

Cambridge A1307 Haverhill A1307

"Our main concern with the A1307 is to ensure reliable journey times for our bulk deliveries and the distribution of our life-saving medical products. So a fast and safe road to the A11 and beyond is essential."

Nicholas Hodgson – Head of Engineering, Sanofi



"The A1307 from Haverhill to the A11 is a critical piece of infrastructure no longer fit for purpose. The local Chamber of Commerce are constantly campaigning for it to be a full dual carriageway."

Paul Donno – Chair, Haverhill Chamber of Commerce



The Problem

Haverhill is the fourth largest town in Suffolk and is growing fast, and with growth must come infrastructure. On a map of this part of the country, there is a primary road 'hoop' formed by the M11/A11, A14, A134, A131 and A120, and Haverhill is in the middle of that hoop, effectively up a minor A-road cul-de-sac.

As can be seen on the map overleaf, the current route from the A1307/A11-interchange to Haverhill does not lend itself either to widening, improvement or dualling. Moreover, at its narrowest,

the road passes through the outskirts of Linton, causing further congestion. The route is also longer than necessary.

Also, its entire length has varying curvatures, blind rises on corners, bad sight lines and interspersed with short sections of dual-carriageway. All of which contributes to the road's tragic history of serious injuries and fatalities, resulting in this particular section of the A1307 being officially designated as 'very high risk'.

The Solution

Only 3 of the 7 Suffolk towns with Primary Routes are bigger than Haverhill. It is time to rectify this and build a new, safe Primary Route dual-carriage A1307. If to the north of the present route, it would be shorter, cause minimal disruption during construction and likely no more expensive than upgrading the existing. The result would hugely benefit the whole area both from an economic and a social viewpoint.

Cambridge County Council is looking at building a park & ride at Four Wentways near the A1307/A11 junction

and connecting this to Cambridge with high-speed public transport. This could involve a guided bus route designed for ease of entry and exit for all local bus services.

By combining a new dual-carriageway and a guided bus route, an express commuter bus service would be possible between Haverhill and Cambridge. The old A1307 could remain as a feeder road to local communities and for regular multi-stop busses.

Vital for success

The A1307 is the major road joining Haverhill to the main UK road network. Daily, it carries workers, shoppers and school children between Haverhill and Cambridge, and home again. Heavy traffic congestion is a normal occurrence for these morning and early evening commuters.

It is also the artery linking Haverhill industry and commerce to the strategic road network and beyond, with all the comings and goings of everything involved in the creation of local GDP. Goods worth many £100s of millions per year are produced

in Haverhill and have to be transported to customers throughout the UK, Europe and the rest of the world.

The road is constantly busy throughout the day, the majority of vehicles not necessarily destined for Cambridge, but for Stansted Airport and elsewhere. All this traffic produces jobs and wealth for Haverhill and the surrounding villages. This ongoing growth of the Haverhill area is equally important for the region.



"Haverhill is where Suffolk ends and Cambridgeshire starts and the M11 is in Essex. These sorts of bureaucratic boundaries shouldn't get in the way of planning vital links for growing towns"

From The Rt Hon Matthew Hancock, MP for West Suffolk, Minister for the Cabinet Office and Paymaster General

"As a market leading food and drink logistics specialist and winner of a major National Industry award in 2014, we would strongly support any proposals for improvements to the road from Haverhill to the National Network."

Steve Morris – General Manager, Culina Haverhill

"A new dual carriage A1307 to the A11 would effectively connect Haverhill to the National Motorway Network, and dramatically accelerate the Town's transformation into a major hub within the South Cambridge Technology Cluster."

Nic Rumsey – Director, Haverhill Business Park

Into the Future



Strategic Dualling of A1307



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“Haverhill is possibly the largest town in the UK not on a Primary Route”

The Vision 2031 strategy of St Edmundsbury opens the door to creating a further 3,500 homes in Haverhill, expanding the population in the immediate area to 35,000+. Since the railway line to Cambridge was closed some forty years ago, investment in improvements to Haverhill’s transport links has been minimal.

Nobody in the past would have built a new town of this size without a railway. However, despite being a popular aspiration, new branch railway lines in modern Britain are no longer a realistic option. They

are too expensive both to build and maintain and are under-used most of the time. The case for them can no longer be made.

The vision must be one where excellent road links enable businesses to flourish and realise their full economic potential, while also greatly improving local public transport. A fully dualled A1307 will strengthen our existing businesses and encourage investment, especially in the all-important high-growth hi-tec sectors.

