GUC Transfer

Briefing by Alan Francis, New Bradwell PC

Introduction (from GUC Transfer brochure)

https://guctransfer.co.uk/consultation-materials/

"The Grand Union Canal Transfer is a vital new scheme to bring water from the Midlands to the Southeast.

The scheme will transfer highly treated recycled water from the Midlands to the Southeast to ensure future drinking water supplies for the region, and to strengthen the UK's water infrastructure. Once it's been transferred through the canal network, the water will be piped from the canal, stored and treated again at a proposed new water treatment works near Great Brickhill, southeast of Milton Keynes. It'll then be transferred via a new underground pipeline as clean drinking water into Affinity Water's supply network for customers, from an existing covered reservoir near Luton.

We're proposing to start our scheme at the existing Minworth Wastewater Recycling Centre (WwRC) near Birmingham, where water is planned to be transferred via a new underground pipeline to an outfall near Atherstone in Warwickshire. 'Highly treated recycled water' refers to water that has been treated in the Advanced Water Treatment Plant ahead of being transferred as part of the scheme. It'll then begin its journey along the Coventry, Oxford and Grand Union Canals, where we'll need to build some additional infrastructure and modify some existing infrastructure. The water from Minworth's WwRC is treated recycled water, which would usually be discharged into the River Tame. Under the scheme, some of this recycled water will be diverted to a new Advanced Water Treatment Plant (AWTP) to bring it to the required quality for transfer through the canal and to ensure the safeguarding of fish and wildlife is maintained."

Impacts on New Bradwell area

3 options are suggested for accommodating higher water levels in the Wolverton/New Bradwell/Gt Linford area. These are

1. Raising the edge of the Iron Trunk viaduct,
2. New Transfer Lock adjacent Stanton Low Country Park,
3. New Transfer Lock in Gt Linford Manor Park just east of Railway Walk bridge and Black Horse.

Should we express a preference for one of these?
Only the second option is in New Bradwell PC area.

New Transfer Lock adjacent to Joan's Piece (Stanton Low Country Park)

No detailed design yet, just proposed location. Towpath side is in NBPC, off-side is in SPC. Single storey control building, probably on towpath side. Construction compound on SPC side.

Little impact once in place but major impacts during construction
Impact of closure of canal for around 6-12 months

Adverse impact on boaters and businesses that serve boaters, eg New Inn
Adverse impact on local residents of closure or diversion of towpath for many months

Provide diversion route for pedestrians
If single storey control building is on towpath side it should be as low as possible and surrounded by trees in Joans Piece.

Raising bank in 4 places in or near NB:

- between Stratford Rd bridge Br71 and WCML bridge Br71A (opposite Secret garden)
- at weir just west of V6 aqueduct
- between Bridgeway and Newport Rd bridge Br74
- between Stanton Low Br75 and road to St Peters church alongside canal north of Black Horse PH

These happen whether new Transfer Lock is at Joans Piece or Black Horse.
Adverse impact on local residents of closure or diversion of towpath in several places for many months during works to raise bank.
Construction noise affecting residents between Bridgeway and Newport Rd bridge Br74 and Townsend Grove.

Provide diversion routes for pedestrians

Suggested response

We don't object to the project as a whole but want assurances around construction process, ie minimise disruption, and some extra works to compensate for disruption.

Reasonable diversion routes around work sites on the towpath must be provided for pedestrians
Minimise duration of towpath closures
Compensate local businesses affected by towpath closures
If single storey control building is on towpath side near Joans Piece it should be as low as possible and surrounded by trees in Joans Piece to hide it from view.

