheep's Green, despite the fact that no Councillors or Stakeholders objected to the provision of the new bridge at the initial consultation, the first designs were so out of scale that many then objected. At that stage we asked for informal discussion with other stakeholders to see if issues could be resolved. None happened, and three months have elapsed.

We are still very concerned at the narrow width of the ramps. Draft LTN 2/04 says that 2.0m is the ABSOLUTE minimum for shared use but to that must be added 250mm for each side with a vertical feature up to 1.2m. We cannot support ramps of only 2.4m wide.

We are also still very concerned that we have yet to receive an assurance that this work will *"not prejudice full replacement of the bridge with a cycleable bridge in the future"*.

Many of our members believe we should outrightly oppose these works as they fail to meet the original objective of creating a cycleable bridge, even if that results in the loss of the money. Any money spent from a grant for the provision of cycling facilities must enable cycling, not restrict it further.

Should Cabinet make the decision to proceed with these works, we believe it is imperative that the Campaign should be involved in the detailed design to ensure that further restrictions are not created, for example by the position of cattle grids.

Yours sincerely,  
on behalf of Cambridge Cycling Campaign,

Jim Chisholm

cc Mike Davies