

## WATERWAYS & WELLBEING

Wellbeing on the Doorstep – Making Life Better by Water

Heather Clarke

Strategy, Engagement & Impact Director

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National wellbeing Community wellbeing Personal wellbeing PEOPLE PLACE SOCIETY



## Presentation





- Introduction to the Trust & Wellbeing
- WHY we measure
- WHAT we measure
- HOW we measure
- Findings & Insights .... Learnt so far .....

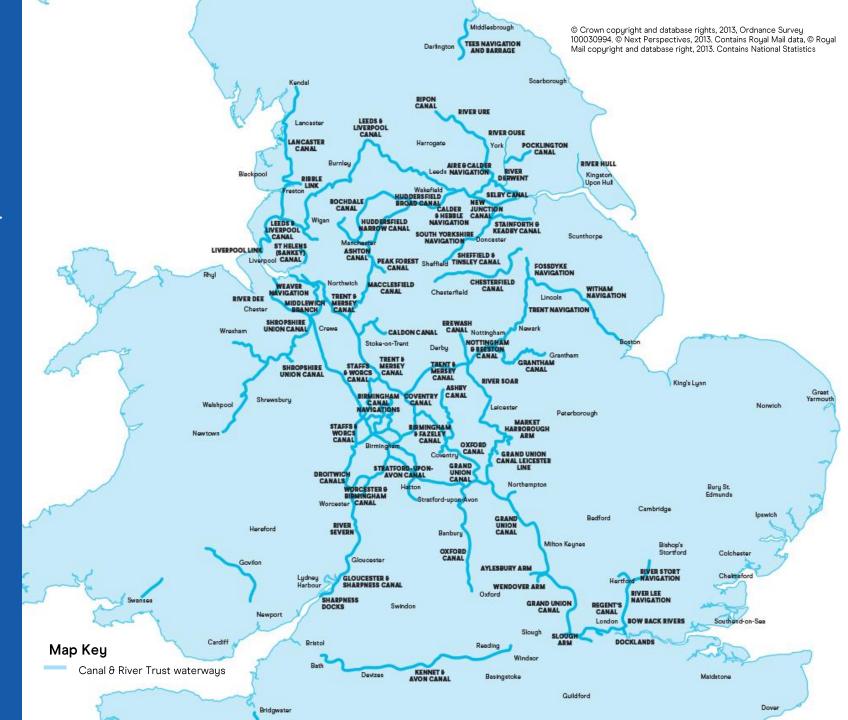


Formed in July 2012, largest transfer to third sector, 15 year contract with Government

**2,000 miles** of historic canals and river navigations, plus several docks, 72 reservoirs in England & Wales – equates to two thirds of the national network

Third largest historic estate in the UK

**4.3 million regular users** ∂ 15-**20 million** unique visitors pa



# Our Purpose Waterways and Wellbeing Trust

**OUR VISION** 

Living waterways transform places and enrich lives **CARING FOR THE** WATERWAYS & **SECURING THEIR FUTURE** 











