



Response2route

Important information - BRT Compulsory Purchase Orders and Compensation

Please note - This is not intended as legal advice

As many will now be aware, unfortunately there will not be an inquiry into the BRT. This is by no means the end. The council has a deadline of March 2010, by which they need to have all of the land purchased and ready. If they do not meet this deadline the government are likely to withdraw funding.

Our next stage is to fight the Compulsory Purchase Orders.

Important: If you receive this letter, it means you can consider yourself a **statutory objector** to the CPOs, because the value of your land will be reduced as a result of works carried out on the land being acquired. Therefore you are entitled to object to the CPOs **even if you are not served a CPO on your own land**. All objections have to be investigated and addressed, but statutory objectors have the right to speak at any CPO inquiry if they wish. **We would advise that everyone should request this in their objection letter as it will slow the process down.**

If objections are received and not voluntarily withdrawn by the objector, a Public Local Inquiry must be held - This is what we want! An inquiry would delay the process.

Please be aware that if you do not object by the 23rd October deadline, you will lose your rights as an objector and afterwards will not be able to try for compensation.

Below are some brief examples of what you might like to include in your objection letter. Make sure to include the title of the order - **"BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET COUNCIL (BATH TRANSPORTATION PACKAGE - BUS RAPID TRANSIT SEGREGATED ROUTE) COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER 2009"** Your grounds for objection, (examples below), your address and your interest in the land, (examples below) and send to the address below before **Friday 23rd October** – (please be aware of the postal strikes, so ensure you send it early)

These are grounds for objection to a CPO:

- Objector is seeking minor amendments to the scheme to minimise the impact upon them.
- Objector believes the proposed works should be located elsewhere.
- Objecting to the scheme completely

Interest in the land, for example:

- I am a qualifying objector because the value of my property will be reduced as a result of the works being carried out on the land being compulsorily acquired.
- I am an owner, lessee, occupier or tenant of land within the CPO
- I own rights in the land being acquired and these will be interfered with.

Please note, below are suggestions of what you might include in objection letters and is not intended as legal advice.

Send to:

Secretary Of State For Transport,
Government Office for the North East,
Local Authority Orders Section
Citygate,
Gallowgate
Newcastle Upon Tyne,
NE1 4WH

1) I oppose the scheme because it is located in the wrong place. The route runs between two uncongested roads into town each of which could accommodate bus lanes. The proposed route will impact significantly on communities in Bath.

The Council has not carried out sufficient research into this to prove the BRT route is the best, or most economic alternative.

2) The Council refused planning permission for this scheme on 8th July 2009.

3) I believe the building of a road so close to my house will dramatically reduce my quality of life. It will severely affect my enjoyment of my property and my private life both by the building work or by the way in which the area will change as a result of the CPO. It will also devalue my property. As such it is an interference with my rights under Article 8 of the Human Rights Act. (You may like to say how you are affected e.g. noise light pollution, possible structural risks to your home etc)

4) The environmental and social consequences of this unnecessary bus route which runs through a residential area and people's back gardens are unacceptable in the face of the minimal benefits claimed (but not proven) by the Council.

5) I wish to state my objections in person at a local public enquiry.