

Email sent to the DfT on 23rd October, 2025

Dear Secretary of State,

A303 Stonehenge DCO

On behalf of Transport Action Network, I would like to strongly support the proposed revocation of the A303 Stonehenge (Amesbury to Berwick Down) Development Consent Order.

The granting of this order was always perverse given the huge damage it would have done to the Stonehenge and Avebury World Heritage Site, alongside its huge cost and poor economic case. The fact that alternative and more sustainable solutions were never properly explored (contrary to National Highways' claims) led to a huge waste of public resources and is something that is still an issue with other road proposals.

A remaining concern is that transport connectivity to the South West still needs to be improved, not least as rail connectivity is so vulnerable to extreme weather events. Indeed, since rail nationalisation rail services have been cut twice on the Salisbury - Exeter line, which has worsened the situation, not improved it. Therefore, some of the money saved by not proceeding with this white elephant road scheme should be used to improve connectivity as we set out in our report: [Connecting South West England: in place of A303/A358 widening](#)

The modest investment proposed could lead to significant longer term improvements and greater resilience. Ultimately a second rail line is needed so that the South West can no longer be cut off by problems at Dawlish. This could be achieved by connecting Tavistock to Plymouth to provide an alternative route to Plymouth from Exeter, bypassing Dawlish. It would increase capacity, allowing new stations to be built and would provide significant economic and housing benefits.

Please keep us informed of any developments.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Todd

Director

Transport Action Network

providing grassroots support