From:
A303 Stonehenge

**Subject:** Stonehenge developments - response to National Highway's comments

**Date:** 26 September 2022 21:16:12

## FAO Transport Secretary - Anne-Marie Trevelyan

## **Dear Secretary**

I write in haste as you seem to have allowed little time, so I will make only one point.

The Final Report on the joint World Heritage Centre / ICOMOS / ICCROM Advisory Mission to Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites states in its executive summary section:

Notwithstanding the invitation provided in the 'Statement of Matters' issued on behalf of the Secretary of State for Transport dated 30 November 2021, and recent Decisions of the World Heritage Committee, no further consideration or analysis of alternatives has been offered by National Highways. Such alternatives would need to be considered in order to explore fully the available opportunities to avoid impacts on OUV.

Even were I in favour of developing the site, I would expect the government agency responsible (in this case National Highways) to at least explore fully all possible alternatives before taking a JCV - or even a spade - to a unique archaeological site of such worldwide significance. It appears to me supremely negligent that NH has not undertaken this basic and important analysis.

I urge you to insist that this is done fully and in a transparent and even-handed manner before any irrevocable decisions are taken regarding this unique and inestimably valuable monument. Roads can be built anywhere - but Stonehenge and its local landscape are irreplaceable.

Please do not go down in our history as the person who allowed vandals to desecrate our prehistoric heritage.

Yours sincerely, Mike