

**A submission in relation to:
TR010025: A303 Stonehenge Updates**

Re-determination of the Application for an Order granting Development Consent for the construction of a new two-lane dual carriageway for the A303 between Amesbury and Berwick Down in Wiltshire ("A303 Stonehenge Scheme")

INVITATION to all interested parties to provide any responses on the Report and on the information provided by the Applicant.

Having read the latest submission from the Applicant's response to the SoS's letter of 26 August 2022, I maintain my total opposition to the proposals, in all the varieties put forward in an attempt to justify the unacceptable impacts that the A303 proposals will inevitably have on the whole landscape to which the Stonehenge structure forms an integral part.

I assume that my latest comments will be added to my views as expressed in my previous submissions.

I have read the *Final Report on the Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM ADVISORY MISSION TO STONEHENGE, AVEBURY AND ASSOCIATED SITES* and the response of National Highways. This NH response contains no significant changes from the original position with nothing more than statements hinting at a preparedness to make token gestures in an attempt to convince the reader that there has been some change.

The *Final Report* makes it clear that the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value remains central to the whole issue. It bears repeating, including as it does:

'Stonehenge is one of the most impressive prehistoric megalithic monuments in the world on account of the sheer size of its megaliths, the sophistication of its concentric plan and architectural design, the shaping of the stones - uniquely using both Wiltshire Sarsen sandstone and Pembroke Bluestone - and the precision with which it was built Stonehenge is the most architecturally sophisticated prehistoric stone circle in the world. It is unrivalled in its design and unique engineering, featuring huge horizontal stone lintels capping the outer circle and the trilithons, locked together by carefully shaped joints. It is distinguished by the unique use of two different kinds of stones (Bluestones and Sarsens), their size (the largest weighing over 40 t) and the distance they were transported (up to 240 km). The sheer scale of some of the surrounding monuments is also remarkable: the Stonehenge Cursus and the Avenue are both about 3 km long, while Durrington Walls is the largest known henge in Britain, around 500 m in diameter,

demonstrating the ability of prehistoric peoples to conceive, design and construct features of great size and complexity.’

I object unreservedly to any proposals which will diminish this powerful statement and do not wish to reiterate or pursue any of the extraordinary and unacceptable attempts to justify the planning proposals.

I wish only to add that in a time of very serious economic downturn plus the need for the UK to comply with the requirements to address the climate crisis as reinforced by CoP in Glasgow, it seems incomprehensible that the major excuse for the A303 proposals is to enhance motor use.

In general, I also wish to state that the steady stream of ‘consultations’ appears to be nothing more than empty gestures.

I ask for this act of cultural destruction to be irrevocably removed from further consideration.

Amanda Leon

27 September 2022