

From: [REDACTED]
To: [A303 Stonehenge](#)
Subject: Stonehenge Road Scheme
Date: 03 April 2022 11:56:04

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Dear Planning Inspectorate,

I am very concerned about the proposed road scheme relating to the Stonehenge World Heritage site, which has been in the news for some time now. Stonehenge is our most important prehistoric monument, and as an ordinary member of the public, I want to express my very deep concern at these road proposals.

Any road scheme related to the name, 'World Heritage Site', should raise concerns and, it seems as if National Highways have not taken UNESCO'S World Heritage Committee's decision into account if the scheme goes ahead: to consider placing Stonehenge, Avebury, and Associated sites on the World Heritage Danger List.

What on earth are National Highways thinking of?

Nor has National Highways acknowledged that the Secretary of State found the scheme's impact on parts of the route (the western cutting area) to be not just a bad idea, but 'significantly adverse'; assessed alternative routes to any degree to limit damage to the site; considered soft engineering projects so that the site could be safeguarded; and considered how the scheme will increase carbon emissions.

At a time when the government is focusing on the problems of climate change, why would they want to, not only encourage more traffic, but also allow it to be driven through a world heritage site?

And what about the natural world? I think it's safe to say that the general public have found a renewed love of nature during the pandemic, and many recognise the close relationship between biodiversity and climate change. The road scheme cuts across the spirit of our times and stands in stark contrast to the Environment Act of 2021, which focuses on nature recovery.

At the very least, this scheme requires a re-examination of a **Development Consent Order**.

Much has changed since 2019 when the examination closed. New information is available. Apart from UNESCO's position and public concern over climate change and biodiversity, the cost of the scheme will have risen dramatically, and new estimates should be made. So alarming are these road scheme proposals, that an independent panel should be appointed before the Secretary of State redetermines an application for a DCO for this current road scheme.

If this disastrous scheme goes ahead, it will be laid at the door of decision makers, and future generations will not thank them for it.

Mary Green