

**Sandra Hutchings**

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Ack  
Request

**From:** Eric Priest  
**Sent:** 18 March 2014 16:21  
**To:** DPD  
**Subject:** Local Plan Review



Dear Sir,

On behalf of the Tiverton @ District Angling Club, I would like to formally register with you the club's views regarding the Local Plan Review, Options Consultation document, published back in January of this year.

For many years now, the Grand Western Canal has been at the heart of our club's activities be it competition fishing, educating our juniors in the art of coarse fishing or simply pleasure fishing amidst beautiful countryside through which the canal passes. Whilst we have been fortunate enough to enjoy over many years the purity of our unique waterway, one thing stands out above all else, our canal, having been classified as a Country Park and nature reserve, must be preserved and maintained as one for the benefit of future generations. It is to this end we wish to make the following points which we find the most concerning given the degree of potential development outlined in the local plan:

1. With regard to any proposed new housing/business development adjacent the Grand Western Canal, it is imperative safeguards are in place to prevent threat to the canal from surface water drainage and any other associated forms of pollution.
2. Protective conservation buffer zones be set up on both sides of the canal to maintain the integrity and natural appearance of our waterway. This would help provide refuge for wildlife with unspoilt habitat as well as assist with canal maintenance such as weed clearance.
3. It is essential that any new canal access points be kept to an absolute minimum. Past urbanisation has shown to have given way to some rather inappropriate accesses particularly at the Tiverton end.

We thank you for the opportunity to put forward our main points of concern and hope that these will be given due consideration in the coming period.

Kind Regards  
Eric Priest

Hon Sec. Tiverton @ District A.C.