



**Canal &
River Trust**

Making life better by water

Your Ref

Our Ref CRTR-POL-2023-40179

Monday 27 November 2023

Dear East Staffordshire Borough Council,

Draft Revised Denstone Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 16 Consultation

Thank you for your consultation on the above document.

We are the charity who look after and bring to life 2000 miles of canals & rivers. Our waterways contribute to the health and wellbeing of local communities and economies, creating attractive and connected places to live, work, volunteer and spend leisure time. These historic, natural and cultural assets form part of the strategic and local green-blue infrastructure network, linking urban and rural communities as well as habitats. By caring for our waterways and promoting their use we believe we can improve the wellbeing of our nation. The Canal & River Trust (the Trust) is a statutory consultee in the Development Management process, and as such we welcome the opportunity to input into planning policy related matters to ensure that our waterways are protected, safeguarded and enhanced within an appropriate policy framework.

The Plan area does not include any waterways owned or operated by the Canal & River Trust and, as such, we do not have a direct interest in the draft Plan. However, we do note that the Plan includes a requirement to protect the route of the former Uttoxeter Canal as a heritage and recreational resource and to allow the opportunity for its reinstatement in the future (Policy DEN-PE2).

Whilst we are not directly involved in any proposals for the restoration of the Uttoxeter Canal, we are nonetheless supportive of the aim of protecting the route of the canal from inappropriate development which could prejudice, or at least make more problematic, future aspirations to restore the canal. We are therefore supportive of the inclusion of this requirement within Policy DEN-PE2.

We are aware that the Caldon & Uttoxeter Canals Trust do have aspirations to restore the canal and recommend that advice is sought from them about how best to ensure that the canal route is adequately protected.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries you may have.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Dickinson MRTPI
Area Planner

<https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/specialist-teams/planning-and-design>

Canal & River Trust Planning Team

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