

Allison Wild. Brexit Party. West and Abingdon.

Thank you for your email.

I would be happy to complete your short survey.

I am wholeheartedly against this expressway and have voiced this opinion on social media.

"I am absolutely against the expressway. It is detrimental to our environment, & detrimental to our wildlife destroying precious wildlife habitats the whole length of its route. There are better options which are not destructive which must be evaluated before this is green-lit."

The Conservative government is very much for this expressway, and my concern is, as in many areas that candidates seem to shy away from detail like HS2, that no other party will honestly report their party's true direction on this.

Rest assured I and the Brexit Party are 100% against the Oxford-Cambridge expressway. The devastation to ancient woodland and wildlife habitat is not an acceptable price to pay for a short stretch of expressway.

Kindest regards,  
Allison

Anneliese Dodds. Labour and Co-operative Party. Oxford East.

Dear Expressway Action Group,

Thank you for your email concerning the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway.

As you may be aware, I have long argued for the rail link between Oxford and Cambridge to be prioritised, and sought to explain why the rejection of electrification of the link was flawed.

Once the Expressway was no longer presented as the only means of delivering additional homes, I have opposed it continuously and made clear my view that the road should not be built.

I do however believe that we desperately need additional genuinely affordable and social homes for local people, and that while some of these can be built within the ring road through 'intensification', there will be a need for additional housing in other locations. I will continue to make clear that these new homes must be easily accessible via public transport, and that a large proportion of these homes must be social and genuinely affordable. They must also be built to high environmental standards.

Finally, I have also argued that there has been insufficient local consultation about the different elements of the Arc plans.

I have made these points repeatedly to government ministers and the different agencies involved, and will continue to do so if re-elected.

Yours sincerely,

Anneliese

Charlotte Hoagland. Liberal Democrats. Witney.

To whom it may concern,

I wish to provide you with my answer of OPPOSED to this survey.

I, along with my fellow Liberal Democrats are committed to putting the environment at the heart of everything we do.

Charlotte Hoagland  
PPC for Witney

David Henwood. Independent. Oxford East.

Are you for or opposed to building a new Oxford to Cambridge Expressway through Oxfordshire:

Opposed

Please explain your answer:

**Related experience**

City Councillor for Cowley Ward

Chair/Vice Chair, Oxford City Council, East Area Planning Committee

Vice Chair, Oxford Growth Board (Scrutiny)

Early this year in my capacity as an Oxford City Councillor, I voted in favour of recognising a 'climate emergency'. An expressway between Oxford & Cambridge in my view would be counter-productive in tackling climate change. The need for this infrastructure is difficult to justify against the environmental damage such an expressway would produce. There does seem to be some potential gain in reducing congestion on the A34; however, on balance, the negative environmental impact far outweighs any gains in mitigating congestion when the collective aim and responsibility is to reduce traffic. I remain vehemently opposed to any future expressway across or in the area.

Along its proposed path, the expressway would also have an impact on the Green Belt. I am opposed to Green Belt development in any form, whether here in Oxford or in neighbouring districts. My reason for this is that I am concerned the National Planning Policing Framework which local councils seek guidance and direction from, fails in the area of sustainable design. For new developments, whether private or commercial, the NPPF should raise the bar in demanding better sustainable design by demanding carbon neutral developments prior to occupation or by off-setting the development's carbon footprint. Building by numbers is a practice of the past, we need sustainable solutions.

With further reference to the 'Expressway', I believe our relationship with the internal combustion engine has to change; as individuals, we need to think more carefully of how our individual and collective decisions to want to drive may have an impact on our environment. I am however, disappointed that bus journeys are still expensive. For example, a family of four travelling by bus from Cowley to the centre of Oxford costs £11.40 for a return ticket. I therefore have doubts that the proposed Cowley Branch Line will genuinely be affordable for all. Nationalising both bus and train networks in my view, will be the only way to make an integrated system that would be accessible and affordable to all.

