

PRESS RELEASE

19 February 2019

CANAL & RIVER TRUST PUBLISHES 'BOATER REPORT' FOR LICENCE HOLDERS

The Canal & River Trust has published a Boater Report for its 34,000 leisure licence holders. The Report sets out how the Trust generates its income, including the contribution from boaters, and how that money is invested in the network.

The Report was produced with input from the boaters elected to the Trust's governing Council as well as boater volunteers on the Trust's Navigation Advisory Group. It will be updated each summer to reflect the Trust's latest available accounts.

Jon Horsfall, head of customer service support at the Canal & River Trust, comments: "The Trust's core purpose is maintaining the 2,000 miles of canals and rivers we look after and making the experience of using them as good as we can. Boaters play a central role in helping to fund the work with around 10% of our income coming from boat licences.

"The Boater Report is designed to give licence holders an overview of how much it costs to maintain the waterways, where the Trust's money comes from and where it gets spent, for example how much gets spent on dredging, maintenance, vegetation management or on customer service and facilities.

"The report also includes information on licence evasion, the role of volunteering and the importance of boating on our waterways. We'll be interested to hear feedback from boaters to understand what info they find most useful and if there's any other aspects of our work that they'd like to see more of in future Reports."

The Boater Report will be provided in the main as an emailable PDF which will be included with licence renewals or new boat licence applications. A small number of printed copies will be available for those boaters without email or for use at events such as **this May's** Crick Boat Show.

The Boater Report is available to view online at: <u>https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/media/original/39814-boater-report.pdf</u>

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Notes to Editors

The Canal & River Trust cares for and brings to life 2,000 miles of canals and rivers across England & Wales. We believe waterways have the power to make a difference to people's lives and that spending time by water can make us all healthier and happier. By bringing communities together to make a difference to their local waterway, we are creating places and spaces that can be used and enjoyed by everyone, every day.

www.canalrivertrust.org.uk