Additional proposals that should be done as part of their Social Values Strategy:

- Repair collapsed bank between Church st and Bradwell rd bridge Br72 (opp New Inn) and on off-side in front of New Inn
- Hard surface on towpath between Bradwell rd bridge Br72 and Newport rd bridge Br74
- Hard surface on towpath between Newport rd bridge Br74 and road to St Peters church alongside canal north of Br76 and Black Horse PH

AF 5.3.26

SECTIONS 47 and 48 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008
REGULATION 4 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (APPLICATIONS: PRESCRIBED FORMS AND PROCEDURE) REGULATIONS 2009
NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF A STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND NOTICE PUBLICISING A PROPOSED APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER FOR THE GRAND UNION CANAL TRANSFER

Notice is hereby given that **Severn Trent PLC** (company number 02366619) of Severn Trent Centre, 2 St John's Street, Coventry, CV1 2LZ; **Affinity Water Ltd** (company number 02546950) of Tamblin Way, Hatfield, Hertfordshire, AL10 9EZ and **Canal & River Trust** (company number 07807276) of National Waterways Museum Ellesmere Port, South Pier Road, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, England, CH65 4FW (hereby referred to as "the Applicant") proposes to make an application ("the Application") to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 ("the 2008 Act") for a Development Consent Order ("the DCO Application") for the construction, operation and maintenance of the Grand Union Canal Transfer ("the Proposed Development"). The Proposed Development is a water transfer scheme to move a maximum flow of 115 megalitres/day from Severn Trent to Affinity Water's supply areas. The Secretary of State issued a direction under section 35 of the 2008 Act on 1 October 2024 which confirmed that the Proposed Development is to be treated as a nationally significant infrastructure project requiring development consent. Note: A final decision on whether Canal & River Trust will be a formal co-applicant will be made before the DCO is submitted.

The Proposed Development

The Proposed Development will principally consist of:

- a new Advanced Water Treatment Plant located on Severn Trent's existing site, on land south-east of the Minworth Wastewater Recycling Centre;
- an approximately 15-kilometre (km) buried pipeline between the Minworth Wastewater Recycling Centre and a proposed outfall near Atherstone (including a Break Pressure Tank near Baxterley);
- a range of new infrastructure, including up to four new locks, new pumped and gravity bypasses, some sections of bank raising and modifications to existing infrastructure, to manage flow velocities and water level changes on the existing canal network between Atherstone and Bletchley;
- new and improved infrastructure at the existing Daventry and Drayton Reservoirs, to enable their utilisation as additional storage in addition to their function of supplying water for canal navigation;
- a new Water Treatment Works and water storage, south east of Milton Keynes;
- an approximately 28 km buried pipeline between the new Water Treatment Works and an existing underground reservoir near Luton; and
- associated infrastructure, mitigation and enhancement measures, and other ancillary works, for example, fencing, security, temporary access roads, permanent means of access, highway works, temporary works compounds and work sites.

The proposed DCO will, amongst other things, authorise:

- construction, operation and maintenance of the infrastructure required to facilitate the Proposed Development;
- if required, the temporary stopping up, alteration or diversion of any street, road or public right of way;
- if required, the permanent and/or temporary compulsory acquisition of land and/or rights for the Proposed Development;
- if required, the application and/or disapplication of legislation relevant to the Proposed Development; and
- such ancillary, incidental and consequential provisions, licenses, property rights, permits and consents as are necessary for the purposes of the Proposed Development.

The Proposed Development is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. As a result, the Applicant is required to carry out an EIA and submit and publish an Environmental Statement (ES) as part of the Application containing a detailed description of the Proposed Development and information about its likely significant effects on the environment.

Statutory Consultation

Consultation on the proposals will take place from **Wednesday 11 February to 11:59pm on Thursday 2 April 2026**.

The full suite of consultation materials which includes documents, a Preliminary Environmental Information Report, plans, and maps which show the nature and location of the Proposed Development will be available for inspection free of charge on the Applicant's website, https://guctransfer.co.uk/ (within the 'Resources' section), for the full duration of the consultation. The Applicant's Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), which sets out how the Applicant will undertake its consultation, is also available to inspect free of charge on the Applicant's website.

All consultation materials will also be available to view at the public information events, select materials will also be available for inspection free of charge at several document inspection points along the route. More information on document inspection points can be found on the Applicant's website.