**MEASURABLE OUTCOMES -DEVELOPING BROADER ENGAGEMENT & SUPPORT** 





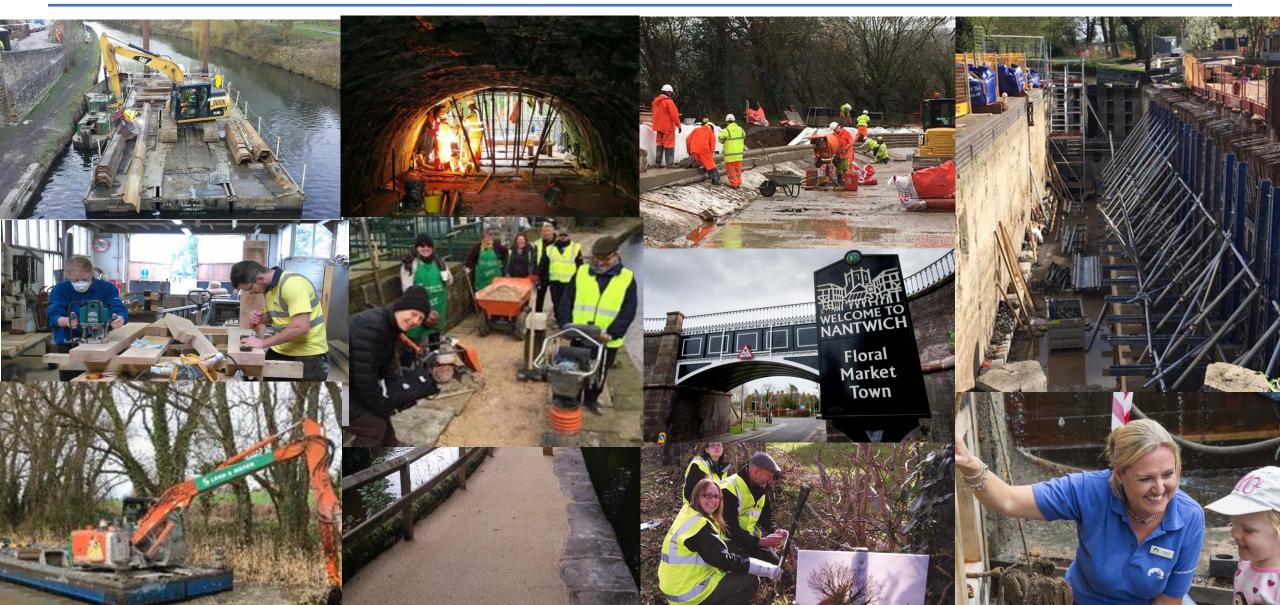






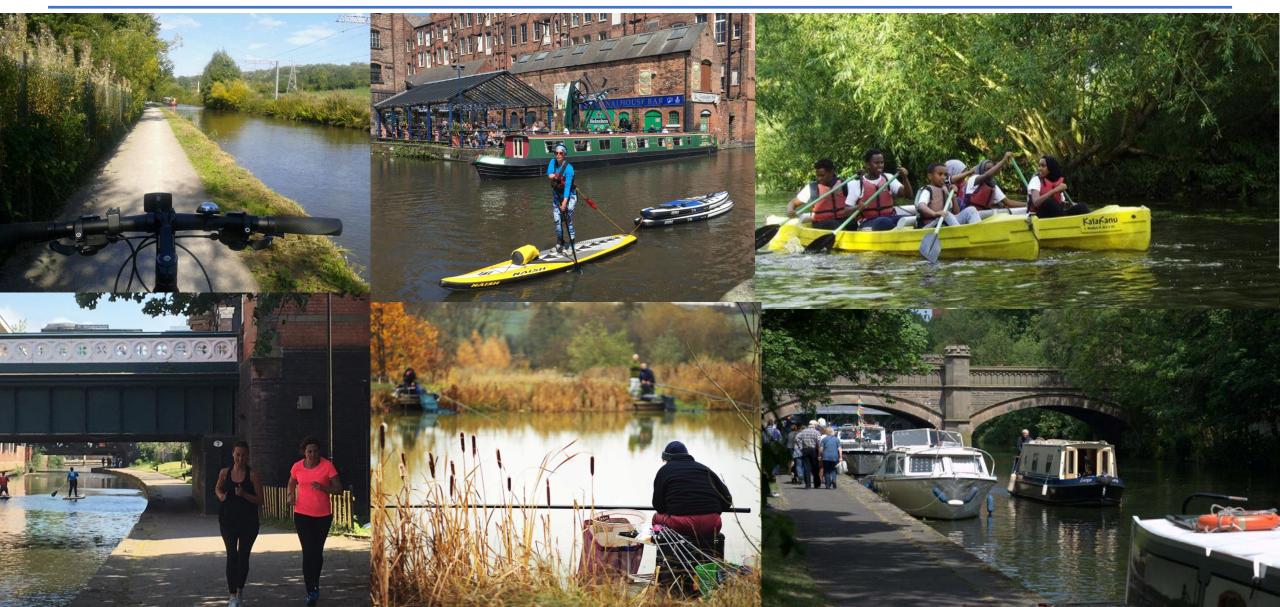


# Caring for the Waterways .....





## Means lots more of this.....



## What does Wellbeing mean for us .....



Health,
Wellbeing
& Happiness



Engaged
People &
Cohesive
Communities



Learning & Enhancing Skills



Prosperous & Connected Places



Green & Blue Futures



## Health, Wellbeing & Happiness





**Physical Health** 

Mental Health, Wellbeing & Happiness



## **Engaged People & Cohesive Communities**

Community Ownership – Volunteering & Adoptions



Broadening Opportunities & Inclusivity

Community Rehabilitation



# Learning & Enhancing Skills





**Education** 

Skills & Lifelong Learning



## **Prosperous & Connected Places**

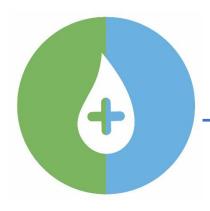






**Economic Growth** 

Regeneration & Development



## **Green & Blue Futures**



**Sustainable Transport** 





Renewable Energy & Water Resourcing



## **Cultural & Environmental Assets**





**Culture & Heritage** 

Biodiversity & Environmental stewardship



## Being on the Doorstep

## "Wellbeing On Your Doorstep" - Our Offer

What we can potentially offer local communities is free of charge and

open to everyone



- Beauty on Your Doorstep happiness
- Natural Health Service on Your
   Doorstep physical and mental health
   wellbeing therapeutic space
- Safe, healthy and sustainable route on Your Doorstep - local connectivity (car free, cleaner air, etc)
- Nature on Your Doorstep
- Sense of Belonging, Identity & Place



## WATERWAYS & WELLBEING

## WHY & WHAT we measure

- Prove Improve Story
- Breadth not Depth
- Our Outcomes Measurement Framework (OMF)















## River Trust WHY we measure - WELLBEING

#### Why we are measuring outcomes & communicating impacts

#### **Evidence**

Waterways & the Trust transform places & enrich lives

#### **Improve**

Insight & Trust performance

#### Story

Consistent & credible narrative

Access Voluntary & Statutory Funding – Wider Reach, Local Connections & Relevance – Stronger Policy Position & Authoritative Voice – Greater Influence – Enhancing Brand Recognition



