

Information for NBTA members about the CRT Census

This is the link to complete the census:

<https://canalrivertrust.welcomesyourfeedback.net/census22>

The census runs throughout August and September 2022. The deadline for completing it is 30th September 2022.

Why complete the CRT census?

The final 8 or so questions which come up for liveboards ask about difficulties in relation to accessing education, healthcare and benefits as well as problems around employment and care giving.

This survey offers a chance to set out to CRT any issues you have faced due to being a liveboard boater and - importantly - to highlight where CRT's enforcement policy, especially the 20 mile range requirement, interferes with basic parts of life such as putting kids through school, securing and maintaining work or acting as a carer. If enough people can use the census to tell CRT of their experiences then this will create a powerful platform to lobby CRT for change.

This really could be an opportunity to drive important messages to the Directors and Trustees at CRT but only if people fill in the census and set out the problems you face. Otherwise it may look to the CRT that there aren't any problems.

Although the UK 2021 Census did include those who live on a boat, boat dwellers are put in the same category as those who live in other mobile homes, so there will be no information from the census that is just relevant to boat dwellers, not even a total for the number of people who live on boats. The CRT census will count the number of people living on boats on CRT waterways, and this number can be used to estimate the overall number of people living on boats in the UK.

Anonymity

The census is both voluntary and anonymous and is not linked to your boat licence or customer number. If you are worried that it might not be anonymous, use the above link and complete it on a computer that belongs to a friend who doesn't live on a boat, rather than using your own phone or laptop and rather than using a shared computer in a library.

These are the questions in the census:

Boater "census" survey - we know about your boat, but we want to understand more about you.

Through the boat licensing and boat safety scheme processes, we know quite a lot about the 37,000+ boats that are on our network, for example the size, type and even the age of boats.

However, we don't know very much about the people using the boats on our waterways and what they are using them for. This survey has been designed to help us understand more about you and the challenges you face, for example, raising a family on the waters,

boating with disabilities or how you access services such as health services. Your responses will help inform our work and help us understand our different customers needs. It will also help others, like local authorities and health service providers, to understand and ensure your needs are met.

You will have the option to save your responses and return to the survey at a later time which means you do not have to complete it in one sitting.

The survey takes about 15 minutes to complete and is completely anonymous. No personal data that can identify you is recorded unless you volunteer it in your written responses. Your data will not be used by anyone other than the Canal and River Trust and in accordance with its privacy policy (opens in new window). This survey is also conducted in accordance with the Market Research Society Code of Conduct.

The survey has been put together in collaboration with (liveaboard) boaters on the CRT Council and Navigation Advisory Group. We want to understand about everyone on your boat - not just you, so please consider everyone on your boat when answering. You might prefer to complete it together with others who are on your boat.

About your boat

The type of boat and how it is used is relevant to the services we provide and how we maintain the waterway network. At present we have no details about what boats are used for so these questions are designed to help us understand this.

Please remember the answers you give are anonymous and cannot be linked to you or your boat

What type of boat do you have?

A narrow boat

A widebeam boat

A cabin cruiser

Other (please specify)

What material is the boat primarily made of?

Steel

Wood

Fibre glass

Other

How many people can sleep on your boat?

Please indicate the number of people who can sleep in any fixed beds.

0

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10 or more

Please indicate the number of people who can sleep in beds that can be converted, for example sofa/pull-out beds

0

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10 or more

Does your boat currently have any of the following? Please select all that apply

Solid fuel stove

Paraffin heater

Diesel stove

Solar panels

Solid fuel cooking (range or aga for example)

Cassette toilet

Gas for cooking

Pump-out toilet

Gas boiler for heating

Incinerator toilet

Electric heating

Separator toilet (also known as compost toilet)

Diesel heating

None of these

Diesel/petrol generator

Other

Are you planning to install any of the following?

Diesel stove

Paraffin heater

Solid fuel cooking (range or aga for example)

Pump-out toilet

Gas boiler for heating

Incinerator toilet

Electric heating

Separator toilet (also known as compost toilet)

Diesel heating

None of these

Diesel/petrol generator

Other

Have you experienced any mechanical issues with your boat in the past 12 months?

Yes

No

Prefer not to say

Mechanical Problems: What happened, and is there anything that might help should something like this happen again in the future?

(Please give a description of what happened, any problems you faced while getting it fixed, and if there is anything which would have made the situation better).

Which of the following options best describes how you use your boat most of the time?