Printed copies of the brochure and feedback form are available free of charge (one set per household) on request. Printed copies of all other consultation documents are available on request, although there may be a charge for this up to £3,500.

Requests for alternative formats of consultation materials such as translations into other languages, large print or Braille will be considered on a case-by-case basis. To request paper copies or versions in an alternative format, please contact contact@guctransfer.co.uk or via phone on 0121 270 5920.

Public information events

A series of in-person public information events (and one online event) are being held across the area of the Proposed Development where people can find out more about the scheme and ask questions of the project team.

A full programme of the public information events can be found in the SoCC and on the Applicant's website **https://guctransfer.co.uk/**

Feedback

Responses must be received between **Wednesday 11 February and 11:59pm on Thursday 2 April 2026**. Responses received after this time may not be considered.

All responses must be made in writing by:

a. Completing the online feedback form located on the Applicant's website: **https://guctransfer.co.uk/;**
b. Obtaining a paper copy of the consultation feedback form by requesting one using the contact details in this notice, which can be returned via **Freepost GRAND UNION CANAL TRANSFER** (no stamp needed)
c. Alternatively, feedback in a letter or email format can be sent to us by:
    i. Emailing: **contact@guctransfer.co.uk**
    ii. Writing to us: **Freepost GRAND UNION CANAL TRANSFER** (no stamp needed)

The Applicant will consider and have regard to all responses received as part of this consultation when developing the Application once the consultation has closed.

Personal details will be held securely and only used for purposes in connection with the consultation, the DCO process and further development of the Proposed Development. Outside of these purposes, the Applicant may be required to provide personal details if specifically requested as part of a Freedom of Information Act request or if the Planning Inspectorate requests original responses. Otherwise, personal details will not be disclosed to any third parties. For further details please see our Privacy Notice at: https://guctransfer.co.uk/privacy-policy/

A hard copy of the privacy notice can be requested using the contact details below.

If further information about this notice, the consultation materials, the consultation or the Proposed Development is required, please contact the project team by using one of these contact methods:

- Email: **contact@guctransfer.co.uk**
- Write: **Freepost GRAND UNION CANAL TRANSFER**
- Telephone: **0121 270 5920, Monday to Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm**

Have your say on our updated proposals!

Grand Union Canal Transfer
Moving water together

We want to hear your views on plans for a vital new scheme to bring water from the Midlands to the Southeast. The scheme will secure future drinking water supplies, protect the environment, ensure future water availability for canal navigation, and unlock investment in our communities, now and in the future.

Phase Two Public Consultation

Our second public consultation will take place from **Wednesday 11 February to Thursday 2 April 2026**

All feedback to this consultation must be received in writing by **11:59pm on Thursday 2 April 2026**.



Take part in the consultation, provide your comments and feedback on our plans:

- **Online:** complete and submit a feedback form on our website: **www.guctransfer.co.uk**
- **Email:** email your feedback to **contact@guctransfer.co.uk**
- **Freepost:** post a hard copy feedback form or a written response to **Freepost GRAND UNION CANAL TRANSFER** (no stamp required).

Have your say and find out more at one of our events

Consultation events

Larger community events where you can meet our technical experts, view large scale maps and provide your feedback

Hurley Village Hall, Hurley
Wednesday 4 March, 4pm – 8pm

Curdworth Village Hall, Curdworth
Friday 6 March, 5pm – 8pm

Great Brickhill Community Centre, Great Brickhill
Saturday 7 March, 11am – 3pm

Lyons Community Centre, Chaul End / Caddington
Tuesday 10 March, 6pm – 9pm

Stanbridge and Tilsworth Community Hall, Stanbridge / Tilsworth
Wednesday 11 March, 4pm – 8pm

