

# **Research Question**

The research question that we decided was of interest to us is:

*Which direction do people going to university travel from?*

We recorded which direction the vehicles that were turning in and out of main campus were travelling after they left the T-junction at the end of Norwood Avenue onto Claverton Down Road or vice versa.

Taking a right turn coming out of this junction takes you into Bath city centre and places such as Oldfield Park and Bath Spa train station where many students travel to and from. A left turn coming out of this junction takes you south towards places such as Claverton Down and Combe Down, and if you travel further, large towns such as Bradford-on-Avon, Frome, Trowbridge, and Westbury.

As we have experienced ourselves commuting to university, the traffic coming in and out of university can get very congested at certain times of the day, for example, around rush hours at the beginning and end of the day. There were 20,311 students enrolled at Bath university for the 2022/2023 academic year<sup>[1]</sup> and a lot of these students need to travel into university from halls in the city centre such as Aquila Court, Canal Wharf, and Centurion House<sup>[2]</sup> among many others.

This research question allows us to investigate where the people who travel by vehicle to and from university are coming from. This could help us to evaluate whether or not it would be suitable to adjust the ways people travel to university through ideas such as: creating new bike lanes; constructing alternative roads to give a different route in for people travelling from a certain direction; a commercial access road for vans and lorries; and increasing the frequency of public transport.

## **References**

[1] University of Bath, 2023. *Facts and Figures* [Online]: Bath: University of Bath. Available from: <https://www.bath.ac.uk/corporate-information/facts-and-figures/> [Accessed 26 October 2023].

[2] University of Bath, 2023. *Student-accomodation* [Online]: Bath: University of Bath. Available from: <https://www.bath.ac.uk/student-accommodation/#:~:text=Marlborough%20Court%20and%20Solsbury%20Court,everything%20you%20need%20on%20campus.> [Accessed 26 October 2023].