To the Rt Hon Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP

I first heard of Stonehenge from my late mother who saw it on a cycling tour in the 1950s, when the crowds were far less, the roads quiet and Stonehenge itself had no fence and she spoke of the impact these big structures in a wide open landscape with only sounds from nature had on her and how she spent several hours in awe wandering freely around the great stones. It is not surprising this was made a World Heritage site.

When I saw Stonehenge it was fenced in and there was distant, but still noticeable road noise and man made intrusion from the A303 which was not a dual carriageway. The current road upgrade scheme would make the visual intrusion of moving cars, in all sorts of colours, seen against the predominantly green setting of the great stones far worse, and of course the noise would be louder and in the right wind conditions, the smell. It is surprising how far the smell of exhaust fumes drift, and we are many years away from having all electric vehicles on the roads.

The report of the Advisory Mission recommends further exploration of a southern bypass as they are really concerned by the adverse impact of the current scheme on the setting of Stonehenge. I thoroughly agree with them. At the absolute minimum, and I don't think it is enough, the tunnel section of the scheme should be considerable extended to at the very least the boundary of the World Heritage Site, but really it should be the southern bypass.

National Highways response is just a repeat of its previous responses with no new material and really isn't useful or acceptable and doesn't fix any of the problems. The alternative southern bypass proposal must be examined properly - after all part of the reason for the High Court Judgement quashing the DCO was that the Transport Secretary at that time hadn't done a proper job considering alternatives.

If somewhere as iconic as Stonehenge can be mistreated in this way, what hope do other less famous areas have?

I really hope that you will quash this scheme as it stands. If not please hold another formal public examination so all the new evidence can be given proper examination and discussed by all interested parties.

This country has just had several really stressful and depressing years and diminishing our iconic Stonehenge with a road scheme that is not what it should be just in the name of cost cutting will make this worse.

Regards

Caroline Bott