### WHAT we measure - BREADTH

#### Waterways

Cross-cutting wellbeing

Social wellbeing

Economic wellbeing

Environmental wellbeing

Cultural wellbeing

**Progress** 

**Prosperity** 

Resilience

Belonging

## **Breadth not Depth**



## River Trust WHAT we measure - SOURCE

#### **Outcomes Generation**

Multi-functional nature

Added value of Trust

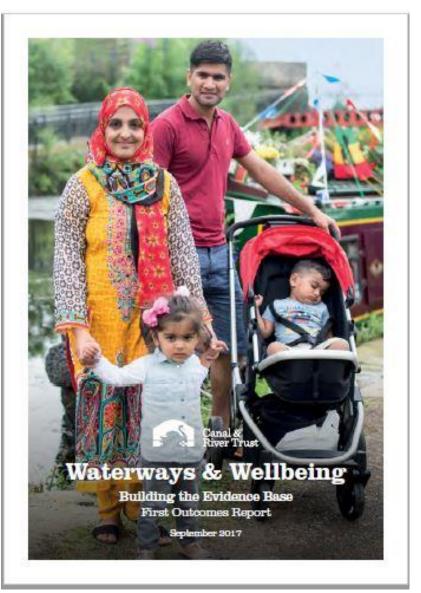
Platform for others

Partnerships

### **Outcomes Measurement**



## WHAT we measure - OMF





Health, Wellbeing & Happiness



Engaged People & Cohesive Communities



Learning & Enhancing Skills



Prosperous & Connected Places



Green & Blue Futures



Cultural & Environmental Assets Physical Health

Mental Health & Wellbeing

Community Engagement

Broadening Opportunities & Inclusivity

Community Safety

Education

Skills & Lifelong Learning

Economic Growth

Regeneration & Development

Sustainable Transport

Renewable Energy

Water Resourcing

Cultural & Heritage

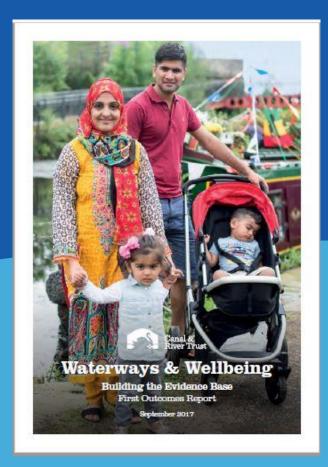
Biodiversity & Environment Stewardship



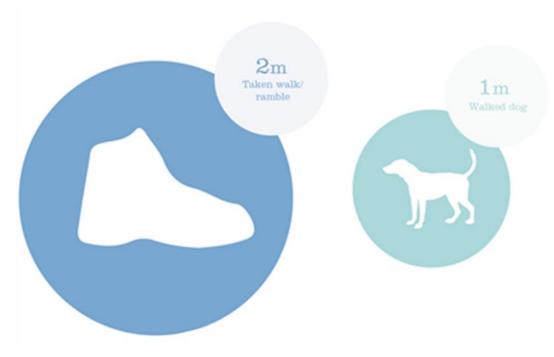
## WATERWAYS & WELLBEING

## HOW we measure

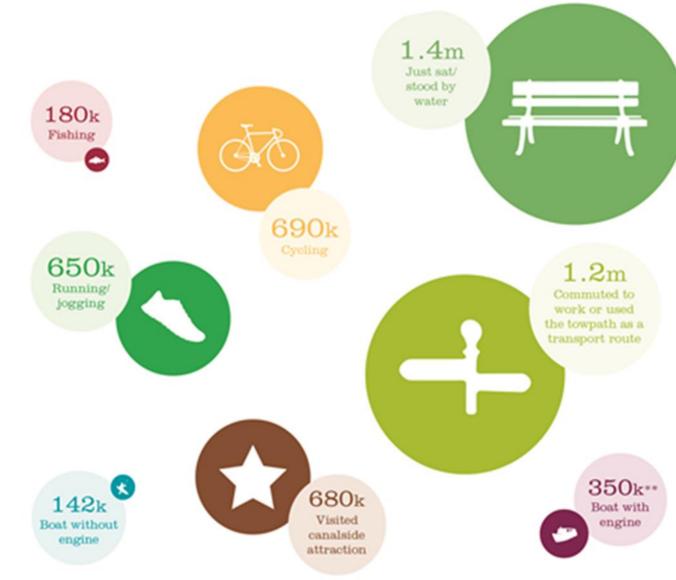
- Baseline & Governance
- Measurement tools & data sources
- Filling the knowledge gaps



