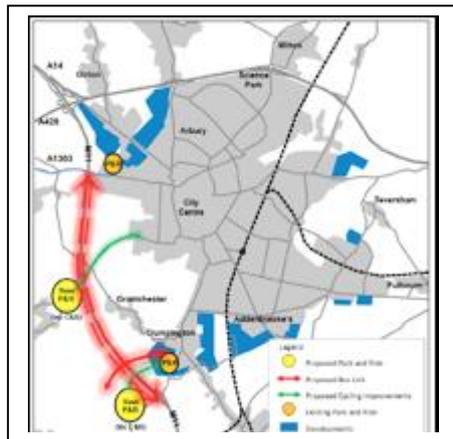
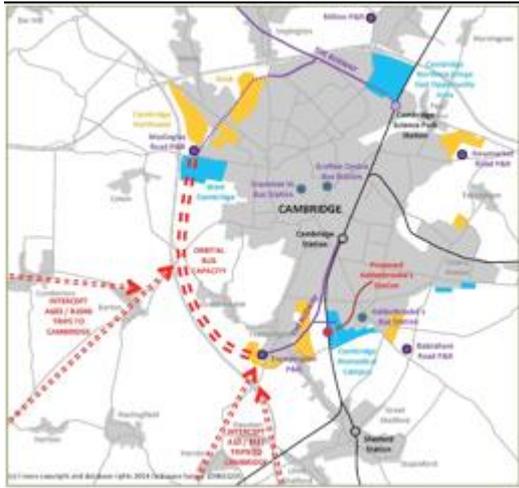


# District Council

The next consultation from the City Deal is called the “Western Orbital” and has the potential to affect us all in Grantchester, Barton and Coton; less so Madingley.

The big-picture idea to get buses (and hence passengers) around the outskirts of Cambridge faster, and the Western Orbital is between Junctions 13 and 11 of the M11. There is also, on a slower timetable, as Eastern Orbital project, trying somehow to link the M11 (Jn 10 or 11) to the A14 round the eastern edge of the city.



I have reproduced two of the concept maps: they are just concepts at this stage, nothing more. I would highlight four aspects:

- it is acknowledged that much of the problem is the peak-hours queuing at the slip-roads at Junctions 13 and 11, and that that needs fixing.
- there is talk of a bus-way round the M11 between Junctions 13 to 11. This might be along the hard shoulder, or up on the edge of the farmland on either or both sides. I am not persuaded; I think that, if the junctions are fixed, that will be enough (buses are not allowed to go above 60mph, and I think those speeds will be achieved if the junctions are fixed)
- as well as creating an orbital route, there is talk of putting a park & cycle or park & ride at Junction 12 to intercept traffic coming in from the A604. One of the maps (not those on this page) suggests one of the fields near the Barton rifle range: either the one next to and on the Barton side of it; or the field opposite it, in between the M11 exit slip-road and St. Mark’s graveyard.
- Finally, there is talk of a bus lane or cycle improvements along the Barton Road.

The consultation will start in late Spring, but we will want to start thinking about this now and be well-prepared.

*Francis Burkitt*