

Public Question Time

No.	Question from:	Question to:	Question:
1.	Mrs Sarah Nicholas Cambridge Past, Present and Future (CPPF)	Councillor Elisa Meschini, Deputy Leader of the Council and the Council's representative on the Greater Cambridge Partnership	On behalf of Cambridge PPF I wish to ask members to defer a decision and request officers to undertake a reassessment of the bus lane option along the A10 to Butt Lane.
	Response from:	Response to:	Response:
	Councillor Elisa Meschini, Deputy Leader of the Council and the Council's representative on the Greater Cambridge Partnership	Mrs Sarah Nicholas Cambridge Past, Present and Future (CPPF)	To be provided at the meeting.
No.	Question from:	Question to:	Question:
2.	Mrs Melanie Lombardi Clerk to Landbeach Parish Council	Councillor Elisa Meschini, Deputy Leader of the Council and the Council's representative on the Greater Cambridge Partnership	Speaking on behalf of Landbeach Parish Council. The question is what are the County Council going to do to mitigate anti-social behaviour on the "maintenance path" of the busway. There are numerous motor vehicles driving on the Mere Way which is a cycle path. There is no CCTV or security and because of this the cycle path is being used as a race track, which in turn is very imitating for users, Landbeach residents are scared to use the cycle path. We have reported these problems to Urban&Civic, district councillor and the police and it keeps happening on a daily basis. Landbeach Parish Council are

			very concerned that the bus way maintenance path will invite the same behaviour unless it is monitored to deter this activity. We feel the County Council must consider this issue as it will affect Landbeach Village.
	Response from:	Response to:	Response:
	Councillor Elisa Meschini, Deputy Leader of the Council and the Council's representative on the Greater Cambridge Partnership	Mrs Melanie Lombardi Clerk to Landbeach Parish Council	Questioner not attending so response to be provided in writing.
No.	Question from:	Question to:	Question:
3.	Ms A Gazeley Coton Orchard	Councillor Elisa Meschini, Deputy Leader of the Council and the Council's representative on the Greater Cambridge Partnership	<p>I wish to highlight several significant developments since you originally resolved on 21st March 2023 to submit the Cambourne to Cambridge (CtoC) TWAO. You are now being asked to confirm that decision—but in the 22 months since, much has changed.</p> <p>This resolution will commit the Council to pursuing the scheme through a costly public inquiry, despite the fact that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• East West Rail (EWR) will include a station at Cambourne, undermining the very justification for CtoC. Meanwhile, existing transport services can be improved now through targeted enhancements to bus provision, at far lower cost and environmental impact.</li> <li>• The County faces a £32 million budget shortfall, yet remains financially responsible for CtoC funding gaps. Should this remain a priority over essential services?</li> <li>• The Madingley Hill Reservoir expansion, crucial to addressing future water scarcity, directly conflicts with the proposed route—has this been properly considered?</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Tree Preservation Order (TPO) is now in place, and Coton Orchard has been designated a County Wildlife Site. Separately, the discovery of rare Red Data Book species, reported in the national press, has generated global entomological interest.</li> <li>• The engineering plans show a highly constrained entry to Grange Road—can buses even make the turn? Have operators such as Stagecoach confirmed they will run this service without subsidy? Some councillors supported CtoC on the basis of future conversion to light rail—is this even feasible?</li> <li>• Over 300 expert objections and 23,475 petitioners—from conservationists, biodiversity specialists, economists, and transport planners—raise serious concerns.</li> </ul> <p>My Question In light of these unresolved issues and the considerable changes since 2023, can councillors be entirely assured that the application submitted on 12 November 2024 is wholly consistent with the one originally approved? Given the evolving financial, environmental, and strategic landscape, would it not be more appropriate to pause and undertake a thorough reassessment before confirming a resolution that commits the Council to a course of action that may no longer be necessary, financially prudent, or even operationally viable?</p>
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	Councillor Elisa Meschini, Deputy Leader of the Council and the Council’s representative on the Greater Cambridge Partnership	Ms A Gazeley Coton Orchard	To be provided at the meeting.