I use it to cruise the waterways in my leisure time

As a holiday home

As a temporary home

As a temporary home where I live when I'm at work

As a second home where I live for extended periods / as an alternative to my main residence

As my only home

Other

How long have you been living on your current boat for?

Less than a year

More than 1 year but less than 3 years

More than 3 years but less than 5 years

More than 5 years but less than 10 years

More than 10 years

If you have lived on other boats before this one, how long for?

This is the first boat I've lived on

Previous boat/s less than a year

Previous boat/s more than 1 year but less than 3 years

Previous boat/s more than 3 years but less than 5 years

Previous boat/s more than 5 years but less than 10 years

Previous boat/s more than 10 years

What are your main motivations for living on a boat? (select all that apply)

I am attracted to the waterway environment (e.g. wildlife, boats, tranquillity etc)

The waterway community

I can go cruising whenever I feel like it

So that I can live and work from my boat

It offers me an alternative to mainstream living

Personal/family reasons

It offers me a more sustainable low-impact living

It is more affordable for me

Other

If "Other" please specify

Please select which best describes you?

A boater with a permanent mooring who lives aboard most of the year – my boat is my primary residence

A leisure boater with a permanent mooring

A continuous cruiser who lives aboard most of the year – my boat is my primary residence

A continuous cruiser who does not live aboard most of the year – my boat is not my primary residence

Other

Please select which of the following best describes how you feel

I have no plans to ever take a permanent mooring, I always want to continuously cruise

I have no plans to take a permanent mooring, but I may/do take a mooring during winter months

I don't plan to take a permanent mooring any time soon, but am interested in a permanent mooring at some time in the future

I am actively looking for a permanent mooring now

I have no plans to stop continuously cruising at the moment but plan to move off my boat into land based accommodation at some point in the future

I am actively looking to move off my boat into land based accommodation now

Where do you typically do most of your boating? Over the past 12 months please indicate which regions you have boated in.

Select all that apply

East Midlands

London & South East

North West

Wales & South West

West Midlands

Yorkshire & North East

None of the above/have been unable to boat/other

Please indicate which waterways in XXX area you used. Select the ONE used most often.

When you licence your boat, we collect minimal information (name, contact details) about the licence holder, but we don't know anything about who else is on the boat. Although the

UK census does include those who live on a boat, boat dwellers are put in the same category as those who live in other mobile homes, so we can't extract any information from the census that is just relevant to boat dwellers.

Understanding who and how many people live on boats on our waterways will help us better understand what and where facilities/services are needed.

Please note that your answers remain anonymous and cannot be traced back to an individual or a boat, so please answer as honestly and fully as you can.

How many adults live on your boat as their primary residence?

For adults (over 16 years of age) indicate how many there are in the age bands (Type in a number for each age group - it will totalise at the bottom of the page)

16-24

25-34

35-44

45-54

55-64

65-74

1

75+

There are a total of 1 adults on your boat? If this is correct, please click "Next" to continue. Otherwise amend the values in the above table.

Do you have any children living aboard (anyone under the age of 16)

Yes

No

Prefer not to say

How many children live on your boat as their primary residence?

For children (under 16 years of age) indicate how many there are in the age bands (Type in a number for each age group - it will totalise at the bottom of the page or skip if not relevant)

Aged 0-2

Aged 3-5

Aged 6-11

Aged 12-15

There are a total of 1 adults and 0 children on your boat? If this is correct, please click "Next" to continue. Otherwise amend the values in the above table or go back to change the values for adults if necessary.

Do you have any animals living on board your boat?

Yes

No

Prefer not to say

Select which animal or animals you have.

Dog(s)

Cat(s)

Other

Issues and challenges you face

The following questions are intended to give you an opportunity to tell us about any specific issues or challenges that you experience as a liveaboard boater.

The information collected will help us to identify and better understand problems faced by boaters. Knowing this information will be an important step in helping us to work with others to address them, so please do answer as fully and honestly as possible.

Please note that your answers remain anonymous and cannot be traced back to an individual or a boat, so please answer as honestly and fully as you can.

Has living on a boat created any issues or challenges for you or someone on your boat related to employment/work?

Yes

No

Prefer not to say

N/A

Employment/work issues or challenges: Can you tell us more, and if you have had more than one challenge, please give all the details in the box below, together with anything that would have helped?

Has living on a boat created any issues or challenges for you or someone on your boat related to accessing health services?