Daventry Community Centre, Daventry
Friday 13 March, 4pm – 8pm

St Mary's Church, Youth HQ Hall, Atherstone
Saturday 14 March, 11am – 3pm

Mancetter Memorial Hall, Mancetter
Tuesday 17 March, 11am – 3pm

Eaton Bray Village Hall, Eaton Bray
Friday 20 March, 4pm – 8pm

Pop-up events

Smaller events along the route where you can speak to our team and view our consultation brochure

Dunstable Downs and Whipsnade Estate National Trust Car Park, Dunstable Downs
Thursday 5 March, 10:30am – 1:30pm

Waterside Pub, Hillmorton
Friday 13 March, 12pm - 3pm

Stoke Bruerne Canal Museum, Stoke Bruerne
Saturday 14 March, 10:30am – 1:30pm

Stoke Hammond Community Centre, Stoke Hammond
Wednesday 18 March, 5:30pm – 8:30pm

Electra Welcome Centre, Campbell Wharf Marina, MK
Thursday 19 March, 10:30am - 1:30pm

Online event

We're hosting an online presentation by members of our team followed by a Q&A session. Register to take part via **www.guctransfer.co.uk**

Tuesday 24 March, 6pm – 7:30pm



Find out more

Visit our website at **guctransfer.co.uk** to access consultation materials, find locations to view hard copies, and subscribe to our mailing list.

Speak to the team

0121 270 5920, Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm (excluding bank holidays)

contact@guctransfer.co.uk

Grand Union Canal Transfer
Moving water together

10 February 2026

Dear Consultee,

GRAND UNION CANAL TRANSFER
PHASE TWO PUBLIC CONSULTATION – 11 FEBRUARY 2026 – 2 APRIL 2026
PLANNING ACT 2008 SECTION 42: DUTY TO CONSULT ON A PROPOSED APPLICATION

This letter is to inform you that Severn Trent PLC, Affinity Water Ltd, and the Canal & River Trust[1] propose to make an application to the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs under the Planning Act 2008 for a Development Consent Order for the construction, operation and maintenance of the Grand Union Canal Transfer (the Proposed Development).

This is a vital new scheme to bring water from the Midlands to the Southeast, and will secure future drinking water supplies, protect the environment, ensure future water availability for canal navigation, and unlock investment in our communities.

To support the ongoing development of the Proposed Development, we have launched our Phase Two Public Consultation, which will run from **Wednesday 11 February to 11:59pm on Thursday 2 April 2026.** We are writing to you as your organisation has been identified as a prescribed consultee under section 42(1)(a) or as a relevant local authority under section 42(1)(b).

The Proposed Development

The Proposed Development will principally consist of:

- a new Advanced Water Treatment Plant located on Severn Trent-owned land south-east of its existing Minworth Wastewater Recycling Centre;
- an approximately 15-kilometre (km) buried pipeline between the Minworth Wastewater Recycling Centre and a proposed outfall near Atherstone (including a Break Pressure Tank near Baxterley);
- a range of new infrastructure, including up to four new locks, new pumped and gravity bypasses, some sections of bank raising and modifications to existing infrastructure, to manage flow velocities and water level changes on the existing canal network between Atherstone and Bletchley;
- new and improved infrastructure at the existing Daventry and Drayton Reservoirs, to enable their utilisation as additional storage in addition to their function of supplying water for canal navigation;
- a new Water Treatment Works and water storage, south east of Milton Keynes;
- an approximately 28 km buried pipeline between the new Water Treatment Works and an existing underground reservoir near Luton; and
- associated infrastructure, mitigation and enhancement measures, and other ancillary works, for example, fencing, security, temporary access roads, permanent means of access, highway works, temporary works compounds and work sites.

An interactive map of the Proposed Development can be found on our website: https://www.guctransfer.co.uk

Development Consent Order

[1] A final decision on whether the Canal & River Trust will be a formal co-applicant will be made before the DCO is submitted.

