

From: [REDACTED]
To: [A303 Stonehenge](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Highways Authority response to UNESCO report
Date: 26 September 2022 08:50:31

I live within 40 miles of Stonehenge but also started school aged 5 in Amesbury very close by, so have long been familiar with the site and the bypass argument. I am also a member of two archaeological societies and have several times heard the lectures of Mike Parker Pearson on the subject.

I agree with UNESCO's 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 admitted that at the very least the western limit of the tunnel should be extended to the WHS boundary.

– 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.

– National Highways' response fails to alleviate any of the above concerns.

– 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.

A World Heritage Site is a big responsibility for our government to care for and must be done right. I visited the site twice this year and much has been achieved with the visitor centre, the removal of the part of the A360 and the naturalisation of the landscape setting, but this is utterly spoilt by the sight and sound of the traffic pouring relentlessly down the A303. It is vital this is diverted but it must be achieved with 100% effectiveness and avoiding damage to any remaining archaeology.

5,000 years of this remarkable monument, of importance at the time to the whole country in ritual and astrological predictions, meeting and feasting. It's our story. Please don't allow considerations other than the best way to improve it prevail. Please abide by the expert assessment by UNESCO

Mrs S L Newman-Crane

