

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 May 2022 17:43
To: _WEB_Canals Strategy
Subject: Canal Strategy

Categories: Canal Strategy 2022 response

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Good afternoon,

I have tried to read the draft canal strategy, which, even as a senior civil servant of 20 years I found unnecessarily complex and difficult to follow. Some parts of the wall chart were also illegible, so I cannot possibly endorse a strategy I do not understand.

But I can make a few observations. The main one is that wildlife should be the top priority and not, as seems to be the case, an afterthought. I know that wildlife inconveniently does not begin with « c », but nevertheless....(not sure why we need these facile 3 c s or 5 p s or what).

The stretch of canal between Chalford and Daneway is a haven for wildlife. It is also, therefore, a rare area of peace for walkers. This is worth preserving. « Recreation » sounds great in theory, but in reality in the strategy this seems to mean more noise and disturbance to people and animals. People already have recreation opportunities here, critically by enjoying the peace and tranquillity vital to good mental health. Don't ruin that. I have noticed that the deterioration of the canal infrastructure has allowed nature to slowly take over, this process should be embraced and perhaps managed, but reversal would be a tragedy.

If I can make more sense of your documents I might comment again. In the meantime why not produce a one page summary if the plan in plain English, focusing on concrete outcomes not « continuity » etc?

Thank you.

[REDACTED]

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)