

National Barge Travellers Association (NBTA):

Additional comments on Draft guidance to local housing authorities on the periodical review of housing needs: Caravans and Houseboats

1. Assessment of need must include assessment of the availability of and distances/ travel times between facilities such as water taps, rubbish disposal, chemical toilet sewage disposal and pump-out sewage disposal.
2. Assessment of need must include assessment of the level of threat of or actual eviction experienced by individual Barge Travellers. This means that any survey must include questions about current enforcement or eviction action that is being taken against them; over what time period and for Barge Travellers on Canal & River Trust waterways, whether their licence renewal has been restricted to less than 12 months.
3. Assessment of need on Canal & River Trust waterways must include assessment of access to temporary off-side moorings (ie moorings that are not on the towpath and thus not included in the right to moor for 14 days in any one place conferred by s.17(3)(c)(ii) of the British Waterways Act 1995) and whether such moorings are required for periods of longer than 14 days.

**National Barge Travellers Association
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