

From: [REDACTED]
To: [A303 Stonehenge](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: A303 Stonehenge Road Widening Scheme
Date: 03 April 2022 17:33:40

Dear Planning Inspectorate,

A 303 ROAD WIDENING SCHEME

I am deeply concerned about the A303 Road Widening Scheme. Stonehenge and the landscape in which it is located, is a place of unique archaeological and historical importance, it is a landscape without parallel and of global importance. The new carriageway would gouge deep cuttings into this sensitive landscape threatening the very status of the world heritage site, whilst damaging much of the archaeology.

I regularly travel along this stretch of the A303 and enjoy moving slowly through the landscape taking in its beauty and incipient spirituality. I consider the road widening scheme to be entirely unnecessary, hard edged, brutal and urban. It is an unfit solution for this precious landscape.

I strongly urge Grant Shapps to re-examine the Development Consent Order based on the following concerns with National Highways proposals:

- National Highways has not made any changes to the scheme despite the comments of the 2021 World Heritage Committee Decision.
- The Secretary of State found that the scheme would be 'significantly adverse' and yet this has not been considered.
- Alternative proposals and routes need to be explored.
- Hard engineering solutions should be replaced with measures more sensitive to this landscape.
- The scheme costs need updating particularly in the light of sharp increases in construction costs across the board.
- The carbon footprint of this scheme with its heavy use of concrete is likely to be immense and at a time when we are ever more concerned with climate change. This road scheme is likely to increase emissions and on this basis alone the whole scheme becomes questionable.
- The Environment Act 2021 sets new ambitions for nature recovery and re-wilding. The current proposals have quite simply not caught up with current concerns and should be completely re-thought.

For all of the above reasons, this scheme is out of touch, insensitive and damaging to its environment and requires re-examination.

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Landscape Architect

Armstrong Bell landscape design

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