



Department
for Transport

George McDonic
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From the Secretary of State
The Rt Hon Patrick McLoughlin MP

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Your Ref:

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Dear Mr McDonic,

Thank you for your letter of 28 October about proposals for the A303 at Stonehenge, and for your letter of 3 November to the Prime Minister on the same topic.

I understand that my officials arranged a meeting with a range of stakeholders earlier this month to present the findings of the study and that a representative of the Stonehenge Alliance was present. I also understand that the subject of a 4.5km tunnel was discussed, including consideration of the likely costs of such a proposal.

As I explained in my response to your letter of 3 October, I am keen to see if we can find a way forward for the A303 at Stonehenge that reconciles the significant economic role of the A303 and the internationally important historic environment surrounding Stonehenge while delivering real improvements in conditions for motorists, local communities and the World Heritage Site itself.

Should a scheme for the A303 at Stonehenge be prioritised by Government then substantial further work will be required to identify a preferred route option. This would be undertaken in consultation with the relevant bodies and stakeholders, including English Heritage, National Trust, ICOMOS-UK and UNESCO's World Heritage Committee to ensure that a solution is developed that protects the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Site.

Yours sincerely,

THE RT HON PATRICK McLOUGHLIN