

# Canal could bring in £7m each year

I HAVE been reading with interest the various comments in your letter pages about the prospect of restoring Swindon's canal through the town centre.

I would like to answer some of the points raised.

Where will the canal water be supplied from?

The 21st century canal has the advantage of being able to re-use at least 60 per cent of the water by pumping it back to the summit.

The remainder of the water is likely to come from stored winter rainfall which would otherwise find its way to the North Sea.

Why bring the canal back through central Swindon?

The economic case is compelling. Based on studies on the restored Kennet and Avon Canal, it is estimated that Swindon's economy could gain at least £7m each year by having a canal.

This would make the

investment of £30m very good value for money.

The visual impact would create a focus for the town and a green corridor in an urban environment.

The Trust welcomes the continuing debate and would hope there is recognition that what we are trying to achieve is an asset for all of the community for this and future generations.

**KEN OLIVER**

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