

CRT'S LICENCE INCREASES TARGET ITINERANT BOATERS

CRT have been putting up our licence fees over the last two years and they plan to further increase this over the next five years. Our licences went up 8% last year, 9% this year, and they plan to put them up another 14% on that already vastly inflated figure next year. That is a staggering increase of a third (34% compounded increase) in just three years, with further increases planned. On top of this CRT are introducing a 'surcharge' for boats without a home mooring. They haven't announced how much more itinerant boaters will have to pay yet but we don't expect it to be a nominal fee.

This differential pricing based on your mooring status is part of a thinly veiled objective to price itinerant boaters off the water.

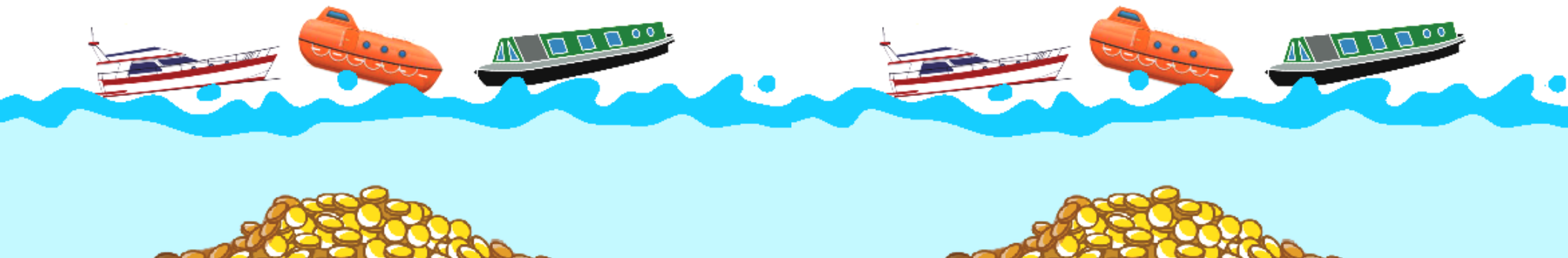
CRT claims that this differential licence proposal is the 'fairest' way to reduce their current financial problems and maintain the crumbling waterways infrastructure. But those financial problems and the precarious nature of the waterways are due to their mismanagement. Whether it's spending money on vanity projects like a new logo or paying subcontractors hundreds of thousands of pounds to enforce their ill-conceived mooring schemes, CRT's finances are in tatters because of their own negligence.

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When it comes to claims of 'fairness' it doesn't take long to see that for CRT, 'fairness' is just a deceptive term they use to hide their real agenda – marginalising, penalising and eliminating boaters without a home mooring. Whenever they talk about 'fairness' it is always a preamble to making our lives more difficult. CRT have proved that they cannot be trusted; they cannot be trusted with their finances, they cannot be trusted with keeping the waterways system maintained and they cannot be trusted with our well being.

We believe this to be the largest orchestrated attack on our way of life in years and we are going to stand strong and vociferously oppose it. We want you to stand with us.

Join the NBTA to have your say (<https://www.barge-traveller.org.uk/membership/>) and tell us if you oppose CRT's latest proposal. If so, what you are prepared to do to fight it?

We are currently balloting our members with a survey to see if the membership wants to oppose CRT's decision and if so what action they want to take.

From the results of the ballot we will discuss and plan what to do next in an open campaign meeting on the Monday 9th October at 7pm Online, it can be accessed online via: <https://8x8.vc/nbta/nbta>

Alternatively, you can use the dial in details:
Dial-in: +44 330 808 1706 PIN: 45925961#

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