Dear Sirs

I understand that the Transport Secretary has sought comments from the public on the latest proposals from National Highways.

I am concerned about these latest proposals, as I was about those that preceded them. This is because:

National Highways has not made any changes to the Scheme to take into account the concerns raised in 2021 by the World Heritage Committee_into account.

• National Highways has not acknowledged that the Secretary of State found the Scheme's impact on the proposed western cutting area would be "significantly adverse", which indicates they do not, as base, see any fundamental issue and, therefore, are not working to minimise the impact on the site.

• National Highways has not fully assessed alternative routes less damaging to the World Heritage Site e.g., a southern bypass route would be cheaper even if there might be some issues with it, whilst a longer tunnel would reduce impact on the World Heritage Site.

• National Highways has not explored alternatives to hard engineering solutions in the context of safeguarding and enhancing the World Heritage Site - e.g. a package of measures to reduce road traffic, road emissions and improve access to the South West;

• National Highways has not updated the scheme construction costs or updated the carbon assessment and costs.

There have been other changes since the Examination closed also give grounds for concern over this scheme:

- concern for climate change has increased with the latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report and the need to take urgent action to reduce emissions, not increase them as any new Stonehenge road scheme would; and
- the Environment Act 2021 sets new ambitions around nature recovery.

In short, my concerns remain and I ask that that the proposed scheme not be allowed to proceed.

Yours faithfully

Steven Kennell

