



CABINET MEMBER RESPONSE FORM
IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS REFERRED TO
CABINET

TOILET PROVISION

Date of Cabinet Meeting: 27th April 2006

The Chairman of the Commercial Services Policy and Scrutiny Panel was in attendance to present the recommendations of his Panel on Health and Safety issues relating to provision and cleanliness of public conveniences within the District.

He commented that it had been a very thorough scrutiny exercise. Advice had also been sought from outside sources.

As Cabinet Member for Commercial Services, I thanked the Chairman for his presentation. I also wish to thank especially all those who worked on the Task and Finish Group.

I have set out the decision of the Cabinet on 27th April 2006, in bold type, and have given my feedback in italics.

- a) The vehicle and equipment renewal schedule for 2006/07 be revised to provide provision for a small van, budget sum £10,000.**
- b) Provision be made for the revenue implications of a small van to include road tax, servicing, repair, capital charges and fuel at a cost of £4,100 per annum.**
- c) The Cultural, Leisure and Commercial Services staffing budget for toilet cleansing be increased by £4,500 per annum to take account of the additional skills requirements of an additional driver.**

- d) Additional staffing resources be provided to cover the Whitsun Weekend period up until the start of the school summer holidays at a Revenue cost of £1,900 per annum.**
- e) The Council investigate in discussions, as part of the Stourport-on-Severn development proposals, the possibility that public toilet provision is included in any new development.**
- f) The Head of Cultural, Leisure and Commercial Services, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and the Head of Financial Services be authorised to carry out a full feasibility study and project plan with a view to relocating the APC on Raven Street to a more central location near to or on Stourport High Street and to report back to the Panel at a future meeting.**
- g) The wall, floor and sanitary fittings at the Brinton Park toilets be improved at a revenue cost of £35,000.**
- h) Pending the outcome of discussions with the owners of the Rowland Hill Centre, that should any delay in the refurbishment of the toilet block be likely, then the Council carry out a mini refurbishment of the toilets at a cost not exceeding £10,000.**
- i) A trailer type toilet unit be hired throughout the school summer holiday period at the Stourport Riverside at a revenue cost of £7,550 per annum, to include £3,000 maximum per annum for additional planting and screening.**
- j) A door counter device be purchased to allow usage data to be collected at a revenue cost of £500.**
- k) The Head of Cultural, Leisure and Commercial Services in consultation with the Head of Financial Services and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services enters into negotiation with the Friends of Broadwaters Park for them to undertake additional toilet cleansing to improve cleansing standards and that subject to monitoring that a similar scheme is rolled out on other blocks such as Upper Areley. That a sum of £2,000 per annum be set aside from the Revenue Budget for the Broadwaters Trial.**
- l) Officers investigate and report options for a longer term solution for the provision of toilet facilities at Riverside Meadows, Stourport-on-Severn, the options to include the possibility of replacing the current toilet block on this site with facilities which incorporate:
 - i. accommodation for a caretaker/cleaner; and**
 - ii. a section that can be kept locked during the winter when usage is lower.****

May I take this opportunity to thank both of the Task and Finish Groups set up to consider the issue of toilets, both in terms of overall provision and of their cleansing. May I thank the Policy Panel as a whole for their lengthy and considered deliberations and the draft recommendations, which they have made to Cabinet.

The Cabinet, and in particular myself, do take very seriously the issue of public toilet provision and that is why we have ensured in this municipal year 2006/07 that there are extra sums available within the budget.

In terms of my overall observations on which of the recommendations I propose to take forward or not – may I say that I propose to take a paper to Cabinet as soon as possible regarding toilet provision within this Authority.

That will give all members, not least of all the members of Commercial Services Policy Panel, the opportunity to see which recommendations are being taken on board thus far. I will be able to speak further on those measures that I propose to be implemented at the Cabinet meeting and will subsequently to that Cabinet meeting give a more detailed response on the other recommendations that the Commercial Services Policy Panel has made.

I would wish to emphasise to Members in advance that I am not intentionally being vague but want to ensure that my decision regarding the expenditure of this money is considered and is the most appropriate expenditure of the resources to benefit all of the residents within the Wyre Forest. I am, at present, obtaining expert professional advice from officers and when I am in receipt of all of that advice and information I will then be in a position to consider the recommendations further and outline my proposals to all Members concerned.

I trust that the Commercial Services Policy and Scrutiny Panel is content with this formal feedback, but if you should you require any further information or assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Marcus J Hart
Cabinet Member for Commercial Services