

TOWARDS A WATERWAYS STRATEGY SCOPE OF WATERWAYS SERVICE REVIEW

Brief

To inform a strategic approach to the future use, management and development of the River Exe, the Exeter Canal and the Canal Basin and associated land-based facilities.

Scope of review

The review will cover the water areas themselves and land where existing usage is associated with water activities.

Subject to stakeholder consultation, the review will consider:

- The needs of existing and future waterways users
- The demand for improved/increased facilities or services
- The potential for the waterways to contribute to economic growth
- The services offered by the Council and the associated fees and charges
- The safe and social use of the waterways
- The condition and use of the Council's physical assets associated with the Waterways services
- Abandoned boats
- People living on boats
- Water quality
- Alternatives to council ownership and management and associated governance models

The attached map defines the review area.

Review outputs

The review will inform the development of a Waterways Strategy for Exeter IN 2016 which is likely to include:

1. A joint Management Plan for the Exe Estuary to address the needs of users
2. A policy and action plan around people living on boats
3. A policy and action plan around abandoned or eyesore boats
4. Clarity on the Council's fees and charges and services offered
5. An Asset Management Plan for council owned assets
6. A Water Quality Action Plan
7. A Development Plan for the waterways
8. A broad set of measures for waterways services

Review Programme and Milestones

- Initial consultation with key stakeholders – November 2014
- Agree review scope Scrutiny/Executive – March 2015
- Undertake review in consultation with key stakeholders – March 2015 to September 2015
- Establish a Waterways Partnership – September 2015
- Develop a Waterways Strategy for Exeter - 2016