


**From:**   
**To:** [A303 Stonehenge](#)  
**Subject:** Points regarding UNESCO Advisory Committee report on A303 Stonehenge scheme  
**Date:** 25 September 2022 17:53:32

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Dear sir

I have read the report of the Advisory Mission and agree with its principal finding, i.e. that the scheme would have an adverse impact on the OUV of the WHS and that a southern bypass should be further explored. The Mission observed that at the very least the western limit of the tunnel should be extended to the WHS boundary.

As has become customary through the stages of consultation on the proposed scheme, National Highways has simply reiterated many of the arguments it has raised previously to justify a scheme which is clearly unacceptable to:

- Government's independent specialist examiners,
- UNESCO's World Heritage Committee, and
- the former Transport Secretary himself who agreed with the examining panel that the scheme would be "significantly adverse" overall.

The High Court judgment quashed the DCO in part because the Transport Secretary had not given proper consideration to alternatives. It is astonishing that such a level of arrogance was displayed by the Minister and is endemic in DfT and National Highways.

National Highways' response fails to alleviate any of the significant concerns raised by independent and expert parties whose interest lays beyond the desire to build infrastructure through schemes that divert public funds into private companies. It is striking that the consortium involved in this scheme consists overwhelmingly of non-British companies.

I continue to object to the proposals and hope that the scheme will be abandoned. Should the Transport Secretary intend to proceed with the scheme, I trust that it will be subject of another formal public examination so that all of the new information submitted by National Highways and others since 2020 may be fully and openly discussed, and taken into account and advised upon by the Government's independent Planning Inspectorate.

The National and World heritage significance of Stonehenge is so important that organisational, governmental and individual imperatives must be tempered by objective evidence and independent assessment.

Regards

Andy Stocks

