From:	
То:	A303 Stonehenge
Cc:	
Subject:	Please think again!
Date:	27 September 2022 12:05:50

To whom it may concern

Given that the 'inter-related monuments and associated landscapes of Stonehenge and Avebury' constitute one of our world's pre-eminent archaeological sites, it should be unthinkable that a major road is allowed to exist within its boundaries.

This road - the A303 - has only been classified as a 'major road' since 1933; a time frame that is a mere 0.15% of the estimated life of the Stonehenge World Heritage Site. Rather than attempt to 'upgrade' a short length of this road across the site, it seems obvious that it should be closed altogether and the original landscape restored, as was done with the old A344.

Purely from a cost/benefit point of view it makes no sense to 'upgrade' this short length of the A303 at vast expense if the rest of the road remains a congested and obsolete trunk road. Or is it, perhaps, the unspoken intention of the Ministry of Transport to convert the entire 93 miles of this road to quasi-motorway standard?

There is an alternative motorway route from London to Exeter via the M4 and M5; that this increases the driving distance is a small penalty to pay for the protection on behalf of future generations of the Stonehenge World Heritage Site. The goal in any case should be to replace high carbon-producing road traffic by more efficient use of the railway network.

Regards

Chris Blencowe AADipl(Hons) RIBA SADG Judith Blencowe BA(Hons)Arch