

Ideas for Overview & Scrutiny – Scoping Paper – Appendix 3

Title	Public Toilet Provision
Summary of Issue	<p>Is current toilet provision in the city adequate and cost effective? Are there better ways to provide access to toilets for all user groups? Is the current location of toilets adequate?</p> <p>Given current financial constraints any recommendations resulting from the panel would probably have to be delivered within the existing budget.</p>
Request originator	Cllr West
Lead officers	Jan Jonker
Policy Committee Chair notified	Cllr West
Relevant legislation/ summary of most recent legislative changes	<p>Local authorities are not under a duty to provide public toilets, however the Public Health Act 1936 gives them the power to do so.</p> <p>The Government produced a strategic guide to toilet provision in 2008. Communities and Local Government Select Committee also reported on toilet provision in 2008. Both of these documents are linked below.</p>
Policy context/ summary of most recent policy changes	<p>There was considerable debate regarding the provision of public toilets during the budget setting process 2012/13. Changes to the budget proposals following consultation resulted in a lower saving (by £25k) on public toilets which will enable the toilets in Saunders Park and Vale Park to remain open.</p> <p>The final budget reduced funding by £138k, the relevant section is reproduced below:</p> <p>Rationalisation of public toilet provision to reflect public use and prioritise resources where demand is most evident.</p> <p>Hove Cemetery North Side to close and Hove Cemetery Southside accessible toilet to remain open. Hove Recreation ground toilets to close but Rugby Club have own toilets for fixtures. Aldrington Recreation Ground toilets to close and an accessible toilet on Saxon Road nearby kept opened. Norton Road to close during the week and toilet in Hove Town Hall to be used as an alternative. Victoria Recreation Ground to close and toilets in the pavilion to be used for fixtures and public toilets on Victoria Road opposite the playground to be</p>

	used. Adjustments in attendants at other toilets. Attendant levels will be adjusted at some of the other toilets which remain open.
Pre-decision (Yes/No)	No
Committee Work Programme (date & link)	None
Key issues	<p>Public toilets are especially important for older people, disabled people, families (especially those with babies and very young children), tourists and visitors.</p> <p>Suffers of crones & colitis (1 in 400) are particularly reliant on the provision of public toilets. http://www.nacc.org.uk/content/home.asp</p> <p>Government data shows that the number of public toilets is decreasing, whilst the number of 'community toilet schemes' may be increasing.</p> <p>A number of local authorities have chosen to reduce the number of public toilets they directly provide, instead encouraging local businesses to allow access to their facilities. In Brighton & Hove the 'Use our loo' community toilet scheme is one such example: http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/index.cfm?request=c1193634</p> <p>There are currently 81 public toilets within the city – more information is available here: http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/downloads/bhcc/toilets/June_12_opening_hours_and_facilities.pdf</p> <p>A review could look at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of public toilets • Cost of public toilets • Provision of gender neutral/unisex accessible toilets • Charging for toilet provision • Perception of unattended toilets • Use of community toilet schemes • Incentivising community toilet schemes • Information/signage for toilets
Relevant information	<p>http://www.britloos.co.uk/</p> <p>http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmselect/cmcomloc/636/636.pdf</p> <p>http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/localgovernment/</p>

	<p>pdf/713772.pdf</p> <p>http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/index.cfm?request=b1116143</p> <p>http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/downloads/bhcc/toilets/EIA_Public_Toilets_Summary_May_12.pdf</p>
Performance data (BHLIS/ CPP/ Inspection reports)	<p>Loo of the Year 2011:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2011 we were again successful at the National Awards. • We were top of the 2011 Premier League for local authority public toilets • We were National Category Award winners for England • Hove Cemetery South won the Cemeteries and Crematoria award for England • Both Wettons and Brighton & Hove City Council were received Champions League of Excellence awards <p>Results of consultation portal survey; http://consult.brighton-hove.gov.uk/portal/bhcc/env/toiletsurvey/publictoilets</p>
Key partners	<p>Local business Voluntary groups Health bodies</p>
Possible outcomes	<p>Recommendations for the future of toilet provision within the city.</p>
Timetable	<p>6 months</p>
Panel/workshop/referral	<p>Panel</p>
Co-option(?)	<p>OPC</p>

