

Oral submission to the Economy and Environment Committee Meeting

Integrated Transport Block Funding Allocation Report

5 March 2020

My name is Philip Trathan and I am speaking as a resident of the spur, close to the point where Storey's Way merges with the Ridgeway Cycle Path.

Many residents, including myself, have become increasingly concerned about the safety of cyclists and pedestrians between the Ridgeway and the permeable traffic barriers on Storey's Way. In the past 12 months I know of three accidents involving cyclists. One occurred just after a cyclist had passed the barrier heading north to Huntingdon Road, this resulted in an ambulance being called. Two others involved cyclists avoiding other bicycles on the spur.

Residents concerned about this problem would be grateful if you would consider the Report prepared in November 2019 by the Chair of the local Residents Association.

The Ridgeway is a key cycle route from Girton through Eddington into the City. As Eddington becomes more populated, cycle traffic is increasing. Cycle traffic arises from commuters, shoppers using the new Sainsbury's supermarket, and parents with children attending either the nursery at Eddington or the University of Cambridge primary school. Many parents now use cargo-bikes to carry one or more children. With the growth of the West Cambridge site, cyclists also increasingly commute from North Cambridge to the West Cambridge site along this route.

The width restriction bollards have always been confusing for cyclists, cars and vans. In particular, cyclists often navigate through the wrong route, using the wrong side of the road. Medium sized vans regularly hit the bollards. Though there are width restriction signs at the entrance to Storey's Way, large lorries still attempt to use the road as a rat-run, and find they cannot pass through the barrier. When they attempt to turn, they often create major hazards for all other users.

A survey of residents in 2019 showed that there was strong feeling within the road. Approximately 89% of all residents (that is 64 of 72 houses) responded to the survey. Of these, 89% (that is 57 of 64 respondents) wanted some form of change. However, residents differed on how to tackle safety in the road. Professional re-design of the traffic flow in Storey's Way, including the structure and position of the width restriction, would now appear urgent.

We look forward to hearing from you and working with you so that improvements can be made in the road to make it safer for cyclists and pedestrians, in line with County Policy.

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