On 1 October 2024, the Secretary of State issued a direction under section 35 of the 2008 Act which confirmed that the Proposed Development is to be treated as a development for which development consent is required. The application will be made via the Planning Inspectorate, who will provide a recommendation to the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. The Secretary of State will then decide whether to grant or refuse development consent. We are aiming to submit our application in Summer 2027.

Development Consent Orders (DCOs) may include ancillary powers in addition to development consent, which can include permanent and temporary compulsory powers over land if required and other related provisions as necessary. The application will seek to include such powers.

Why we are writing to you

During the pre-application process, we must consult with a variety of persons and organisations about the DCO application in accordance with the requirements of the Planning Act 2008, Regulation 3 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (the APFP Regulations) and Regulation 11(1)(c) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. You have been identified as a prescribed consultee under these regulations or a person where it has been decided it would be appropriate to consult in any event.

This letter is to give you notice of our Phase Two Public Consultation on the Proposed Development. This consultation will run from **Wednesday 11 February to 11:59pm on Thursday 2 April 2026** and we invite you to look at our consultation materials and provide your feedback on or before the closing date.

Phase Two Public Consultation

Our Phase Two Public Consultation is an opportunity for you to share your feedback on the proposals. This will enable us to hear your views and consider them in the development and refining of our proposals, ahead of submitting the DCO application.

The full suite of consultation materials which includes documents, plans, and maps which show the nature and location of the Proposed Development comprises:

- Phase Two Public Consultation Brochure;
- Consultation Feedback Form;
- Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR);
- PEIR Non-technical Summary (NTS);
- Scheme Development and Options Report;
- Draft Design Principles;
- Map Book;
- Phase One Public Consultation Report;
- Approach to Social Value

A Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), which outlines the approach to Phase Two Public Consultation, has been prepared in accordance with section 47 of the Act and is included in the suite of materials for information.

The full suite of consultation documentation will be available to view free of charge throughout the consultation on the project website: www.guctransfer.co.uk

Hard copies of selected consultation documents (not including PEIR) will be made available for inspection, free of charge at document inspection points. The document inspection point locations and opening times are as follows:

- Coleshill Library & Info Centre, 19a Parkfield Rd, Coleshill, B46 3LD
- Atherstone Library & Info Centre, Long St, Atherstone, CV9 1AX
- Bedworth Library, 18 High St, Bedworth, CV12 8NF

- Rugby Library, Little Elborow St, Rugby CV21 3BZ
- Buckby Library & Hub, Station Rd, Long Buckby NN6 7QB
- Daventry Library, The Abbey Market Square, Daventry, NN11 4XG
- Towcester Library, The Forum, Towcester, NN12 6AD
- Bletchley Library, Westfield Rd, Milton Keynes, MK2 2RA
- Leighton Buzzard Library, Lake St, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1RX
- Dunstable Library, The Dunstable Centre, Court Drive, Dunstable, LU5 4JD

We advise checking library opening times before attending.

If you have any problems accessing the consultation documents on the Proposed Development's website from 11 February 2026, please let us know at your earliest convenience, using the contact details contained within this letter. The consultation materials are provided to help you understand the proposals and inform any comments you have on the Proposed Development.

Additionally, we are running a programme of in-person events across the proposed project route which will allow local stakeholders to learn more about the project and ask questions of the project team. The programme includes the consultation events, which are larger community events where attendees can meet our technical experts, talk to the team, ask questions and view the consultation documents and larger-scale maps and provide their feedback. We will also be hosting several pop-up events, which are smaller events where attendees can ask the team questions and view the consultation brochure. The full programme of in-person events is as follows:

