

Options appraisal for refurbishment programme

Option	Benefits	Risks	Preferred option
Option 1: finance through income from charging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval already received from P&R Committee to introduce a 30p charge at 11 sites • Provides an income stream to support the ongoing budget pressures and potentially supports an ongoing refurbishment programme • Reduces the potential for anti-social behaviour and vandalism through a reduction in specific user groups • The most effective way of improving the service and standards of existing public toilets • Refurbishment programme would be wholly managed by BHCC • Reduces the likelihood of having to close sites or reduce opening hours to maintain current levels of service delivery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Likely disproportionate impact on some protected groups under the Equality Act • Increases the likelihood of urination and defecation in public spaces, increasing clear up costs as well as an impact on reputation of city • Unclear whether charging is viable when considering the costs of collecting and banking income • Likely lead to an increase in maintenance costs as paddle gates will require replacing and fixing following anti-social behaviour • May lead to staff being placed in difficult positions where members of the public refuse to pay but still gain access to the site • Reputational impact because of charging • If may be more pragmatic to introduce a charge which does not require two coins; 20p is more convenient 	No
Option 2: finance through borrowing Amount to borrow: £2.531m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No need to introduce charging • Refurbishment programme would be wholly managed by BHCC • No disproportionate impact on some protected groups under the Equality Act • Does not increase the likelihood of urination and defecation in public spaces • No additional costs for income collection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potentially places further financial pressure on City Environment 	Yes
Option 3: finance through the refurbishment contract with HM and borrowing the remainder Amount to borrow: £1.929m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in the amount borrowed due to HM £602k contribution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The estimated increase costs mean the funding and sites to be refurbished will need to be renegotiated and funding would still be required from BHCC 	No

