

**Highways England: A303 Amesbury to Berwick
Down Project, Development Consent Order
Application**

Scheme Reference: TR010025

**Response to Highways England’s “6.3 (3)
Environmental Statement Appendix 2.2 – Outline
Environmental Management Plan (OEMP)”:**

REP6-012

for

**The Stonehenge Alliance
(Reference No. 2001870)**

by

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1. Introduction

1.1. This document provides The Stonehenge Alliance's response to Highways England's document REP6- 012: the revised OEMP submitted at Deadline 6.

1.2. We focus on the "Design Vision" and "purpose of the Vision" proposed by Highways England at Section 4.2 of the document

2. Comments on OEMP, Section 4.2

2.1. Highways England's *retrospective* "Design Vision" (at para. 4.2.1) appears to be a generic design vision to fit any new road scheme. We submit that any retrospective design vision is unacceptable for a Scheme of major sensitivity, impacting on a WHS. The Design Vision ought to have been, from the outset, an integral part of the Scheme development.

2.2. In para. 4.2.3 ("Purpose of the Vision"), it is said that

"The Scheme provides a unique opportunity for the enhancement of an internationally recognised landscape and its visitor experience, as well as that of local communities."

That opportunity would neither be grasped nor fulfilled by the present Scheme.

2.3. In para. 4.2.4. Highways England suggests that

"The Scheme presents a 'once in a lifetime' opportunity to respond to the sensitivities and challenges of this landscape and demonstrate imaginative and exemplar design as part of a collaborative approach between the appointed contractor, stakeholders and The Authority."

This is the second opportunity in a lifetime (usually considered to be c.25–30 years) for a sensitive response to the challenges of an A303 road widening scheme through this WHS: the previous Scheme was taken to Public Inquiry in 2004. The present Scheme does not provide an exemplar design for responding to the sensitivities and challenges of such a WHS; nor has it involved the collaboration of the tens of thousands of stakeholders who have expressed outright objections to it. UNESCO's WH Committee does not support the Scheme as it currently stands.

2.4. The Scheme would not meet the overall aims set out in para. 4.2.6. and the design vision for sections of the Scheme, notably that in para. 4.2.10 (central section).