

Navigation Committee

13 April 2023

Agenda item number 10

Chief Executive's report and current issues

Report by Chief Executive

Purpose

To provide a briefing on significant matters relating to the maintenance and management of the waterways.

Broads Plan context

C4 - Maintain and improve safety and security standards and user behaviour on the waterways.

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1. Introduction

- 1.1. At the Broads Authority meeting on 17 March, Members approved the Annual Business Plan for 2023/24 and noted the progress made on the delivery of the strategic priorities update for 2022/23. The progress made in the delivery of the capital programme was reported. Under the Financial Performance and Direction report the Chief Financial Officer reported the unexpected and very late additional funding from Defra of £440,000. Following a recommendation from the Audit and Risk Committee it was agreed to place this in an earmarked reserve to allow time to consider how best to use this one of funding. The Change Control Notice specifically states: “For the avoidance of doubt this additional grant amount is intended to support the cost associated with undertaking national park purposes and may not be used to support costs incurred in

relation to navigation functions". The Authority also approved the appointments to the Navigation Committee.

- 1.2. This is a busy time of the year for the Tolls Team and income received to date is in line with previous years.

2. Navigation patrolling and performance targets

- 2.1. The report of the significant use of powers by the rangers is displayed in Appendix 1. The low figures reflect the quieter period over the winter months. The average navigation/countryside splits for the year it set out in Appendix 2. The figures show a 73% Navigation, 27% Countryside split. This slight variance in the planned programme is due to staff absence.

3. Sunken and abandoned vessel update

- 3.1. Rangers continue to work with vessel owners to raise sunken vessels across the system. One vessel recently sunk on the Yare has been quickly raised.

4. Planning enforcement update

- 4.1. There are no further enforcement matters with navigation implications to report.

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Date of report: 30 March 2023

[Broads Plan](#) strategic actions: C4

Appendix 1 – Rangers exercise of powers analysis

Appendix 2 – Ranger duties total time allocated and actual days

Appendix 3 – Sunken and abandoned vessels current position as at 23 March 2023/03/2023

Appendix 4 – Prosecutions dealt with in court for non-payment of tolls since 12/01/2023 12 January 2023

Appendix 1 – Rangers exercise of powers analysis January – March 2023

Table 1

Verbal warnings	Wroxham launch Wroxham and upper Bure	Irstead launch Ant	Ludham launch Hickling, Potter Heigham, upper Thurne	Ludham launch 2 lower Thurne and lower Bure	Norwich launch Norwich and upper Yare	Hardley Launch Reedham, Chet and middle Yare	Burgh St Peter launch Oulton Broad and upper/middle Waveney	Breydon launch Breydon water, lower Waveney and Yare
Care and caution								
Speed	7							
Other	4							

Table 2

Written warnings	Wroxham launch	Irstead launch	Ludham launch	Ludham launch 2	Norwich launch	Hardley Launch	Burgh St Peter launch	Breydon launch
Care and caution	1							
Speed								
Other	1	6		4				
Special directions								

Table 3

Launch patrols	Wroxham launch	Irstead launch	Ludham launch	Ludham launch 2	Norwich launch	Hardley Launch	Burgh St Peter launch	Breydon launch
Launch staffed by ranger	18	14	9	4	17	13	6	12
Volunteer patrols		5					2	
IRIS reports	4	1	1		2	2	2	

Table 4

Broads Control total calls (Jan-March 2023)

Contact method	Number of calls
Telephone	3313
VHF	205
Total	3519

Appendix 2 – Ranger duties: total time allocated and actual days

Table 1

Broads Authority corporate duties

Work area	Annual allocation (days)	Actual days to date
Training	134	120.51
Broads Control	362	372.43
Team meetings, work planning	356	376.51
Partnership working	76	36.55
Assisting other sections	76	48.99
Billets and boatsheds	25	14.73
Launch – general		27.64
Trailers - general		1.08
Vehicle maintenance		5.61
Other equipment repair		13.99
Total	1029	1018.04

Table 2

Navigation duties

Work area	Annual allocation (days)	Actual days to date
Patrolling	2136	1835.63
Escorts	49	28.85
Prosecution files		8.38
Bankside tree management	53	42.03
Obstruction removal	36	13.51
Channel markers and buoys	25	25.14
Signs and boards maintenance	34	41.45
Adjacent waters	100	73.38
Reactive mooring maintenance	104.5	17.50
Total	2537.5	2085.86

Table 3

Conservation, recreation, countryside maintenance

Work area	Annual allocation (days)	Actual days to date
Fen management	195	164.97
Lake, riverbank restoration	126	143.58
Invasive species control	22.5	13.51
Other conservation work	148	67.50
Pollution response		2.23
Visitor site maintenance	209	294.54
Public engagement	301	65.57
Public footpath work	44	15.57
Education work	69	12.97
Total	1114.5	780.45

Team total up to 20 March 2023

Percentage Navigation: 73%

Percentage National Park: 27%

Appendix 3 – Sunken and abandoned vessels current position as at 23 March 2023

Description	Location found	Action	Notice affixed	Result
Motor Cruiser	Old River Yare, Thorpe	Vessel sunk at owners moorings	No	Not affecting the navigation
Motor Cruiser	Sutton/Stalham cut	Not able to raise hull with dredging rig. Vessel marked	No	Not affecting the navigation
Motor Cruiser	River Yare	Vessel Sunk at owners mooring	No	Chasing insurance details
Motor Cruiser	River Yare	Sunk	No	Raised by owner

Appendix 4 – Prosecutions dealt with in court for non-payment of tolls since 12 January 2023

Type of vessel	Vessel name	Fined	Costs awarded	Victim surcharge	Compensation
Motor		£440.00	£180.00	£44.00	£316.26
Houseboat		£220.00	£210.00	£66.00	£133.00
Houseboat					£276.00
Auxiliary Yacht		£220.00	£180.00	£30.00	£128.80
Motor		£80.00		£34.00	£346.38
Sailing					£46.00
Motor		£220.00	£210.00	£66.00	£90.36
Motor		£220.00	£180.00	£30.00	£210.84
Motor		£220.00	£190.00	£34.00	£286.14
Auxiliary Yacht		£220.00	£210.00	£34.00	£167.10
Auxiliary Yacht		£220.00	£190.00	£34.00	£100.26
Auxiliary Yacht		£220.00	£190.00	£34.00	£167.10
Motor		£440.00	£190.00	£44.00	£240.96
Motor		£1,000.00	£260.00	£100.00	£632.52
Motor		£120.00	£190.00	£34.00	£496.98
Sailing					£156.40
Motor		£220.00	£190.00	£44.00	£331.31

Type of vessel	Vessel name	Fined	Costs awarded	Victim surcharge	Compensation
Motor		£220.00			£120.48
Motor		£220.00	£190.00	£34.00	£647.58
Houseboat		£330.00	£190.00	£34.00	£284.64
Motor		£220.00	£190.00	£34.00	£165.66
Motor		£220.00	£190.00	£34.00	£240.96
Auxiliary Yacht		£220.00	£190.00	£34.00	£211.96
Motor		£120.00		£34.00	£316.26
Motor		£220.00	£190.00	£34.00	£210.84
Auxiliary Yacht		£220.00	£190.00	£34.00	£110.40
Motor		£220.00	£190.00	£34.00	£48.60