



## CONSULTATION:

# TEMPORARY CHANGES TO MOORING IN PADDINGTON BASIN & LITTLE VENICE POOL

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February 2014

### 1. Introduction

We are considering a trial of temporary changes to mooring arrangements in Paddington Basin and the Little Venice Pool, to meet a range of different mooring needs during this summer's cruising season.

The changes being considered include re-designating some mooring space to provide additional visitor moorings, investigating installation of water points, and moorings for trade boats. If there is support for these changes, we propose to trial these arrangements for approximately 6 months.

We are inviting your views to find out whether there is support for such changes. We are consulting with a range of boating interests and other stakeholders (see attached schedule), and aim to make decisions on these potential changes when the consultation is complete.

**Please submit all comments and views to us by 9am on Monday 3 March 2014.** You can find details of how to submit comments in the Section 4 headed 'Tell us what you think'.

### 2. Why are we proposing changes?

The Trust has heard from a variety of boating groups about the need for different types of moorings in Paddington Basin and the Little Venice Pool. This includes:

- providing greater capacity to accommodate visiting boats
- considering moorings for trade boats in front of Paddington Station to bring vitality and vibrancy to the towpath and make the most of the high footfall
- providing additional facilities (e.g. water points) for boaters, to supplement those at the Little Venice visitor moorings

We have been working with the Better Relationships on the Waterways in London Group (BRG) to address a wide range of boating needs over the past 15 months. The BRG is developing proposals to help us improve the way Designated Visitor Moorings are managed in the central London area. To support this work, we are testing views on how mooring space might best be used in Paddington Basin and the Little Venice Pool. This will help us to balance the range of needs expressed by our boating customers.

### 3. What are we proposing?

#### We are proposing to:

- a. Allow mooring alongside Rembrandt Gardens in the Little Venice Pool, to provide two casual moorings (14 day stay)
- b. Investigate the possibility of installing water points in the Paddington Basin Arm, and changing a casual mooring (14 day) to 'water point waiting only' to accommodate this
- c. Change three visitor moorings in front of Paddington Station to 'trade moorings'
- d. Allow double mooring of narrow boats at the Paddington Basin Visitor Moorings (alongside St. Mary's Hospital pontoon only), thus providing 4 new visitor moorings.

The proposed changes are shown in the attached plan, and described in more detail below:

#### **a) Mooring alongside Rembrandt Gardens**

##### *Existing situation*

At present, mooring is not allowed alongside Rembrandt Gardens without special permission. This area has been used to accommodate our own work boats, and there is one allocated berth for community boats to set down and pick up passengers. Our intention is to add two casual (14 day) moorings here.

##### *Why change?*

- This space is under-used, especially out of season.
- There is a need for additional mooring space for visitors and casual use.
- Using this space could bring additional activity and vibrancy to the Little Venice Pool.

##### *Proposals*

- Introduce two new casual moorings (14 day stay), to compensate for the potential installation of a water point mooring in the Paddington Basin Arm.

#### **b) Water point moorings in Paddington Basin arm**

##### *Existing situation*

The length of towpath from Harrow Road (Bridge 2) to Bishops Bridge Road (Bridge 1) is available for casual mooring (14 days), apart from locations that are allocated for commercial moorings or Canal & River Trust operational moorings. There is a number of service bollards in this stretch, providing electricity and water to people who have paid for commercial moorings. We intend to investigate whether it is possible to install a water point in this location, for the use of all boaters. This will require a casual mooring to be re-designated to 'water point waiting only' to accommodate this.

##### *Why change?*

- There is a need for more water points in the area, and under-used service points provide an opportunity to improve facilities for boaters.

### *Proposals*

- Investigate the possibility of installing water points at existing service bollards close to Harrow Road (Bridge 1).
- Re-designate a 14 day casual mooring as a service mooring ('water point waiting only'), should a new water point be installed.

