From:
 Tessa Bond

 To:
 A303 Stonehenge

 Cc:
 Mike O"Dowd-Jones

Subject: A303 Amesbury to Berwick Down - Response from Somerset County Council

**Date:** 24 September 2020 16:28:30

Attachments: A303 Amesbury to Berwick Down Somerset County Council response.pdf

## Planning Act 2008 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010

Application by Highways England ("the Applicant") for an Order granting Development Consent for the construction of a new two-lane dual carriage way for the A303 between Amesbury and Berwick Down in Wiltshire.

Please find attached consultation response from Somerset County Council. Kind regards,

Tess Bond Senior Planning Officer Infrastructure Programmes Somerset County Council 01823 357147

## tbond@somerset.gov.uk

As a result of Coronavirus, all Somerset County Council staff have been asked to work from home, where this is practically possible, or to support other services if their role is not critical to the Coronavirus response. This will have an impact on our ability to deliver some services, so we thank you for your patience and understanding during this difficult time.

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**Somerset County Council.** 

## **Somerset County Council**

County Hall, Taunton Somerset, TA1 4DY



Natasha Kopala Department for Transport Great Minister House 33 Horseferry Road London, SW1P 4DR Please ask for: Mike O'Dowd-Jones

**Email:** <u>modowdjones@somerset.gov.uk</u>

**Direct Dial:** 01823 356238

**Date:** 24th September 2020

Dear Ms Kopala,

Planning Act 2008 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010

Application by Highways England ("the Applicant") for an Order granting Development Consent for the construction of a new two-lane dual carriage way for the A303 between Amesbury and Berwick Down in Wiltshire.

Further to your letter dated 20<sup>th</sup> August, we have received an update from Highways England dated 24<sup>th</sup> August in which we have been invited to comment on the "other information", which we understand is being treated as "further information" as defined under the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.

Somerset County Council has been engaged in the project during the pre-application stage and has submitted joint responses to Highways England as part of a Steering Group comprising representatives of Somerset County Council, Devon County Council, Wiltshire Council, Dorset County Council, the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership, and, Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership

Whilst we have no technical comments to make on the updated submission, we would like to take the opportunity to outline that the schemes currently being progressed at Amesbury to Berwick Down and planned through to the M5 at Taunton, are vital first steps towards achieving a whole route improvement and as such are strongly supported by Somerset County Council.

We hope that the above comments are helpful. Somerset County Council looks forward to participating in any future processes as may be deemed necessary by the Secretary of State.

Yours sincerely



## Mike O'Dowd-Jones

Strategic Commissioning Manager – Highways and Transport Somerset County Council