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A scheme to improve safety and make better provision for cyclists and pedestrians at the Perne Road/Radegund Road roundabout in Cambridge has proved to be an overwhelming success in terms of accident reduction.

The roundabout is part of the Cambridge Ring Road linking Addenbrooke's with Abbey ward, and is well used by commuters as well as school children, as it is located very close to a number of schools.

The improvement scheme included the introduction of an overrunnable blockwork strip in the centre of the roundabout, reduced carriageway width, and new traffic islands introduced on each arm providing safer crossing points. These features were designed to influence slower approach and departure speeds, and to generally reduce the speed of drivers while going around the roundabout.

The scheme also included the creation of wider cycle paths around the edge of the roundabout giving cyclists the choice of riding around the edge, away from traffic, or riding on the road mixing with slower traffic.

From 2006 to when works commenced in February 2014 there were 27 recorded personal injury accidents, with 23 involving cyclists, of which five were serious and 22 were slight. But in the three years since work commenced on site and has been completed there have been no accidents.

The £413,000 project was funded from several sources:

- £240,000 secured by the County Council from the Department for Transport's Cycle Safety Fund.
- £103,000 from Cambridge City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council's joint cycleways budget.
- £70,000 from the European Bike Friendly Cities project of which the County Council was a partner along with Southend on Sea, Middelburg (Holland), Nuefchatel-Hardelot (France), Boulogne sur Mer (France), Kortrijk (Belgium) and Sustrans.

Cambridgeshire County Councillor for Romsey Ward and Cycling Champion Noel Kavanagh said, "The scheme has been successful on a number of counts. The design has influenced slower traffic speeds and this has improved safety for all road users, particularly cyclists. The scheme tidied up the area generally, and introduced more greenspace at the expense of tarmac.

“Since the scheme was introduced the adjacent shops have been redeveloped giving a more pleasant and safe environment for local residents, commuters and the many school children who use the roundabout every day”.

These improvements are part of a multi-million pound investment in cycling schemes delivered or planned for the city and the surrounding area over the coming years by Cambridgeshire County Council and the Greater Cambridge Partnership. With safety at the forefront of all forthcoming projects, the aim is to help encourage more people to travel by two wheels instead of four.

Other projects range from traffic signals that give priority to cyclists and floating bus stops, to the UK’s first Dutch-style roundabout, which has been approved for Fendon Road/Queen Edith’s Way and will also give priority to pedestrians and cyclists over motorists.

Cambridge remains the UK’s number one city for cycling, with 33 percent of all residents cycling three times a week and almost half dusting off their handlebars at least once a week.

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UK's largest cycle park, Cycle Point.
It holds 2,850 bikes. It is free, open 24/7 and covered by CCTV.



The Cambridge Kerb
An innovative sloping kerb to enable cyclists to join and leave the cycleway safely.



18 projects to reduce congestion and improve cycling

12 Greenways
High quality walking and cycling routes into the city from surrounding villages and towns.

5 Cross City Cycling schemes
Extend and improve the cycling network.

The Chisholm Trail
Walking and cycling route between Cambridge Station and Cambridge North Station, linking Addenbrooke's Hospital in the south and to the Science Park in the north.



14 'floating bus stops'
Cyclists can bypass stationary buses by cycling behind the bus stop.



Advanced green traffic signals for cycles
at three junctions in the city, with more in the pipeline.



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Cambridgeshire County Council