Consultation events

Location	**Date and time**
Atherstone St Mary's Church, Sheepy Road, Atherstone CV9 1HJ	11am-3pm, Saturday 14 March
Curdworth Curdworth Village Hall, Coleshill Road, Curdworth, B76 9HH	5pm-8pm, Friday 6 March
Hurley Hurley Village Hall, Knowle Hill, Hurley CV9 2JD	4pm-8pm, Wednesday 4 March
Mancetter Mancetter Memorial Hall, Old Farm Road Atherstone CV9 1QN	11am-3pm, Tuesday 17 March
Daventry Daventry Community Centre, Ashby Road, Daventry NN11 0QE	4pm-8pm, Friday 13 March
Great Brickhill Great Brickhill Community Centre, Rotten Row, Great Brickhill MK17 9BA	11am-3pm, Saturday 7 March
Stanbridge / Tilsworth Stanbridge and Tilsworth Community Hall, Stanbridge Road, Leighton Buzzard LU7 9PN	4pm-8pm, Wednesday 11 March
Eaton Bray Eaton Bray Village Hall, Church Lane, Dunstable LU6 2DJ	4pm-8pm, Friday 20 March
Chaul End / Caddington Lyons Community Centre, 33a Mallard Crescent, Caddington LU1 4FG	6pm-9pm, Tuesday 10 March

We are also holding a series of pop-up events – smaller events at locations along the route, where you can ask our team questions and view our consultation brochure. You can find a list of these events on the scheme website: www.guctransfer.co.uk

Online event

We will also be hosting an online event **6pm-7.30pm on Tuesday 24 March** to provide an additional opportunity for people to meet the project team, learn more about the proposals and ask any questions. Those who wish to attend the online event will be able to register their attendance via a link on the scheme website: www.guctransfer.co.uk

Environment Impact Assessment

The Proposed Development requires an Environmental Impact Assessment, as defined by the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. A Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) is available as part of the Phase Two Public Consultation materials and can be viewed on the project website, at http://www.guctransfer.co.uk, and at the in-person consultation events.

The PEIR reports the outcomes of the preliminary assessment of the likely significant environmental effects of the development in accordance with Regulation 12(2) of the EIA Regulations 2017. The aim of the PEIR is to help consultees understand the likely impacts of the project and make an informed consultation response. An Environmental Statement will be submitted alongside the application for development consent.

As required by the Act and Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations 2017, we are providing a copy of the statutory notice we have published under section 48 of the Act.

Next steps

Any person may comment on the proposals or otherwise respond to this consultation. Responses must be received between **Wednesday 11 February and 11:59pm on Thursday 2 April 2026**. Responses received after this time may not be considered.

All responses must be made in writing by:

a. Completing the online feedback form located on the Scheme website: **https://www.guctransfer.co.uk;**
b. Obtaining a paper copy of the consultation feedback form by requesting one using the contact details in this notice, which can be returned via **Freepost GRAND UNION CANAL TRANSFER** (no stamp needed)
c. Alternatively, feedback in a letter or email format can be sent to us by:
    i. Emailing: **contact@guctransfer.co.uk**
    ii. Writing to us: **Freepost GRAND UNION CANAL TRANSFER** (no stamp needed)

We will consider and have regard to all responses received as part of this consultation when developing the DCO application once the consultation has closed. In providing any comment, it should be borne in mind that the substance of it may be communicated to others as part of that reporting on our consultation.

Personal details will be held securely and only used for purposes in connection with the consultation, the DCO process and further development of the Proposed Development. Outside of these purposes, the Applicant may be required to provide personal details if specifically requested as part of a Freedom of Information Act request or if the Planning Inspectorate requests original responses. Otherwise, personal details will not be disclosed to any third parties. For further details please see our Privacy Notice at: https://guctransfer.co.uk/privacy-policy/

We look forward to engaging with you as the project progresses and would encourage you to provide us with your feedback through the channels listed in the statutory notice.

If you have any questions regarding the project, please do not hesitate to contact using the details below. Alternatively, we would be very pleased to meet you at one of the in-person consultation events.