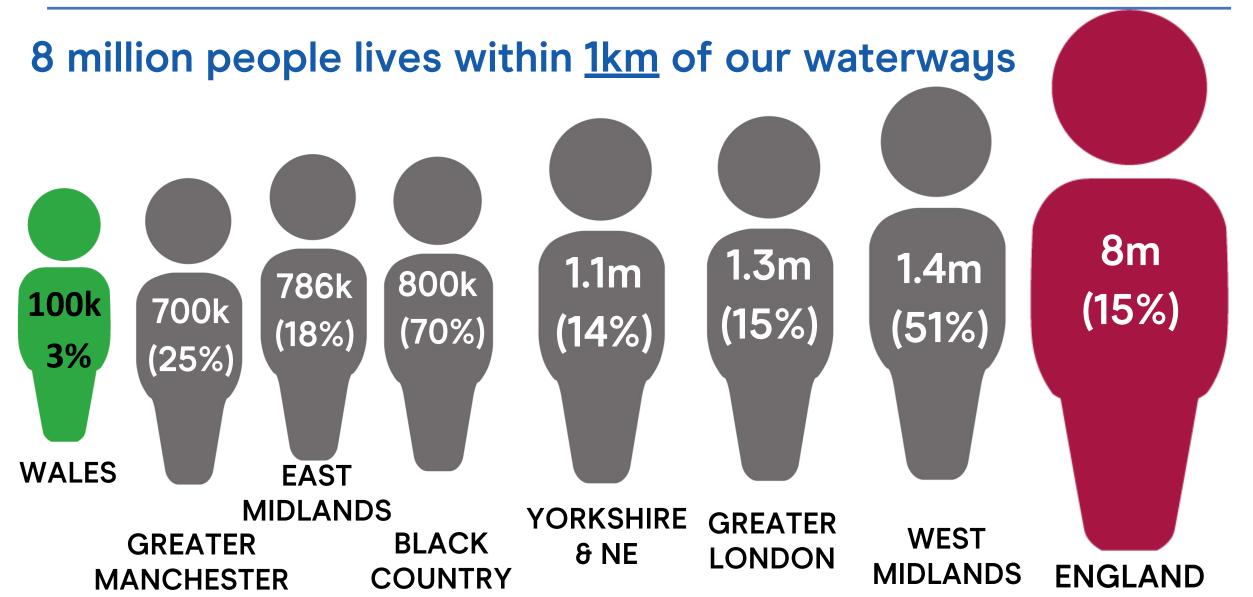




Estimated 4.3m regular users
Up to 400m visits each year
c.15-20m unique visitors

