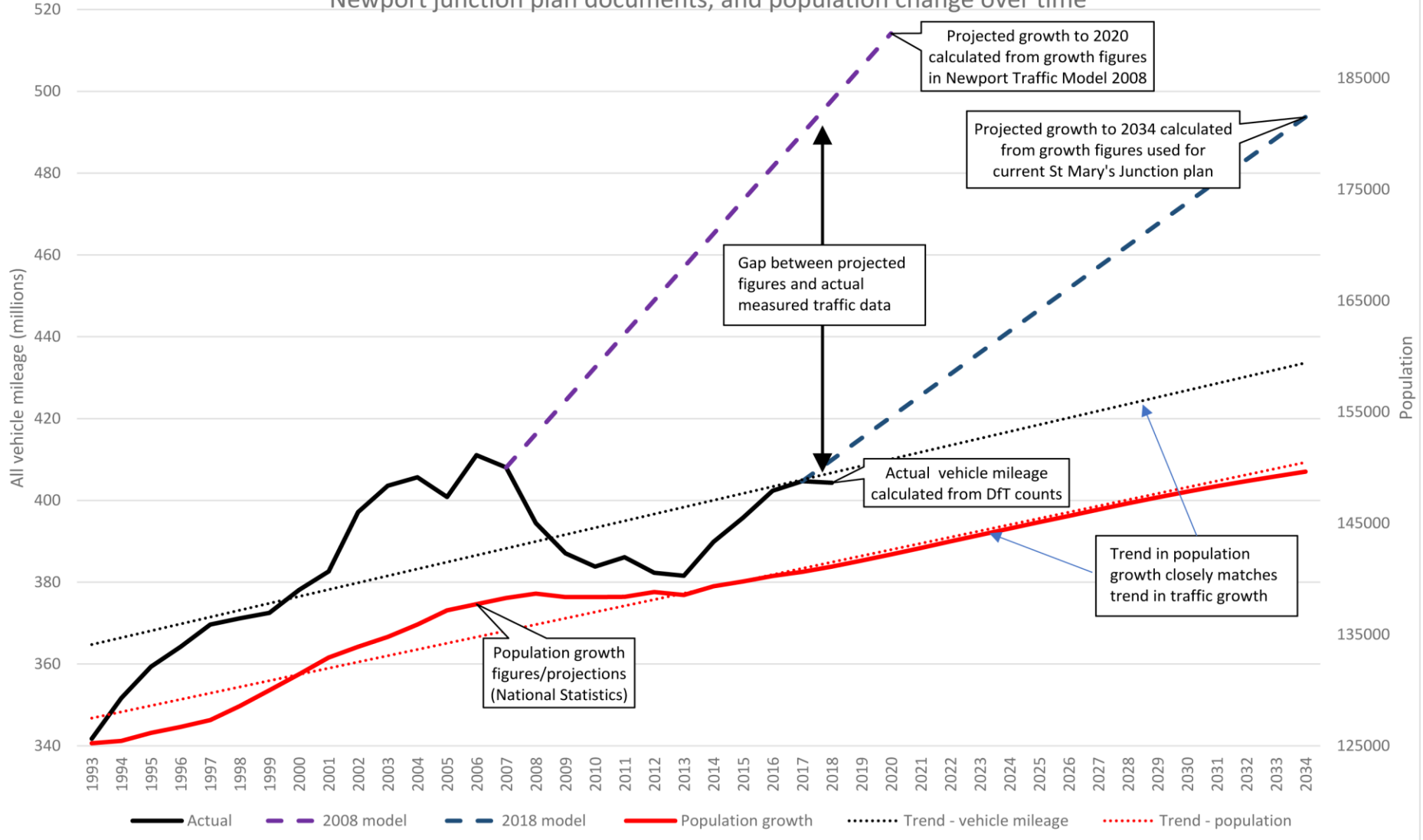


Measured growth in traffic (vehicle mileage) on the Isle of Wight, traffic growth projections made in Newport junction plan documents, and population change over time



What does the graph tell us?

1. The Newport traffic model of 2008 grossly overestimated growth in traffic levels.
2. The updated traffic model being used to support the large increase in capacity at the St Mary's junction predicts traffic growth that is substantially in excess of the increase one would expect from projected population growth.
3. The best measure for predicting future road capacity judging by data stretching back to 1993 is population growth forecasts. These currently stand at 6.5% whereas the Council's traffic growth forecasts stand at 22%.

Conclusion

This analysis appears to call into question the need for such a large increase in road capacity at the junction. We are not suggesting that no increase in capacity is required going forward, but that the current scheme should be reviewed and that designs should be commensurate with realistic projections based on forecast population growth, including detailed analysis of traffic that would be generated by any new development at Camp Hill. Based on the information currently in the public domain this does not appear to have been done.

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