Yes

No

Prefer not to say

N/A

Accessing health services: Can you tell us more and if you have had more than one challenge, please give all the details in the box below, together with anything that would have helped?

Has living on a boat created any issues or challenges for you or someone on your boat related to caring responsibilities?

Yes

No

Prefer not to say

N/A

Caring responsibilities: Can you tell us more and if you have had more than one challenge, please give all the details in the box below, together with anything that would have helped?

Has living on a boat created any issues or challenges for you or someone on your boat related to having a baby?

Yes

No

Prefer not to say

N/A

Having a baby: Can you tell us more and if you have had more than one challenge, please give all the details in the box below, together with anything that would have helped?

Has living on a boat created any issues or challenges for you or someone on your boat related to accessing education?

Yes

No

Prefer not to say

N/A

Education: Can you tell us more and if you have had more than one challenge, please give all the details in the box below, together with anything that would have helped?

Has living on a boat created any issues or challenges for you or someone on your boat related to accessing financial services (e.g. banking/loans)?

Yes

No

Prefer not to say

N/A

Financial services: Can you tell us more and if you have had more than one challenge, please give all the details in the box below, together with anything that would have helped?

Has living on a boat created any issues or challenges for you or someone on your boat related to accessing financial help (e.g. accessing benefits)?

Yes

No

Prefer not to say

N/A

Financial help: Can you tell us more and if you have had more than one challenge, please give all the details in the box below, together with anything that would have helped?

Have you faced any issues or challenges living aboard your boat for you or someone on your boat related to a disability or long-term health condition?

Yes

No

Prefer not to say

N/A

Disability/long-term health: Can you tell us more and if you have had more than one challenge, please give all the details in the box below, together with anything that would have helped?

Have you faced any other challenges living aboard your boat?

Yes

No

Prefer not to say

N/A

Other challenges: Can you tell us more and if you have had more than one challenge, please give all the details in the box below, together with anything that would have helped?

Page 25/42

"Standard Questions"

This section is all about basic things like gender, health and work. These are the kinds of things that are used to ensure that we are representing a true picture in this study and also to ensure that the right kinds of support and services are available.

The information cannot be linked to your boat....but if you prefer, just say "prefer not to say".

How many people of each gender are on your boat, including yourself? Type in the total number of people for each gender category.

Male

Female

Transgender

Other

Prefer not to say

Please indicate how many people identifying with the following ethnic group or background are on your boat. Type in the total number of people for each ethnicity category.

White: English

White: Welsh

White: Scottish

White: Northern Irish

White: Irish

White: British

White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller

White: Any other White background

Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups: White and Black Caribbean

Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups: White and Black African

Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups: White and Asian

Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups: Any other Mixed/Multiple ethnic background

Asian/Asian British: Asian/Asian British

Asian/Asian British: Indian

Asian/Asian British: Pakistani

Asian/Asian British: Bangladeshi

Asian/Asian British: Chinese

Asian/Asian British: Any other Asian background

Black/ African/Caribbean/Black British: Black/ African/Caribbean/Black British

Black/ African/Caribbean/Black British: African

Black/ African/Caribbean/Black British: Caribbean

Black/ African/Caribbean/Black British: Any other Black/African/Caribbean

Arab

Any other ethnic group

Prefer not to say

If anyone on your boat considers themselves to be any of the following, please indicate how many.

Gypsy or traveller

New traveller or new age traveller

Bargee

Fairground or circus family, known as travelling showmen

None of the above

Prefer not to say

Are day-to-day activities for you, or anyone else on your boat, limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months?

Yes, limited a lot

Yes, limited a little

No

Prefer not to say

N/A

Please indicate how many people on your boat describe their current status as follows:

Employed full-time (30 hours or more per week)

Employed part-time

Self employed

Unemployed

Full-time student

Full-time homemaker or carer

Full-time homemaker with dependent children

Full-time home maker with no dependent children

I do voluntary work

Work experience

Retired

Prefer not to say

Other

Are you or anyone else on your boat currently receiving Statutory Sick Pay?

Yes

No

Prefer not to say

Are you currently receiving any of the following?
Please tick all that apply or skip if not applicable

Employment and Support Allowance

Job Seekers Allowance

Income Support or Incapacity Benefit

Personal Independence Payment (PIP)

Universal Credit

Pension / Pension credit

Carers Allowance

Other similar benefits

Prefer not to say

How easy did you find this survey to complete?
Rate anywhere on this scale

Very Difficult

Very Easy

Is there anything we could change to improve this survey?

ENDS