

On behalf of:
Playing Out Pulteney Group
17 Pulteney Gardens
Bath
BA2 4HG

Canal & River Trust / Glandŵr Cymru
Llanthony Warehouse
The Docks
Gloucester
GL1 2EH

11th February 2022

Dear Mr Youe

I am writing to you as the co-ordinator and organiser of 'Playing Out' on Pulteney Grove, Widcombe. In doing so I am representing the views of the many families and children who live on the streets immediately surrounding the Bath Lock Flight stretch of the canal. I have communicated with them about the proposed plans to improve the towpath in this area and we support such proposals.

While we 'play out' on Pulteney Grove, the families included and invited to these sessions (and who are represented here) include those on:

Pulteney Gardens
Pulteney Grove
Pulteney Avenue
The Tynning
Tynning End
Horseshoe Walk
Sydney Buidlings
Abbey View
Lime Grove
Lime Grove Gardens
Rennie Close
and Darlington Street

From within this group alone, this stretch of canal serves as a commuter belt for children at the following schools:

Widcombe Infants
Widcombe Juniors
Bathwick St Mary
King Edwards School
Paragon
Hayesfield
Ralph Allen
Prior Park
Bathampton Primary

The canal is an important part of our everyday life and is used on a daily basis by children especially. It is a safe way for them to get to school and to other parts of town as there are no dangers from motor vehicles and also less pollution.

In poor weather however it can become dangerous. Pot holes and puddles often take up the entire path meaning that children and families can be forced to walk along the very edge of the canal in some areas - there is a real danger of them falling in. Also, as the path narrows there is less space for users and more friction between cyclists and pedestrians.

To avoid these problems, many families will choose instead to drive their children to school during the months of the year when the canal is more dangerous. Others will avoid the canal as a route to school and instead walk along the pavement along the busy A36 / Pulteney Road where pollution levels are notoriously high.

Disabled residents in the area have told me that they avoid the canal entirely as it is not safe or accessible for them in its current state.

An improvement to the surface of the towpath along this route - and a widening of it to allow both cyclists and pedestrians to use it in harmony, as well as become accessible for our disabled community, would have our full support.

I have also attached some individual letters of support from local residents.

Your Sincerely

Clair Short