Mr John Gunn– Written evidence (AUV0006)

1. Where is the demand for self-driving vehicles? As a voter no one has asked me and if they did I’d say no thanks.

2. The cost of this technology is monstrous. Presumably the taxpayer is funding it somehow to the detriment of other things such as the NHS etc.

3. Security. What is to stop these vehicles being hacked and used to cause damage or indeed terrorism?

4. Data protection. What safeguards will users have over their data eg where they travel etc. This is a major issue in 2016 let alone the future given that data capture seems to increase daily and get sold on to the highest bidder.

5. Un-employment. Presumably the plan is to take over from taxi drivers, bus drivers, heavy goods delivery etc. When all these people are out of a job what will they do instead (claim benefits?) and how will they pay any taxes? Will this result in higher taxes for everyone else not involved with cars and/or deliveries?

6. Computer error. What will happen when there is a malfunction? My laptop goes wrong on a daily basis so presumably driverless vehicles will be no different.

7. How will they cope with heavy rain, fog, snow etc which may hinder their “vision”?

8. GPS errors or map out of date errors? How will a dumb computer navigate a section of roadworks that wasn’t there yesterday or indeed a new one-way street?

9. Impact on the oil industry? Presumably these vehicles will be electric which could seriously disrupt the oil industry and be catastrophic for jobs and taxes paid.

10. Mix of people driving and driverless vehicles. Unless the end game is to rid the human population from the roads there will be a strange mix of the two. What happens at a junction when there is no eye contact to deal with the “right of way”?

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