



# LONDON MOORING STRATEGY – VISION AND OBJECTIVES

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London Waterway Partnership Annual Meeting - September 2016

## London Mooring Strategy – vision and objectives

The London Mooring Strategy (LMS) has the vision of ‘improving the experience for boaters and boating in London’ while ensuring fair sharing of the water space.

Boating in London has become more challenging as boat numbers on London’s waterways continue to grow. This has led to pressure on moorings, facilities and infrastructure. It can be hard to find space at towpath moorings in the most popular areas while the supply of long-term moorings isn’t enough to meet demand. Over the past few years the Trust has been working with boaters and other stakeholders on solving the problem. While a number of trials have been carried out and there have been some positive changes, for example the creation of new long-term moorings and bookable moorings, it is clear that a plan of action that covers all aspects of London moorings, developed with waterway users, is necessary to make a significant difference.

The LMS will allow the Trust to take a look at how to manage these issues, as well as make the most of opportunities that will help the charity maintain the waterways for the benefit of boaters and other users. The strategy has seven objectives;

### Objectives

1. Better provision and management of a range of moorings in London
2. To manage the high number of boats in London and to manage/mitigate the environmental impacts of the high number of boats on the waterways and neighbours
3. To protect existing and generate additional income to maintain the waterways in London
4. To help ensure fair sharing of water space amongst competing demands
5. To enable a wider range of boaters can visit and navigate in London.
6. To support London waterway destination and tourism strategy
7. To ensure mooring strategy contributes to CRT aim that London’s waterways help to transform neighbourhoods and enrich people’s lives

The LMS includes six key themes – short-stay mooring, pre-bookable (short-stay) mooring, towpath mooring (including boating facilities), long-term mooring, winter mooring and business boating. The following vision statements explain what the LMS will achieve for each theme.

### LMS short-stay mooring outcomes that will contribute towards the end vision

Contributes to Objective 1, 2, 4, 5, 6

- All existing short-stay moorings on the London waterways will have been reviewed.
- There will be a mixture of 7day, 2 day and 4 hour shop and drop short-stay moorings in appropriate locations on the London waterways.
- All short-stay moorings in London will be clearly and consistently signed, maintained and well managed.
- A trial 'green mooring zones' will be in place in an appropriate places to help reduce environmental concerns and/or conflict between boaters and other canal users.

### LMS pre-bookable mooring outcomes that will contribute towards the end vision

Contributes to Objective 1, 3, 4, 5, 6

- We will establish whether there is demand for an additional pre-bookable short-stay mooring offer in central London.
- Subject to demand, and a successful trial we will establish limited paid for pre-bookable moorings will be introduced at key locations on the London waterway. If introduced, pre-bookable moorings would include the following;
- An online booking system will be introduced for pre-bookable moorings.
- A clear customer service package will be in place to support pre-bookable moorings.
- A system to gather feedback and evaluate the pre-bookable mooring visitor experience will be in place.

### LMS towpath mooring outcomes that will contribute towards the end vision

Contributes to Objective 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7

- General towpath mooring will be available in appropriate places across the London waterway.
- The ability to moor safely on general towpath moorings will be improved through measures such as installing additional mooring rings, increased dredging and improved signage to help maximise towpath mooring wherever possible.
- Selective sections of waterway will be designated as no mooring for operational or safety reasons or to ensure other non-boating canal users have access to the waterway.
- New and additional facilities will be introduced to meet the needs of the boating customers.
- Geographical gaps in the provision of facilities will be identified and plans established to seek to fill these.

### LMS – winter mooring end vision

Contributes to Objective 1, 2, 3

- The London winter mooring offer will be reviewed and updated.
- A range of winter moorings will be introduced to London (rather than the single band winter mooring offer provided in previous years).
- There will be improved communication and clearer signage for winter moorings.
- Winter moorings will be managed carefully to identify and address any issues or conflicts that may arise.

### LMS – long-term mooring outcomes that will contribute towards the end vision

Contributes to Objective 1, 2, 3, 4, 7

- We will have established a better understand of the demand for long-term permanent moorings on the London waterway.
- We will understand mooring needs of boaters to support London housing authorities in the developing of their housing needs assessments (which include the needs of people living on boats).
- Locations on the London waterways that may be appropriate for the provision of a range of different long-term moorings will have been identified.
- We will work with other partners to identify and support the delivery of additional long-term mooring provision.

### LMS – business boating outcomes that will contribute towards the end vision

Contributes to Objective 1, 3, 4, 6, 7

- We will identify a range of business boating opportunities in key locations on the London waterway.
- Waterspace strategies will be complete for key central London locations (Docklands, Little Venice and Paddington Basin).