If you have an alternative position/proposition please outline:

December 2011 the Government agreed to support the reopening of the rail link between Oxford, Bicester, Aylesbury, Milton Keynes and Bedford. This is proving to be a successful starting point, and further expansion on existing track and bus links should be encouraged. Research into re-opening rails lines is estimated to cost £4.8 billion, this in my view is not only an environmentally attractive option, but far cheaper as new land wouldn't be required. This to me would be a prudent approach until the issue of Brexit has been resolved, but at the same time better link established communities. Once Brexit has been resolved we can strategically review our domestic infrastructure needs based upon projected growth of either outcome. Clearly these needs will change whether remain or leave the EU.

I also feel strongly that HS2 should be delivered North of Birmingham first, in order to link up the Northern Power house. This is simply a common sense approach as the manufacturing hub of Britain lies within this realm, and should therefore be prioritised in the first instance, and would attract further investment both in the manufacturing sector and associated services.

Plans to meet any future housing need also need to be revisited after BREXIT, as policies around immigration may change considerably should the UK decide leave the EU.

David Williams. The Green Party. Oxford East.

Are you for or opposed to building a new Oxford to Cambridge Expressway through Oxfordshire:

Opposed

Please explain your answer:

An Expressway will destroy our local Environment, draw in and promote more carbon emission traffic, and not be a cost-effective way of solving transit issues for local communities in the area.

If you have an alternative position/proposition please outline:

A far more attractive proposal is to invest public money that would underpin the Expressway in completing the so- called Varsity Railway Line between Oxford and Cambridge. Three quarters of this rail line is virtually complete now and would provide quickly a lower carbon emission, non invasive transport improvement to resolve local transit difficulties.

James Fredrickson. Conservative Party. West and Abingdon.

Dear Expressway team,

I can confirm that I am fundamentally opposed to plans for an expressway. This is why I ran a constituency wide survey asking for residents' views on the plans. I shared these results with Grant Shapps, the Secretary of State for Transport - who then came to Cumnor and announced that expressway plans 'do not add up' - and that instead the Government would develop plans to place this investment in rail infrastructure instead.

Will look to complete your form this evening.

Very best wishes,

James Fredrickson  
Conservative PPC for Oxford West and Abingdon

John Howell. Conservative Party. Henley.

Are you for or opposed to building a new Oxford to Cambridge Expressway through Oxfordshire:

Opposed

Please explain your answer:

The Expressway has been effectively cancelled. I welcome this move. Finally cancelling it is a Government policy announcement that cannot be made during the election period under purdah rules which is why the announcement is for a fundamental review to find alternatives.

The more the evaluation has proceeded the more concerned I have become that the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway cannot meet the requirements set for it, is therefore unnecessary, would be environmentally unfriendly and would be better served by improving the A34 as I have suggested all along.

If you have an alternative position/proposition please outline:

I would improve the A34 (which needs it anyway), as I have suggested, plus look to end the rat running problems which arise for villages such as Weston on the Green and Islip when the A34 becomes blocked. I would also substantially improve the rail link. The ambition of 1m houses along the route depends on local councils along the route agreeing to this for which there is now no need and with which SODC has already said it is not playing ball.

Jo Robb.The Green Party. Henley

Are you for or opposed to building a new Oxford to Cambridge Expressway through Oxfordshire

Opposed OPP

Please explain your answer:

I am wholly opposed to the construction of a car expressway between Oxford and Cambridge.

The Green Party opposes the construction of new roads generally and specifically, we oppose this scheme.

The OxCam Expressway and the Growth Arc more widely are wholly inappropriate in the context of a climate emergency. The million new homes suggested are unneeded (see letter in Henley Standard) and will result in the concreting over of some 67,000 acres of greenfield woodland and countryside, solely for developer profit.

The scheme is a cornerstone of the government's economic growth strategy post-Brexit. We do not need a million new homes in an already over-inflated, water stressed part of the country. We do not need an expressway carrying thousands of cars and HGVs pumping toxic fumes into the air.

We need investment in green transport and infrastructure and in truly sustainable and affordable housing in the right locations.

