From:
A303 Stonehenge

**Subject:** REQUEST FOR COMMENTS FROM ALL INTERESTED PARTIES In response to the Secretary of State's letter

dated 26 August 2022 inviting comments on the Final Report on the joint World Heritage Centre / ICOMOS /

ICCROM Advisory Mission to Stonehenge, Avebury and ...

**Date:** 26 September 2022 18:31:01

## To the Transport Secretary, the Rt Hon Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP.

These are my comments on the Final report.

I have read the report of the Advisory Mission and agree with its principal finding, i.e. that this scheme would have an adverse impact on the OUV of the WHS and that a southern bypass should be further explored.

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.

Nothing has changed here in the arguments and so I and many others will 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.

These are difficult times for us all, but planning for growth should not be at the expenses of a World Heritage Site. As a country we need tourism and our long held treasures should be protected.

Thank you. Alison Smith