

From: [REDACTED]
To: [A303 Stonehenge](#)
Subject: My views on the latest proposals for the A303 in the Stonehenge area
Date: 04 April 2022 21:32:51

Dear Sir or Madam,

I wish to object strongly to the re-submitted plans for road "improvements" which will cause irreparable damage to the Stonehenge World Heritage Site. They would endanger the very status of this site's official listing by Unesco and the National Highway plans do not take account of this. There is little sign that they have properly considered alternative routes or ways of avoiding damage to, and intrusion upon, the whole precious and unique landscape, which has so much more potential to provide vital archaeological evidence - evidence that is likely to be lost or damaged by digging a too-short tunnel and associated road cuttings within the setting of Stonehenge.

It does not appear that proper consideration has been given to the mitigation and reduction of traffic pollution and emissions of greenhouse gases, which have brought us to a new level of Climate Emergency, as shown in the recent reports by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, produced since this harmful and profligate plan was originally examined in 2019. Indeed, even today the papers are full of the IPCC's latest conclusions, in which it is stated that there must be "rapid, deep and immediate" cuts in carbon dioxide emissions. The National Highways plan for the A303, by contrast, would increase traffic, not reduce it. How does this fit in with the UK's leadership shown, and commitments made, at COP 26? We need to make much more strategic use of public transport and to transfer freight to railways, not encourage more journeys by private motor vehicles.

Finally, at a time when millions of our citizens are set to suffer real and ongoing hardships due to the rising costs of fuel, food, national insurance, housing etc., most of which costs have been known for many months, it can not be right that so many millions of pounds are planned to be spent on a road scheme, especially when the end result will be to destroy so much of our nation's most precious heritage that Stonehenge may lose its Unesco status. Lovers of history, culture and nature around the world are aghast that such a scheme is even under consideration, as am I. What kind of country have we become, when we can hold such unique and revered ancient monuments in lesser regard than the desire of some motorists and logistics companies to get to the other side of the World Heritage Site a bit faster?

Yours faithfully,

Helen Selwood (Mrs)