If you have an alternative position/proposition please outline:

I support the re-establishment of a rail link between Oxford and Cambridge through the East-West rail project. This project should also form part of a modal shift in transport which would take goods off HGVs and lorries and instead put rail as the primary means for shifting goods across the country.

HGVs are unsafe, environmentally catastrophic and a modal shift is long overdue.

Jonny Roberts. Labour Party. Wantage.

Are you for or opposed to building a new Oxford to Cambridge Expressway through Oxfordshire:.

OPPOSE

Please explain your answer:

Broadly my feeling is to oppose new major road developments as these don't fit with a nation that has declared a climate emergency. The focus should be on Modal Shift for people and freight to using buses, trams and trains over roads.

On the specifics the preferred route is the worst of the three options in terms of its environmental impact and should be vehemently opposed. I'm pleased that is the position of my party nationally as well.

**If you have an alternative position/proposition please outline:**

1. Deliver East West rail and if HS2 goes ahead ensure the two interconnect at Aylesbury, particularly for freight.
2. Extend East West rail services to Didcot and via Didcot to Reading where it would connect with Crossrail
3. Re-build the Didcot-Newbury-Winchester-Southampton line closed in the Beeching cuts to cut use of the A34 by both commuters and freight
4. Campaign to lower rail fares considerably across the network to incentivise a reduction in car use in favour of trains

Jonny Roberts  
Labour's Parliamentary candidate for Wantage constituency

Layla Moran. Liberal Democrat Party. West and Abingdon.

Dear EAG,

In terms of the survey, Layla opposes the Expressway, with her reasons in the statement below, which also outlines her proposal to properly invest in East/West Rail. If you need the latter as a separate answer in more detail please just let us know as soon as possible.

Layla has also just launched a new petition to scrap the Expressway, which is online here: [http://www.oxonlibdems.uk/scrap\\_the\\_expressway](http://www.oxonlibdems.uk/scrap_the_expressway)

Statement:

I am wholly opposed to the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway that has been planned by the Conservatives.

Over the last two-and-a-half years, I have campaigned non-stop for this disastrous scheme for an eight-lane motorway to be scrapped. It would blight our landscape, threaten our environment and harm biodiversity.

It is clear from the level of local opposition that residents do not want the Expressway to go ahead. Pouring millions of pounds into a major new road during a climate emergency shows that the Tories' priorities are wrong. We should be encouraging people to get out of cars altogether.

Instead, we need to see real investment in sustainable transport infrastructure. That must include East-West Rail, fully electrified, as a priority, something the Conservatives unprioritised in favour of the Expressway until the general election was called, and they realised just how unpopular it was.

From my maiden speech in Parliament, the debate I held in the Commons in January to the motion I laid in October, opposing the Expressway was one of my top priorities as the MP for Oxford West and Abingdon, and will continue to be if I am re-elected.

Kind regards,

Sam Payne  
**Press and Candidate Coordinator**

Laura Coyle. Liberal Democrat. Henley.

The Liberal Democrats are absolutely committed to putting the environment at the heart of everything that we do. As such, I believe that at this time of climate change crisis we should not be spending millions building new roads but instead investing in sustainable forms of transport and we should be preserving green spaces and woodlands not concreting over them.

We are also opposed to the house building plans associated with the Expressway. These go far beyond the projected need for the area and will destroy swathes of our beautiful countryside and the character of our many villages.

I also believe that if we are to address the deep seated inequality between the regions in our country we need to invest in infrastructure in poorer parts of the country to create jobs there rather than seeking to create even more jobs in the wealthy south east.

My Liberal Democrat colleagues on South East Oxfordshire District Council and the Liberal Democrat county councillor for Wheatley have been fighting against the plans from the beginning.

The Conservative Government has only announced it will review the plans and cannot be trusted not to continue them if re-elected. As MP for Henley I would lead the fight to get this catastrophic idea scrapped for good.

Laura Coyle

Liberal Democrat Parliamentary Candidate for Henley

Roger Carter. Brexit Party. Oxford East.

