

From: [REDACTED]
To: [A303 Stonehenge](#)
Subject: Objection to widening of A-303 near Stonehenge
Date: 03 April 2022 03:40:50
Attachments: [DefenceOfStonehengeByMe-220403-send.pdf](#)

Dear Sir / Madam,

I will be grateful if you can please consider my attached letter which explains my objections to the widening of A-303 near Stonehenge.

Many thanks in advance for your kind attention and consideration.
Yours sincerely - David Birkett.

To Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP, Secretary of State for Transport
Copy A303Stonehenge@planninginspectorate.gov.uk
From David Birkett [REDACTED]
Date Sunday 3rd April 2022
Subject Objections to the Proposed Widening of A303 Roadway near Stonehenge

Dear Mr Shapps,

For the important and urgent reasons briefly outlined in this email message, I hope you will please agree to cancel, or at least modify, the proposed widening of the A303 road near Stonehenge.

1. Please ban the proposed dual-carriageway, because it would gouge deeply and destructively into the archeological landscape of this internationally acclaimed World Heritage Site.
2. Even if the widening of A303 is forced on you politically, please at least change the scheme to heed Unesco's advice (22 July 2021) that Stonehenge's world-heritage status might be reduced.
3. Any decision about A303 needs to take careful heed of the UK's Environment Act 2021 and of the recent reports by the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate-Change.
4. Research by CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) has shown that building faster roads rarely brings economic benefits to a region.
5. Official statements already acknowledge that the impact of the proposed widening of A303 would be "significantly adverse".
6. Instead of altering this roadway, the best option is to keep the existing A303 as it is, so that the UK Government will thereby demonstrate its commitment to environmental wisdom.
7. To incentivize safe driving throughout Britain, please stop widening any roads, and please use the A303 as an example of how to promote safety by lowering all the speed-limits everywhere.
8. For Britain to help in the worldwide necessity of protecting the atmosphere against carbon, please use the prestige of Stonehenge to publicize this environmental responsibility.
9. There is an urgent need to assess alternative routes (eg: a southern bypass or a longer tunnel) before making any commitment to the current proposal.
10. There is an even more important need to consider alternatives to hard engineering, such as measures to reduce the road-traffic and/or to reduce the carbon-emissions.
11. Please arrange for the Development Consent Order (DCO, October 2019) to be re-examined by an independent panel, before any further decisions are made about the A303.
12. Before altering the A303 in any way, please re-estimate all aspects of current and future costs, as these have probably increased as a consequence of worldwide inflation and the war in Ukraine.

Many thanks in advance for your attention and for considering my 12 points and their implications. Kind regards and best wishes. Yours sincerely,

David Birkett (Member of the Institute of Advanced Motorists)

[REDACTED]