



FUND BRITAIN'S WATERWAYS

Fund Britain's Waterways Update, October 2024

Since the General Election the government has been stressing that it has inherited a very poor financial situation, to prepare us all for tax increases and reduced government expenditure. Not an encouraging message, unless it succeeds in creating economic growth and generating more income. Against this background FBW's position has been to look for a commitment to a review of the funding for navigation authorities. We set out our 'ask' in the FBW representation to the Autumn Budget 2024 (see the [press release](#) and the [full submission](#)). Unlike the NHS the waterways have not yet been described as broken. I can hear the reaction to that comment from some quarters!

Our Social Media Push from 4 to 13 October is aimed at increasing signatures on the [petition](#) by highlighting what the nation may lose if our waterways are not properly funded. Please play your part by posting the agreed messages; details are available [here](#). The government needs to appreciate just how many people value our inland waterways.

FBW banners are increasingly being displayed around the waterways.



Could you display a banner? Please let us know by emailing info@fundbritainwaterways.org.uk.

We have arranged an FBW session with the Middle Level Commissioners (MLC) on Wednesday 20 November 2024. Questions submitted by FBW members will be answered in depth by MLC and the session will be live streamed for FBW members. If you would like to submit a question, please submit it to info@fundbritainwaterways.org.uk by 23 October 2024 at the latest.

FBW has been funded from donations from member organisations and individuals for which we are very grateful. Current funds are around £4,000. We are trying to arrange a reception at Westminster

next year to get the FBW message across to MPs face to face. Receptions at Westminster are very expensive, and we need to raise funds to meet the costs. To make a donation please either make a bank transfer (which avoids any costs) by requesting bank details from info@fundbritainwaterways.org.uk or use this [link](#). Thank you for your support.

Thank you in advance for your help.

Les Etheridge, Chair of Fund Britain's Waterways
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