

PRESS RELEASE

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HAVE YOUR SAY ON CANAL CHARITY'S PROPOSALS TO UPGRADE HARTHILL RESERVOIR

Public Consultation: 10-30 January 2022

Canal & River Trust, the waterways and wellbeing charity that looks after Harthill Reservoir, is inviting people to have their say on proposals to upgrade the reservoir.

The Trust announced plans in December 2020 to upgrade the reservoir to bring it in line with modern standards. The team has been working hard over the last 12 months, carrying out ground investigations to inform the design of a new weir and overflow spillway.

Subject to planning permission, the main project is expected to start in summer 2022, with upgrade works due to complete in 2023. The Trust will keep reservoir water levels temporarily reduced until the upgrade work is completed.

Sean McGinley, regional director Yorkshire & North East explained: "We are pleased to be sharing proposals to re-model the overflow spillway. The new design has been informed by extensive ground investigation and topographical studies, as well as heritage and ecological assessments that have taken place over the last 12 months.

"The reservoir is a much loved, well-used resource which feeds water to the Chesterfield Canal. It is important we carry out these works to bring the reservoir up to modern standards and to ensure people can continue to enjoy the important physical

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health and wellbeing benefits of being by water for many years to come. We are encouraging people to learn more about the proposed works and to have their say on the plans.”

The Trust is holding a public consultation on our proposals between Monday 10 January and Sunday 30 January. Plans can be viewed online at: www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/harthill Alternatively, please contact the team to have printed or large-scale versions posted to you. Email: harthill@canalrivertrust.org.uk or call the Freephone information line on 0800 028 8141.

An online community meeting to discuss the proposed plans and invite questions is open to all. This will be held on **Tuesday 18 January at 6.30pm**. Please register to attend the online meeting by emailing harthill@canalrivertrust.org.uk or calling the Freephone information line on 0800 028 8141.

The reservoir, situated between Sheffield and Worksop near to the village of Harthill, was constructed more than 200 years ago to supply water to the Chesterfield Canal, located approximately two miles to the north.

Once a key route for commercial boat traffic, beautiful Chesterfield Canal has become an important local leisure destination. Harthill Reservoir still acts as an important water feed to the canal and is now also a popular fishery, local walking route and home to groups such as Rotherham Sailing Club and Yorkshire Outdoor Swimmers.

For more information about Canal & River Trust visit: www.canalrivertrust.org.uk

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Notes to Editors:

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

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