

## **Liveboard boaters' questionnaire - Kennet and Avon Boating Community**

Dear Boater,

**This questionnaire is being carried out by liveboard boaters** as part of the Equality Impact Assessment of the Local Mooring Strategy proposals for the western Kennet and Avon canal (Bath to Devizes). The purpose of this questionnaire is to find out what impact the proposed mooring restrictions will have on liveboard boaters - most of whom don't have moorings.

The purpose of the Equality Impact Assessment is to find out whether the proposals will have a greater and/or worse effect on any particular group of people. The Local Mooring Strategy could have a positive or negative effect on all groups who use the canal, such as liveboard boaters; holiday boaters; canal-side residents; anglers; walkers etc. Of course, it may not affect some groups.

Completing the questionnaire will be important in helping the Local Mooring Strategy Steering Group to avoid setting mooring restrictions that interfere with our homes and our lives. We need to know directly from you how you will be affected.

THE QUESTIONNAIRE IS **ANONYMOUS**. You don't have to give your name, boat name, or any other details. You don't have to answer all the questions.

All the information provided will be dealt with in strictest confidence. None of the individual questionnaires will be given to British Waterways or other third parties. The information provided will be used to write the liveboard boaters' submission to the Equality Impact Assessment.

When you have done the questionnaire, please post it to: Ms P. Smith c/o 40 Avonfield Avenue, Bradford on Avon BA15 1JE. Or give it to Kev (Stanley), Panda (Flossie) Chris (Kestrel), or Brian (Emily Bronte) - BEFORE TUESDAY 21ST JUNE PLEASE! Thank you ☺

If you want to speak to someone about the questionnaire please ring 07928 078208. There will be an online version at <http://kanda.boatingcommunity.org.uk> - check this out for other useful information!

### **Here is a summary of the proposed mooring restrictions.**

#### **Bath to Dundas**

- Visitor moorings at Bath top lock to be 72 hours not 48.
- Make the stretch opposite Bath Narrowboats "No mooring" and the laybys in Sydney Gardens "No mooring".
- Extend the length of 72 hour moorings at Darlington Wharf by 100 metres towards Folly footbridge, losing 100 metres of 14 day space. Extend the length of 24 hour moorings at Darlington Wharf by 100 metres, losing 100 metres of 72 hour space.
- Change the 48 hour moorings opposite Kennet Park in Bathampton to 72 hours. Make Bathampton wharf (opposite the school) 24 hour mooring not 48.
- Remove the permanent moorings at Bathampton and make the space between the end of the wharf and the winding hole 72 hours.
- Make the stretch from the winding hole to Bathampton swing bridge 14 days (officially some of it was 48 hour but the signs had disappeared).
- Relocate the permanent moorings to the concrete stretch east of Bathampton swing bridge (opposite Jenks's), losing 245 metres of 14 day space.
- Make the 48 hour moorings at Claverton 72 hours and allow the Pumping Station to reserve 2 boat lengths on open days.

- Reduce the permit-holder moorings at Claverton by 90 metres and make this 72 hours.
- Make the stretch opposite Digger's moorings at Millbrook swing bridge (west of Dundas) "No mooring".
- Reduce the length of the 72 hour moorings west of the turnover bridge at Dundas by half and make the other half 14 days.
- Create 4 boat lengths of 24 hour moorings immediately west of the turnover bridge at Dundas, losing 4 boat lengths of 72 hour moorings.
- Dundas basin to stay 24 hours but increase the 48 hour moorings east of the aqueduct to 72 hours.

#### **Dundas to Bradford on Avon**

- Make two boat lengths by the bridge at Murhill (Easter Spot - bridge 174) 24 hours
- Change the 48 hour moorings to 14 days west of Avoncliff aqueduct, but the canal is very shallow here.
- Make the west corner of the aqueduct "no mooring" for safety reasons. Reduce the 24 hour moorings east of Avoncliff by 1 boat length and move the permit-holder moorings there west by 1 boat length, gaining 1 boat length of 14 day space.
- Put a water tap and 4 boat lengths of permanent moorings west of Meadows (Smelly) bridge (173).
- Make the 48 hour moorings above and below Bradford lock 72 hours.

#### **Bradford on Avon to Devizes**

- Make the 48 hour moorings east of Bradford on Avon marina (the Street) and at Hilperton 72 hour.
- Extend the 24 hour moorings at Semington to 120 metres.
- It was also proposed to do away with all 48 hour moorings and make them either 24 or 72 hours.

#### **Other restrictions and charges** There may be other restrictions such as:

- Setting a minimum distance that a boat without a mooring (ie a continuous cruiser) must travel before turning round.
- Limiting the time a boat without a mooring can stay in any one stretch of the canal per year and making a daily charge of around £20 to £40 to stay longer than this limit.
- A daily charge, around £20 to £40, for staying longer than the time limit on a visitor mooring, applicable to all boats.
- These daily charges to double from around £20 to around £40 if not paid on the spot on the day.
- Renewal of the boat licence to be refused unless outstanding charges are paid.

**Legal issues** It may well be that British Waterways does not have the legal power to enforce these proposals. However, the point of this questionnaire is to find out what impact they will have on you. For information on the law, see <http://kanda.boatingcommunity.org.uk> or contact the mobile number above.

## THE QUESTIONNAIRE

Is your boat your only home?	Are you male or female?
How many adults live on your boat?	Do you currently work?
Do you own your boat?	Are you employed? Full time or part-time?
How long have you lived on your boat?	Is your job permanent or temporary?
How long have you lived on the K&A?	Are you self-employed? Full-time or part-time?
Do you have a land address?	Approx. what is your income per year?
Are you registered to vote?	Are you currently studying?
Are you registered with a local GP?	Do you currently claim any benefits?
How old are you?	Do you have a recognised disability?

Are you restricted to working part time? If so why?

Do you work from your boat or travel to a place of work?

Which town or village do you work/ study in?

How do you travel to work/ college?

Will this journey be affected by the Local Mooring Strategy proposals? Eg cost, method, distance or length of time to commute?

Where on the canal is the furthest place from your work you can moor and still get to work?

Do you have children who are dependent on you? If so, how many?

Does your child/ children live on your boat full-time or part-time?

Do you use local child care services? If so, in which town or village?

Does your child/ children go to school? If so, in which town or village?

Where on the canal is the furthest place from the school / childcare you can moor and still get your children there?

**How would you be affected by these proposed mooring restrictions?**

You would have to sell your boat

You would be unable to get to a place of work or study (too expensive/ too far/ no public transport)

You would be unable to get your children to school or childcare

You would have to drive \_\_\_\_\_ extra miles per week

You would be facing homelessness

You would face losing your boat following BW enforcement

You would have to claim benefits

You would have to move into rented accommodation

You would have to move off the waterways onto land

You would be facing bankruptcy

you would be unable to continue studying

You would have difficulty receiving mail

You would have difficulty getting to your GP/ other health care

Other (please say)

How many patrol notices have you received in the past year?

How many CC1, CC2 or CC3 letters have you received in the past year?

Have you been personally approached by BW staff?

Have you been asked for money by BW staff?

Have you been prevented from moving your boat because of: (please tick)

ice ☐ weather ☐ ill health ☐ low water levels ☐ breakdown/ awaiting repairs ☐ other reason ☐

How many times has this happened in one year?

Did you inform BW?

What length is your boat?

Do you have a permanent mooring for your boat?

Are you able to pay overstaying charges?

What is your normal cruising range (eg Bath to Bradford on Avon)

Do you travel on the River Avon west of Bath?

Any other comments?