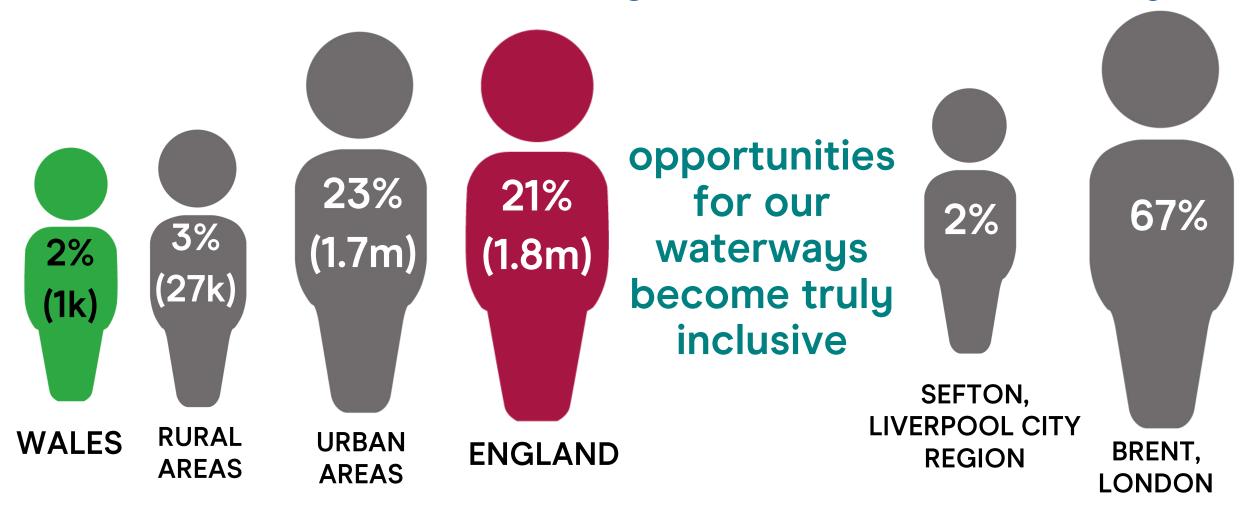






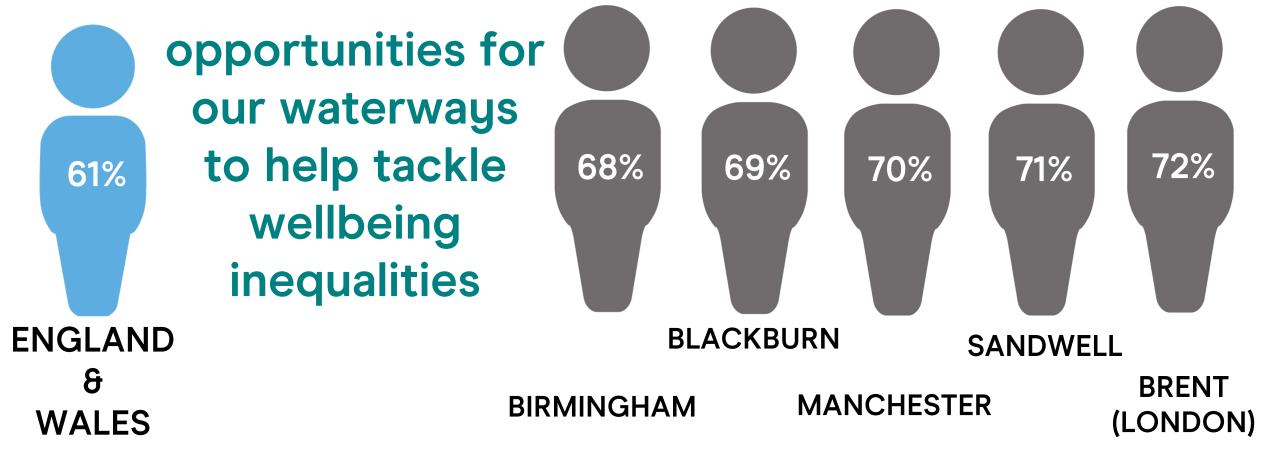


### 19% within 1km from BAME background, versus 14% nationally





61% of households within 1km of our waterways are deprived, above national & LA average





### River Trust HOW we measure - OUR APPROACH



 GOVERNANCE - External Reference Group to provide rigour & policy insight



Not affordable or realistic to measure everywhere & everything

### HOW we measure - LSAs & Outcomes Focus

 14 Longitudinal Study Areas & 2 Counterfactual Areas – Local Community Surveys; towpath intercept surveys; towpath sensors

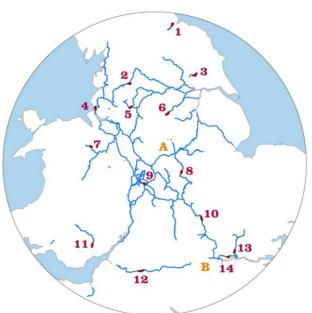
9 areas with potential reach & impact –
 PPL Community Roots Programmes















## HOW we measure - TOOLS

**National** 

Local

**Project** 

Towpath measurement (Volume & Pattern of Use)

Waterway Engagement Monitor (WEM) Research tools (Attitudinal, behavioural and motivation based surveys, etc)

National models with local application

e-Project evaluation toolkit

Standard evaluation plans for day-to-day activities

Monetisation (Employing economic valuation methodologies)

Storytelling (Repository of evidence)



## HOW we measure - WEM



- Online monthly national survey Customer / user satisfaction; community participation; brand, support & advocacy
- Adaptation of existing tool
- Four ONS measures of subjective wellbeing
- Demographics
- Self-reporting & perception indicators linked to four domains











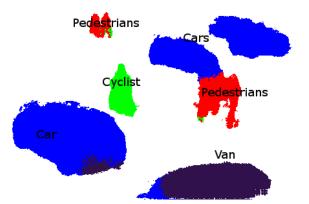
# Canal & HOW we measure - TP SENSORS





- Supporting multiple of outcome indicators
- Measurement of volume & type of towpath use Video Analytics for Usage Monitoring



