

Basingstoke Canal

Progress Report May 2011



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Hampshire
County Council

Review/Context

- Full Condition Survey
- Heightened Flood Risk – February 2010

Major Works Programme

- £1.7m major engineering works programme in Surrey and Hampshire



Work Undertaken in Hampshire

- West Hart



- Dogmersfield

Appointment of Term Contractor

- Detailed programme of work in both counties
- Installation of 'Stop' Gates and Planks to reduce flood risk



Appointment of Term Contractor

- Predominantly lock repairs in Surrey and embankment repairs in Hampshire



Revenue Funding

- Mixed picture from funding partners
- Concern about long-term funding
- Measures to mitigate

Staffing Review

- To release revenue for important works
- Reducing number of Canal Rangers from 9 to 5
- Difficult but necessary measure, now nearing completion

Core Ranger Tasks

- Inspection and Monitoring
- Front-line 'customer' relations
- Education and Community Involvement
- Working with Volunteers
- Minor Works

Canal Volunteers

- Traditionally help with practical works
 - repairs and improvement
- Now working with volunteers on wider range of help
 - Managing boating, events, fundraising, office and shop support



Income Generation

- Business Plan for BCA
- Maximising income
 - events, licences
- Grants and contributions
 - e.g. Development
- Great benefits being part of new CCBS merged Department



Future Management Options

- Working with:
 - Blackwater Valley Countryside Management Partnership
 - Countryside Service's North Team



Opportunities through Changes Nationally

- A national waterways trust
- A local trust for the Basingstoke Canal?





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