



**Canal &
River Trust**

Making life better by water

neighbourhoodplanning@wychavon.gov.uk

Your Ref

Our Ref CRTR-POL-2026-46937

Monday 20 July 2026

Droitwich Spa Neighbourhood Plan Review (Regulation 16) Notification of Consultation

Thank you for your consultation on the above document.

We are the charity who look after and bring to life 2000 miles of canals & rivers. Our waterways contribute to the health and wellbeing of local communities and economies, creating attractive and connected places to live, work, volunteer and spend leisure time. These historic, natural and cultural assets form part of the strategic and local green-blue infrastructure network, linking urban and rural communities as well as habitats. By caring for our waterways and promoting their use we believe we can improve the wellbeing of our nation. The Canal & River Trust (the Trust) is a statutory consultee in the Development Management process, and as such we welcome the opportunity to input into planning policy related matters to ensure that our waterways are protected, safeguarded and enhanced within an appropriate policy framework.

The Droitwich canals are acknowledged as significant green infrastructure, but they also function as blue infrastructure, serving as a catalyst for regeneration; a sustainable travel resource for commuting and leisure; a natural health service acting as blue gyms and supporting physical and healthy outdoor activity; an ecological and biodiversity resource; a tourism, cultural, sport, leisure and recreation resource; a heritage landscape; a contributor to water supply and transfer, drainage and flood management. The waterway network forms part of the historic environment, the character, cultural and social focus of the town.

Please find below the Trust's response to your Neighbourhood Plan consultation. We hope that the comments provided are clear and helpful. We are willing to work together towards a high-quality town that continues to relate positively with the waterway network.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries you may have.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Hennell MRTPI
Area Planner



<https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/specialist-teams/planning-and-design>

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