

Equality and Rights Impact Assessment

2015-2018 Budget Summary Report

What budget option does this ERIA information relate to?

Close Public Conveniences out with the City Centre.

The budget option is to close lesser-used public conveniences out with the City Centre to reduce the cost of providing this service. The seven recently-upgraded City Centre facilities will be maintained.

The proposal is broken down as follows:

- £300k of the Public Conveniences budget that was retained as part of the 2011/2012 budget proposals will be removed in the 2014/2015 financial year
- There is the potential for a further £300k to be removed from the budget, which is currently being consulted upon as part of these current budget proposals.

What are the main impacts of this option on rights?

There will be no infringements on the rights

What are the main impacts of this option on equality?

It is anticipated that the following Protected Characteristics would be affected by these proposals:

- Age: older people may be affected by the closure of some toilets if there are no other reasonable alternatives in the vicinity.
- Disability: if Public Conveniences with disabled access are closed through this budget proposal, this would have a negative impact on this Protected Characteristic. Consideration must be given to the provision of reasonable alternatives for disabled toilets, including promotion of 'Changing Spaces' facilities.
- Pregnancy and Maternity: Pregnant women and both male and female parents may be affected by the closure of some Public Conveniences, if they are required for use of the toilet or baby-changing facilities.
- Gender: If specific male/ female toilets are closed and their counterpart remains open this would have a negative impact on this Protected Characteristic.

What are the main recommendations to address either the positive or negative impacts?

- A full and comprehensive consultation exercise has been prepared and will take during January 2015. This will influence and inform the future implementation plan
- Better promotion of all publicly-accessible toilets (including libraries, CEC buildings, etc.) including the use of digital solutions e.g. improved use of website, potential phone apps.
- Better promotion of non-standard disabled toilets through the 'Changing Places' scheme which have extra features and more space to meet additional needs for some disabled people and their personal assistants.
- Development of a Community Toilet Scheme, where businesses allow their toilets to be used by non-paying customers and allow for the public conveniences to be signed as publicly available.

Sign Off (print name and position and contact details)

Jim Hunter
 Acting Head of Service, Environment
jim.hunter@edinburgh.gov.uk
 0131 469 5342

Carbon Impact Assessment Template

BUDGET OPTION				
SfC11				
LEAD OFFICER				
Jim Hunter				
To record your assessment put an X in the appropriate columns below.				
COUNCIL CARBON EMISSIONS	IMPACTS			NOTES
	↓	↑	↔	
WASTE to landfill			X	
BUILDINGS energy usage	X			
INFRASTRUCTURE energy usage	X			
TRANSPORT fuel consumption	X			

↓ = *anticipated decrease in emissions*

↑ = *anticipated increase in emissions*

↔ = *no change anticipated*