I am definitely **Opposed** to the proposals for the Oxford - Cambridge Expressway **for the following reasons:**

South East is already overdeveloped and overcrowded - there is no sound justification for the loss of and damage to the environment that the proposals for 1 million new homes along the route would cause. There are severe housing pressures but Development of housing, infrastructure and employment is better directed towards the neglected regions of the UK. There it can bring huge benefit, here it can only bring harm.

There is a fine balance between quality of life and development / infrastructure, the proposals for 1 million new homes will, in my view, cause severe damage to quality of life and to the environment - collectively an unacceptable and very significant harm which far outweighs the benefits of a 40 minute faster travel time between the two cities.

Upgrading and improving existing highway links on its own would be one thing, but 1 million new homes along the route are quite another - they are unacceptable.

I have not had chance to look into it, although you may well have, but the question has to be asked about whether there are sufficient infrastructure resources available or readily achievable - water as one example - for 1 million new homes?

**Alternative Proposal**

Spend the money on transport and other infrastructures, housing and helping to kick-start economic development and thus employment in the Neglected Regions of the UK. That is Brexit Party Policy going back several months. Improve the rail network between the two cities and carry out minor highway improvements which deliver value for money without creating development pressure.

**If I am elected I would strongly oppose this in Parliament and would wish to be involved with the local campaigns.**

**Comment**

There is a delicate balance between Housing and Employment, an imbalance of either drives need for the other. I studied this in some depth in the 1990s when, as Chairman of the Environment Committee of Berkshire County Council I was responsible for new Structure, Waste and Mineral plans. We managed to set the balance for the coming years - I see no balance in these proposals.

I hope that is helpful,.

Kind Regards

Roger Carter

**Oxford East Parliamentary Candidate, The Brexit Party**

Rosa Bolger. Labour and Co-operative Party. Witney.

Are you for or opposed to building a new Oxford to Cambridge Expressway through Oxfordshire: Please tick/strike through to indicate.

Opposed

Rosie Sourbut. Labour Party. West and Abingdon.

Dear members,

I am opposed to the Oxford Cambridge Expressway - at a time when we are trying to decarbonise it is the wrong direction in which to move. I favour improved public transport and electrification of rail and want to protect our local air quality.

Best wishes,

Rosie Sourbut - Labour candidate for OxWAb

Suzette Watson. Labour Party. Banbury.

Dear Team,

I can see we are indeed running out of time to reply so I'll be quick, and say that I am opposed to the expressway.

Many thanks,

Suzette Watson  
Your Parliamentary Candidate  
Banbury & Bicester Labour Party  
North Oxfordshire

Cllr Tim Bearder. Liberal Democrat Party. Banbury.

Are you for or opposed to building a new Oxford to Cambridge Expressway through Oxfordshire:

Opposed

Please explain your answer:

The Liberal Democrats are absolutely committed to putting the environment at the heart of everything that we do. We realise we simply can't address the climate emergency if we continue to build motorways and pave over swathes of green fields with houses built to woeful ecological standards. That is why I have consistently campaigned against the Conservatives Expressway plans. I believe that we are on the side of the electorate in this fight. I won my county council seat in Wheatley with over 60% of the vote - I then worked tirelessly to ensure that we took control of South Oxfordshire District Council, thanks to my efforts and small but incredibly dedicated team we went from one elected Lib Dem in 2015 to control as the biggest single party earlier this year! It has not been easy. The Conservatives have thrown all their money and state apparatus at us - most recently blocking SODC from scrapping their local plan – a horrific subversion of local democracy. Meanwhile in the County Council chamber my attempts to block the million associated Expressway houses were rejected by the leaders of both the Conservatives and Labour. Clearly the fight needs to be taken higher, which, in part is why I am now standing for Parliament, where I would be this road's fiercest opponent, working night and day to ensure that it is the people's priorities and not those of big business that are front and centre of the political agenda. We need to wake up to the fact that the climate emergency is real and that our wildlife is in dire threat. This road would be a catastrophe for both

