

**The Avebury Society**

**Ref 2001889**

**A303 Stonehenge DCO application: response to National Highways' further information requested by the Secretary of State for Transport on 20.6.22**

#### **Redetermination Consultation 4**

The Avebury Society's concerns have not been specifically countered by National Highways at this stage of the redetermination process.

Nevertheless, we note that National Highways has conceded, for the first time, that the longer tunnel alternatives it addresses at the Secretary of State's request, along with the present proposed road scheme, would result in adverse impacts on the monuments at Avebury owing to greater visitor footfall (see [National Highways Redetermination 4.3](#) and [National Highways Redetermination 4.4](#), both at paras. 6.1.3, item k)).

We highlighted this concern in our Relevant Representation and in our submission to the Redetermination Consultation in April this year. **Our April submission, in an email to the Inspectorate and confirmed on 4.4.22, does not appear on the PINS A303 Stonehenge website and we trust that this will be remedied, please.**

We have no further comments to make at this stage except to point out that although extended tunnel alternatives offer some advantages over the present scheme, all tunnel options would be damaging to the WHS. We hope that the Secretary of State will now ask for more information on the southern bypass option which would cost much less than tunnelling and be far less damaging to the WHS.

At this time of climate emergency, however, there may now be sound reasons to abandon this road scheme altogether.

In any event, whichever scheme may be decided on by the Secretary of State, including the present scheme, it should in our view be subject of an examination or re-examination so that the scheme may be considered in the light of all the new information supplied by National Highways since 2019, as well as the 2021 High Court Judgment on the earlier decision and the 2021 decision of UNESCO's World Heritage Committee.

August 2<sup>nd</sup> 2022

[REDACTED]

Contact: Dr Susan Rogers, Secretary, The Avebury Society, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]