

BRITISH WATERWAYS ADVISORY FORUM

Restoration – a paper for the BWAF, October 2005

Approval Process

We recognise that there is a lack of clarity in the process within BW for deciding which projects to support and the amount of resource dedicated to each project.

We are therefore going to set out a formal process for adoption within BW and publication to stakeholders. This process is likely to consist of the following 5 stage process:-

1. Authority for General Managers to spend up to £50k in total on any project they consider worth supporting (not a p.a. figure). There will be no extra money for this in the General Managers budget and it will be for the General Manager to decide the relative merit of spending on a particular project. This expenditure includes staff time.
2. Authority for a Director to increase expenditure to £100k per project.
3. Authority will be required from Chief Executive to spend up to £250k on a project
4. Authority required from Board for BW to be a party to a funding bid that exceeds £3m in total
5. Authority from Board to accept funding and delivery responsibility for a project.

We anticipate this process will replace the 'priority' system outlined in 2025. Under these arrangements all projects are treated in the same way but those who we consider have greatest potential to be realised will receive more resource from BW and move further through our approval process. This will also enable partners to contribute and progress the project even when our own limits have been reached.

British Waterways, October 2005