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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 25 February 2022 16:56  
**To:** \_WEB\_Canals Strategy  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Canal Strategy for Stroud District - Public Consultation to 18 April 2022

**Categories:** Canal Strategy 2022 response

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

Hello,

Some quick thoughts on your questions: <https://www.stroud.gov.uk/media/1822413/please-read-this-first.pdf>

1. Drivers for change

Broadly agree. See this more as 'benefits' as opposed to drivers. The people one, could benefit from words such as play, engaging with the natural habitat, wonder. Wellbeing could be made explicit. Given the potential benefits to wellbeing for people and nature.

2. Strategy areas

Struggled to find out what these were, and the image provided on one of the links was too complex (too much detail) for me to understand or meaningfully engage with. Perhaps insert an image into the document or link.

3 and 4.

- The criteria looks really good and helpful to have the different levels.
- I think you have been slightly too kind/optimistic in your scoring of each sections and wonder what the benchmark was, and how you scored these areas. My view of the areas I know well, is that they need to be marked down one or two points. The scoring is helpful to identifying some priority areas, but I do not see a 10/10 in this region.
- Agree with the links made to the Stonehouse train station – and transport to Bristol
- There seems to be something missing about shared use and pedestrian / cycling infrastructure including the links leading to and from. I may have missed this.

Could you confirm receipt of this email please, as can go into junk.

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**From:** Selsley Community Group <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** Thursday, 24 February 2022 at 18:06  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Fwd: Proposed Canal Strategy for Stroud District - Public Consultation to 18 April 2022

Please see below. If you have any thoughts please direct them via the email below.

On behalf of

Selsley Community Group

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <[canals.strategy@stroud.gov.uk](mailto:canals.strategy@stroud.gov.uk)>

Date: Tue, Feb 22, 2022 at 9:01 AM

Subject: Proposed Canal Strategy for Stroud District - Public Consultation to 18 April 2022

To:

Dear Sir/Madam,

Stroud District Council has prepared a draft long-term vision and strategy for the future use of the canals within the District.

We want your views on its contents to check that we have got it right, before we develop an action plan to deliver it.

***What is this about?***

The Draft Canals Strategy sets out how the Council, our partners, communities and landowners can work together to deliver improvements to make better use of our canals for culture, recreation and leisure, to support the local economy and to enhance our environment and local wildlife.

The canals include the Gloucester & Sharpness Canal (running from Hardwicke in the north of the District to Sharpness in the south), and the two Cotswold Canals (from Saul Junction in the west, to Chalford in the east).

The intention is to adopt the final canals strategy as design guidance to supplement the canal policy ES11 contained within the adopted District Local Plan.

***How can I help?***

We want your views on its contents to check that we have got it right, before we develop an action plan to deliver it.

The Draft Canals Strategy sets out specific initiatives to be delivered in the short, medium and long term, to improve the canal network, which we have divided up into 14 canal strategy areas. These initiatives include suggested community uses and activities for certain areas, ideas for improving travel and movement along the canals and projects for wildlife enhancement and for people to connect with nature.

It uses the results of a public survey that invited people to share their experience of using the canals in the district.

***What will be the benefits of the Strategy?***

The strategy will compliment and support longer term schemes relating to the Heritage Lottery restoration project that is unlocking a lost section of the Cotswold canals corridor between Saul Junction and Eastington.

The Draft Canals Strategy includes, amongst other things, guidance on design, land uses and transport and potential physical projects for all areas of the canal network. When adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document, canal users, landowners and developers will need to take account of the strategy if they are preparing any plans within the canal corridors which require planning permission.

An effective canal strategy will also provide the platform to make effective future funding bids to Government and other funding bodies.

***Where can I find the Draft Strategy documents?***

Please visit the District Council's webpage [www.stroud.gov.uk/canalstrategy](http://www.stroud.gov.uk/canalstrategy) where you can view the documents and find out more about the subject.

You can also view the documents at the District Council office reception at Ebley Mill, Stroud and at town and parish council offices open to the public and at local libraries within the District during normal opening hours.

A limited number of paper copies of the documents are also available on request for those who cannot access the website or visit local libraries. Please email or write to us if you know someone who may need a copy (email and address below).

***What do I need to do?***

Please read the Draft Canals Strategy and send us your thoughts by email or by letter by **18 April 2022**.

You can email your responses to: [canals.strategy@stroud.gov.uk](mailto:canals.strategy@stroud.gov.uk) or send your response to: Planning Strategy, Stroud District Council, Ebley Mill, Ebley Wharf, Stroud GL5 4UB.

***What happens next?***

The District Council will consider your comments and make any necessary changes to the documentation before adopting the Final Canals Strategy at a future meeting of the Council's Environment Committee.