- Email: **contact@guctransfer.co.uk**

- Write: **Freepost GRAND UNION CANAL TRANSFER**
- Telephone: **0121 270 5920, Monday to Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm (excluding bank holidays)**

Yours sincerely,



Clare Carlaw
Head of Engagement, Land & Consents
Grand Union Canal Transfer

Enclosed

Section 47/48 notice

Text for a newsletter or website:

Grand Union Canal Transfer

Have your say on updated plans for the Grand Union Canal Transfer

Phase Two Public Consultation for the Grand Union Canal Transfer has now opened. These are proposals for a new scheme to bring water from the Midlands to the Southeast to secure future drinking water supplies, protect the environment, ensure future water availability for canal navigation, and unlock investment in our communities. The consultation will run from **Wednesday 11 February to 11.59pm on Thursday 2 April 2026** and anyone is welcome to provide feedback. Details on how you can respond to the consultation can be found below.

Since the first round of consultation which some of you may have been aware of in Autumn 2024, the proposals have been updated and more details regarding the scheme can be shared.

What is the Grand Union Canal Transfer

The scheme is a joint water transfer project between two water companies, Severn Trent and Affinity Water, and the Canal & River Trust (the Trust) charity, who are the owner and navigation authority of the canals in England and Wales.

The proposals start at the existing Minworth Wastewater Recycling Centre (WwRC) near Birmingham, where water is planned to be transferred via a new underground pipeline to Atherstone in Warwickshire. It'll then begin its journey along the Coventry, Oxford and Grand Union canals, where some additional infrastructure will need to be built and some existing infrastructure will require modification.

The water from Minworth's WwRC is treated recycled water, which would usually be discharged into the River Tame. Under the scheme, some of this recycled water will be diverted to a new Advanced Water Treatment Plant (AWTP) to bring it to the required quality for transfer through the canal and to ensure the safeguarding of fish and wildlife is maintained.

Once it's been transferred through the canal network, the water will be piped from the canal, stored and treated again at a proposed new water treatment works near Great Brickhill, southeast of Milton Keynes. It'll then be transferred via a new underground pipeline as clean drinking water into Affinity Water's supply network for customers, from an existing covered reservoir near Luton.

How to find out more

An interactive map of the proposed route, along with a full suite of consultation materials for you to find out more about the proposals are available online via the scheme website, www.guctransfer.co.uk.

Hard copies of selected consultation documents will also be made available for iyou to view at document inspection points, all of which can also be found on the scheme website.

A series of in-person consultation and pop-up events are being held at various locations, and one online event, which will provide an opportunity to talk to the team and find out more about the proposals. The full programme of the public information events can be found on the scheme website www.guctransfer.co.uk.

How to take part and have your say

If you want to provide your feedback on the updated proposals you have until **11:59pm on Thursday 2 April 2026** to do so.

You can provide your feedback in writing by:

- Online: by completing and submitting a feedback form on our website - https://guctransfer.co.uk/;
- In person: attending a consultation event and completing a paper copy feedback form;

- By email: emailing your feedback to contact@guctransfer.co.uk; and
- By Freepost: posting a feedback form or written response to Freepost GRAND UNION CANAL TRANSFER (no stamp required)

Contact the Grand Union Canal Transfer team

If you have any questions regarding the scheme you can contact the team via:

- Email: **contact@guctransfer.co.uk**
- Write: **Freepost GRAND UNION CANAL TRANSFER**
- Telephone: **0121 270 5920, Monday to Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm (excluding bank holidays)**

Text for a social media post or WhatsApp to a group:

Phase Two Public Consultation for the Grand Union Canal Transfer is now open!

Have your say on updated plans for the Grand Union Canal Transfer. These are proposals by two water companies, Severn Trent and Affinity Water, and the Canal & River Trust charity, who are the owner and navigation authority of the canals in England and Wales. The scheme proposes to bring water from the Midlands to the Southeast to secure future drinking water supplies, protect the environment, ensure future water availability for canal navigation, and unlock investment in our communities.

Anyone is able to provide feedback, and the consultation will run from **Wednesday 11 February to 11.59pm on Thursday 2 April 2026.**

Find out more about the proposals and how you can take part on the scheme website - www.guctransfer.co.uk.