## **c) Trade moorings in front of Paddington Station entrance**

### *Existing situation*

The Paddington Basin Visitor Moorings start at Bishops Bridge Road (Bridge 1), and extend to the end of the Basin. The area in front of the new entrance to Paddington Station, providing access to the Hammersmith & City and Circle Lines, is also part of the designated Visitor Mooring. The signage for the Visitor Mooring is incorrectly located adjacent to the Paddington Station entrance, instead of its correct location adjacent to Bridge 1. The area in front of the station is a busy area with high footfall, and has become popular with trade boats. This brings vibrancy and colour to the towpath, and draws people towards Little Venice.

### *Why change?*

- The area in front of the station has a high footfall, and traders have told us it is an attractive trading location.
- Introducing moorings for traders brings vibrancy and colour to the towpath in front of the station. It is a good means of encouraging new interest and support for waterways amongst passers-by.
- The Visitor Mooring signage is unclear about where the Visitor Mooring starts, but there are restrictions about where signage can be installed. A clearer and more obvious gateway to the Visitor Mooring would be the white footbridge.

### *Proposals*

- Re-designate three visitor moorings as new moorings for traders.
- Compensate for this by allowing double mooring for visitors against the pontoon adjacent to St. Mary's Hospital.

## **d) Double berthing alongside St. Mary's Hospital**

### *Existing situation*

The Paddington Basin Visitor Moorings allow for single berthing of boats only. Beyond the white footbridge, mooring is allowed against two pontoons on the northern side of the basin, on moorings rings alongside the Marks & Spencer building close to the end of the Basin, and alongside the pontoon adjacent to St. Mary's Hospital on the southern side of the Basin.

### *Why change?*

- There is high demand for mooring in Paddington Basin

- There is sufficient space in the Basin to maintain a minimum operating channel as well as accommodating double berthing on the pontoon alongside the Hospital
- Using the mooring more effectively will help accommodate the high level of demand for different types of mooring.

#### *Proposals*

- Allow double mooring alongside the St. Mary's Hospital pontoon to provide four new visitor moorings (7 day stay, as existing).

## **4. Tell us what you think**

We'd like to hear your views on these proposals. In particular, we would like to know:

- i) In general, do you support the temporary changes we are proposing?
- ii) How suitable are the proposed mooring locations for the uses we are trying to accommodate?
- iii) Do you, or any group you represent, have any needs or requirements that we have overlooked and should be trying to accommodate?
- iv) Do you have any other comments on the proposals?

Please submit your views by **9am, Monday 3 March 2014** by using our short online survey at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CRTPaddingtonBasin>

If you have any queries about these proposals, please contact:

[enquiries.london@canalrivertrust.org.uk](mailto:enquiries.london@canalrivertrust.org.uk)

## **5. What happens next?**

Your comments and views will help us decide whether mooring arrangements should be changed, and if so, how these could be made.

The timetable for the consultation is as follows:

10 February	Consultation opens
3 March	Consultation closes
March	Results analysed and proposals revised if needed
1 April	Proposed implementation of changes

