

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 15 May 2022 21:40  
**To:** \_WEB\_Canals Strategy  
**Subject:** Canal through Chalford

**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.

Dear Team,

I've read the various documents you've produced and would be pleased if you would consider this response to the proposed canal restoration.

I can see the merit in developing the canals in the UK in a number of places and particularly in run-down urban areas. I also appreciate that the canals need a significant degree of interconnectedness to be viable for hobbyists that enjoy narrow boats. That said, as a resident of Chalford who enjoys the peace and tranquility of the section of canal that runs through Chalford and up to Bakers Mill and beyond, I am strongly against the proposed development.

I cannot see how the canal can connect communities better than the tarmac roads already present, and I can't see that section that runs through the village can be a hub for businesses. I've no idea how the 'crossings' influence anything. I bluntly, flatly, frankly don't believe that the development of the canals is 'green' and that you can preserve, never mind extend, the biodiversity of the region. Rather a habitat where I have photographed 10 different species of dragonfly (there are almost certainly more), and observed water shrews, dippers and kingfishers, blackcaps and goldcrests, treecreepers and woodpeckers, where there are carpets of wood anemones and a soft and glorious collection of mosses and ferns, would be lost forever.

I believe a much more inclusive use for the money would be to build safe cycle paths between the towns in the region, this would have much broader appeal and we would derive all the benefits obtaining from the activity.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]