



Derek Parody
A303 Amesbury to Berwick Down
Highways England
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Temple Quay
BRISTOL
BS1 6HA

5th September 2019

Dear Derek Parody

Reference:

- A. Highways England A303 Amesbury to Berwick Down - Consultation on Proposed Non-Material Changes to the Development Consent Order Application

Thank you for Reference A regarding eight proposed minor (non-material) changes to the Highways England A303 Amesbury to Berwick Down road scheme. The undersigned would like to comment on two of the proposed changes as detailed below:

NMC-01 – Existing A303 lay-by west of Winterbourne Stoke to be de-trunked.

The proposed re-categorisation of the lay-by is welcomed in that it will be “....transformed into a sloping grassed verge that will no longer be accessible to vehicles”. Clarification is however requested on the following points:

- It would aid transparency if the nature of the “transformation” is detailed precisely. For example, is this transformation the complete filling-in of the lay-by or simply the recategorization of the land area. This is important as the reason for this area being brought under scrutiny is in order to prevent it from becoming a focus point for unlawful and antisocial activity. Reassurance is required that the detail behind the “transformation” prevents such activity occurring.
- Clarification is requested as to how this area will “no longer be accessible to vehicles”. Prevention of access can be achieved in a number of ways ranging from the erection of signage to the building of fencing and walls. Clarification is requested as to how vehicles will be prevented from obtaining access to this area.
- It is stated that the lay-by will be handed over to the responsibility of Wiltshire Council. Clarification is requested as to the point in time when this hand over will take place. i.e. Will the transformation be resourced within the Highways England budget for the road scheme or will the responsibility for funding and completion of the works be the responsibility of Wiltshire Council? It is suggested that all these works should be completed by Highways England.

- As stated previously, it is believed that a far more cost-effective method (both short term and long term) of managing this area would simply be to return it to agricultural land and return it to the ownership of the original landowner.

NMC-03 Change to the proposed road classification of the former A303 west of Winterbourne Stoke.

The proposed declassification of the existing A303 from its current road status to an unclassified road does very little to allay the concerns of the undersigned as to future usage of the de-trunked A303. Previous correspondence have listed, at length, the impact of leaving this road freely accessible to all road users. In effect, if the plans are to remain unchanged, this length of road will become the focus of all the antisocial and unlawful activity that currently exists on the roads and byways around Stonehenge that this road scheme is being used to prevent. All this current proposal achieves is to push that activity away from Stonehenge to impact on neighbouring landowners and specifically in the area of this de-trunked section of the A303. It is not disputed that access is required to be maintained along the existing A303 for the purposes of the maintenance of national infrastructure as well as for agricultural access. No other access is required along the de-trunked A303 and therefore this element of road should be gated from the point immediately west of the current access to Scotland Lodge Farm.

Yours faithfully

F W G Whiting