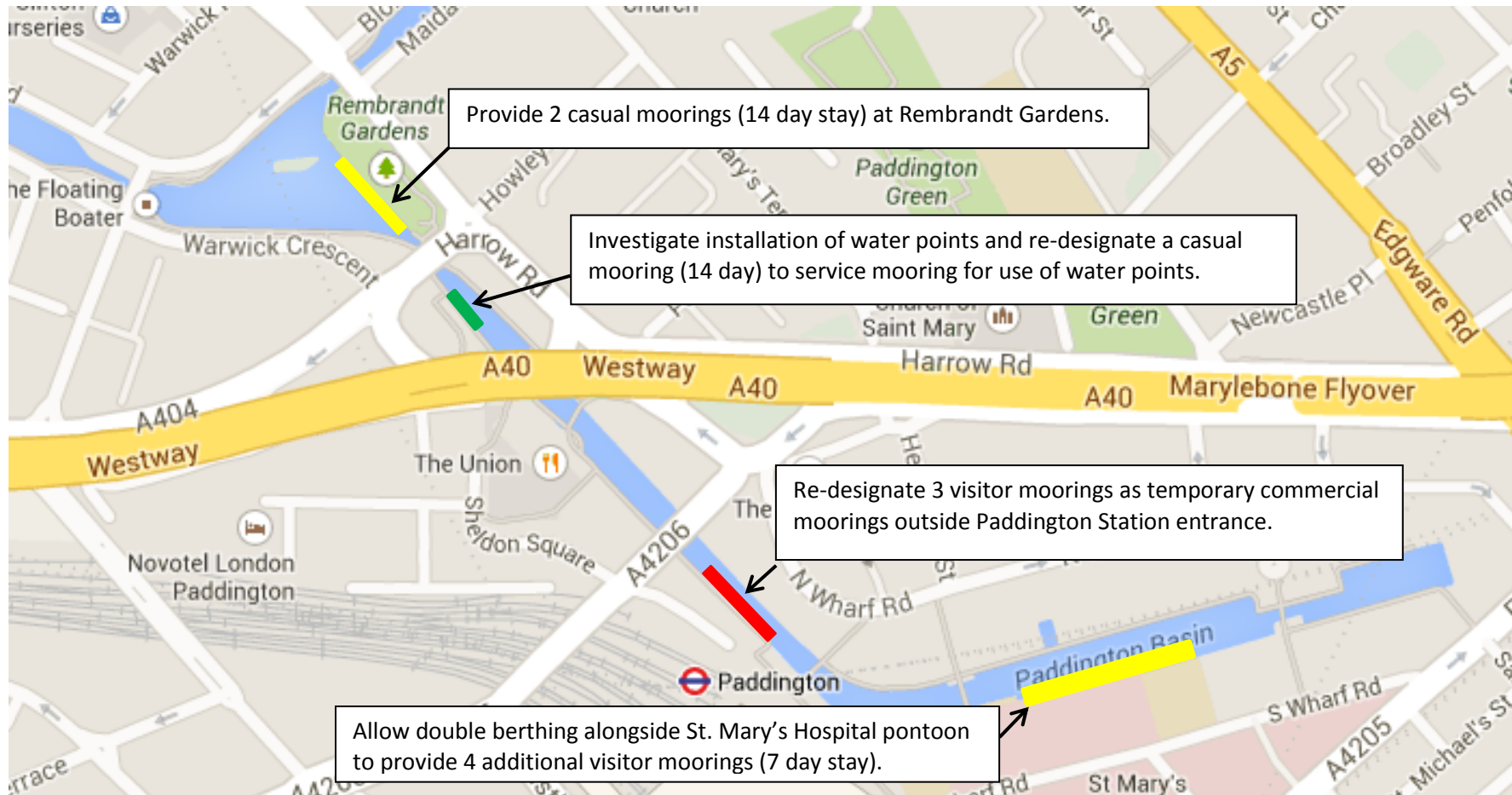


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## PROPOSALS FOR TEMPORARY MOORING CHANGES AT PADDINGTON BASIN / LITTLE VENICE

February 2014



**SCHEDULE OF CONSULTEES**

<b>ORGANSIATION</b>	<b>ORGANISATION</b>
Angel Community Canal Boat Trust	Islington Boat Club
Association of Continuous Cruisers	Jason's Trip Boat
Association of Pleasure Craft Operators	Jenny Wren
Better Relationships on the Waterways in London Group	Jessie (hotel boat)
Black Prince Holidays	Laburnum Boat Club
BMF Tourism	Lady A (trip boat)
British Canoe Union	Lee & Stort Boat Company Ltd
British Marine Federation	London Boaters
Broadgate Estates	London Waterbus Company
Broxbourne Cruising Club	National Association of Boat Owners
Camden Community Narrowboats Association	National Bargee Travellers Association
European Land	Paddington Waterside Partnership
East London Canal Boats	Pirate Castle
The Floating Boater	Puppet Barge
Friends of Regent's Canal	Ramney Marsh Cruising Club
Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust	Residential Boat Owners Association
Inland Waterways Association (London Region)	St.Pancras Cruising Club
Inland Waterways Association (national)	West London Motor Boat Club