



PRESS RELEASE

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CANAL & RIVER TRUST LICENSING CONSULTATION UPDATE

Following the completion of the opening stages of its boat licensing consultation, the Canal & River Trust and Involve, the independent charity commissioned by the Trust, are reflecting on the rich discussions with boaters. Once complete the third and final stage of the process will get underway in which all boaters are being encouraged to take part.

Ian Rogers, customer service and operations director at the Canal & River Trust, comments: “The first two stages of consultation have been really informative. We spoke initially with boating organisations and followed this with a series of workshops across the country attended by 100 boaters, randomly selected, covering the range of boaters using our waterways. The groups discussed outcomes of the first stage and contributed further to shaping the final stage of consultation.

“Our initial timetable was to report back on the topics and views that came up in the workshops in late July before widening out the consultation to all boaters and boating groups. However due to the fantastic feedback we’ve had, it will take a little more time before publishing the report and subsequently opening the third stage of the consultation.

“I’d like to thank everyone who has taken part to date. Boating groups have been very engaged with the process and we’re confident that the boater workshop sessions reflected the geography and different types of boaters on our network. We’re aiming to start stage three of the consultation in late August and we’ll be getting in touch with all licence holders to encourage them, as well as members of the general public, to take part. It is important that we have a full view of boaters’ thoughts and feelings to help shape the future of licensing.”

More information about the boat licensing consultation can be found here:

<https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/national-consultations>

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