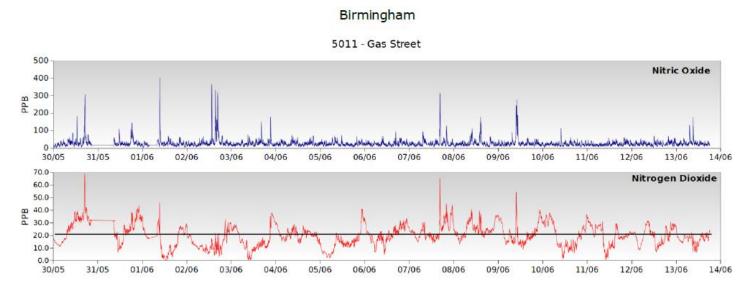






## River Trust HOW we measure – AQ SENSORS

- 12 air quality sensors installed on towpaths in 6 major cities: Birmingham, Leicester Liverpool, London, Manchester & Sheffield
- Monitoring CO, NOx, temperature, noise and humidity
- 6 sensors being installed in roadside locations to allow for direct comparison of pollutant levels on towpaths and roads





### **HOW** we measure – PROJECT EVALUATION

#### **Families of Project & Activity Types**



- Suite of qualitative and quantitative tools Designed & tested
- Standard Evaluation Plans for Day to Day Activities e.g. Volunteering



"No numbers without stories, no stories without numbers"





### River Trust HOW we measure - MONETISATION



#### THE GREEN BOOK

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE ON APPRAISAL AND EVALUATION

- Monetising the benefits Employing economic valuation methodologies, with preference given to techniques that are included in HM Treasury's Green Book. E.g. WHO Health Economic Assessment Tool (HEAT)
- Ratio leverage (Government Grant levers £ in fiscal value, economic value & social value)



### River Trust HOW we measure – FILLING KNOWLEDGE GAPS

Understanding motivations & barriers to community use





Volunteers & Motivations



Mental health benefits of waterways





## WATERWAYS & WELLBEING

# Findings & Insights – so far .....

- Challenges & Barriers
- Motivations
- Subjective Wellbeing (Personal)

National wellbeing

Community wellbeing

Personal wellbeing

PEOPLE

PLACE

SOCIETY



## River Trust Findings & Insights – OUR CHALLENGE

Engaging non-users living within 1km of waterway in metropolitan & urban areas

WATERWAY USERS

Value Waterways MOST Positively

GENERAL PUBLIC AT NATIONAL LEVEL

ROSE TINTED view of waterways

NON-USERS LIVING WITHIN
1KM OF AN URBAN WATERWAY

Value Waterways LEAST Positively



## Findings & Insights - BARRIERS

### Two barriers cut across all demographics

- Lack of feeling safe & secure
- Not a pleasant, appealing environment



Discarded syringes, human excrement and piles of rubbish - the 'disgusting' sights which greeted visitors along Ashton Canal





## Findings & Insights - MOTIVATIONS

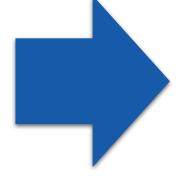
67% are Everyday & Weekly Users

3.5m people use waterways for physical activity

20% only take physical exercise because the waterway is there

37% use towpaths to get somewhere else





- 20+mn people are physically inactive which is costs the NHS around £1.2bn p.a
- Motivations wellbeing is the strongest motivator for visiting waterways
- Local Connectivity using it as a route



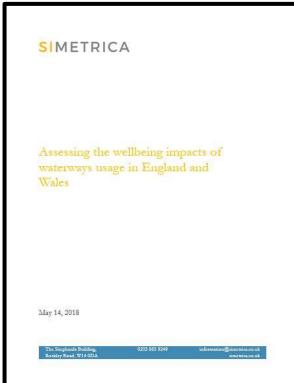




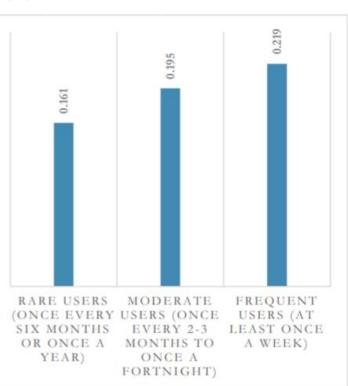
## Findings & Insights - WELLBEING

### Study on individual personal benefit (Wellbeing valuation work)

- £3.8bn wellbeing value generated p.a.
- The benefits associated with waterways usage increase with the length of the visit
- Spending 1+ hour at a waterway is strongly associated with happiness in the moment









## THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

# Making Life Better By Water

