From:
To:
A303 Stonehenge

**Subject:** Redetermination of A303 Stonehenge scheme

**Date:** 09 March 2022 06:40:14

## Dear Secretary of State

I am writing to you as I am concerned about the recent submissions made by National Highways with regard to the Stonehenge road scheme. I am more than concerned, I am horrified that National Highways response blatantly ignores some of the most important issues in this scheme.

I may also be able to add a point of view possibly not given much prominence before. I worked in the Foreign Office for many years and I served at numerous Embassies and High Commissions around the world. Without exception, there would be a picture of the iconic monument that is Stonehenge displayed somewhere in public view. Stonehenge is a national treasure and should be protected at all costs - and that includes the surrounding area which has yet much to tell us.

But to return to National Highways submissions. There are certain key points which have not been addressed:

- There is no evidence that they have fully explored and assessed alternative routes which would cause less devastation to the World Heritage Site. I, like many others would like to see the southern bypass route chosen for its cheaper costs and less impact on the WHS.
- Whilst I profess no expertise in this area, I am reliably advised that National Highways has not explored alternatives to hard engineering solutions as opposed to measures to improve access to South West England such as reducing road traffic and road emissions. As a regular visitor to the SW, this is a subject dear to my heart.
- They have not considered the 2021 World Heritage Committee decision by not making any related changes to the scheme which take that decision into account.
- They have not updated the carbon assessment and costs
- They have not updated the scheme construction costs
- And, what you may consider to be of major importance, they have not acknowledged that the S of S pronounced that there would be a 'significantly adverse' impact by the scheme on the proposed western cutting area

Thank you for reading this and I hope my voice, amongst others, will persuade you to our point of view. By this I mean the Stonehenge Alliance of which I am a staunch supporter

Yours

Rafi Husain

