

**COUNCIL**

**25 NOVEMBER 2021**

**AMENDMENT TO MOTION 2**

Proposed by: Councillor Susan Elsmore

Seconded by: Councillor Michael Michael

In the first bullet point delete from 'A lack of adequate .... to the end of that sentence.

Insert an additional bullet point after the first:

- Adequate, publicly available toilet facilities can have positive effects on the health, dignity, and lifestyles of a significant proportion of the population.

Delete the bullet point 'With Cardiff Council operates .....'.

Thereafter insert the following three bullet points:

- That between 2010-2015 numerous Local Authorities across the UK, including Cardiff, rationalised their public toilet provision as a direct result of public sector austerity imposed by the UK Coalition Government'.
- Cardiff Council continues to operate toilets in various recreational and leisure destinations across the city. However, in response to the rationalisation of public toilets, the Council has invested in creating superior facilities within our community hubs and core Council buildings and expanding the provision of publicly accessible facilities within the private sector. The total provision across Cardiff can be viewed here [Lle - National Toilet Map \(gov.wales\)](#).
- Consequently, most current facilities are in private business outlets. When these outlets close, such facilities become inaccessible. The Council has a responsibility to assess the community's need for toilets and to put a plan in place to meet identified needs, albeit it should be recognised that provision of local toilets for public use is not a statutory requirement of local authorities in Wales.

After the final bullet point in that section insert:

The Council further notes that

- Cardiff Council Local Toilets Strategy was published in December 2019 following an extensive consultation that included targeted engagement with vulnerable groups.
- In June Cardiff was the first UK city to launch Accessible Toilet Signage to support people living with hidden illnesses. This signage is used on all Council toilet facilities, and its use is growing among partners.

Delete the four bullet points after 'Council resolves to' and insert the following four in their place:

- As part of the Biennial Review of the Local Toilets Strategy which starts in December, provide an update on the current state of council toilet provision across the city, including details on when they are open, how often they are cleaned and maintained, and how accessible they are.
- Ask the cabinet member with responsibility for public facilities to include in the Biennial Review issues identified and raised within this motion to ensure all residents (including people with differing ability, gender, age, ethnicity and religion) can access appropriate facilities when away from home, including the need for additional female provision.
- Ask the Cabinet Member to provide periodical updates to Council by way of inclusion in the Cabinet Member Statement detailing the results of regular audit and monitoring of public toilet facilities, including reporting on the partnerships with other public, private and third sector providers in terms of growing the number of public toilet facilities.
- As part of the recent submission to the World Health Organisation to join the Global Network of Age Friendly Communities and Cities, toilet provision has been identified as an area of focus in the Council's Age Friendly Cities work programme.

**The Amended Motion would read as follows:**

Council notes;

- That the availability of accessible public toilet facilities within communities plays a vital role in supporting the health and wellbeing of people. The inability to satisfy someone's physiological needs due to lack of a public facility can lead to health issues such as urinary tract infections, kidney infections and digestive problems.
- Adequate, publicly available toilet facilities can have positive effects on the health, dignity, and lifestyles of a significant proportion of the population.
- The World Health Organisation states that toilets should be "suitable, private and safe to use of all intended users".

- That between 2010-2015 numerous Local Authorities across the UK, including Cardiff, rationalised their public toilet provision as a direct result of public sector austerity imposed by the UK Coalition Government.
- Cardiff Council continues to operate toilets in various recreational and leisure destinations across the city. However, in response to the rationalisation of public toilets, the Council has invested in creating superior facilities within our community hubs and core Council buildings and expanding the provision of publicly accessible facilities within the private sector. The total provision across Cardiff can be viewed here [Lle - National Toilet Map \(gov.wales\)](#).
- Consequently, most current facilities are in private business outlets. When these outlets close, such facilities become inaccessible. The Council has a responsibility to assess the community's need for toilets and to put a plan in place to meet identified needs, albeit it should be recognised that provision of local toilets for public use is not a statutory requirement of local authorities in Wales.
- During the pandemic, many toilets were closed to the public due to public health requirements, causing many people to be unable to exercise outdoors confidently and safely or come out of lockdown when restrictions eased, without the fear of being caught short or otherwise unable to access necessary hygiene facilities.
- Cardiff being the home of many diverse communities, the Council should embrace the mindset of having accessible toilets for all abilities, genders, ages, ethnicities and religions. Public toilets should meet accessibility requirements for a range of disabilities and the principles of providing bidet or other alternative washing facilities (such as lota/bodna, water jug or hand shower) which serve the toilet etiquette practised by religions such as Islam should be supported.
- Having accessible public toilet facilities has a positive impact on the environment and prevents anti-social behaviour such as fouling of parks, streets, and gardens.

The Council further notes that

- Cardiff Council Local Toilets Strategy was published in December 2019 following an extensive consultation that included targeted engagement with vulnerable groups.
- In June Cardiff was the first UK city to launch Accessible Toilet Signage to support people living with hidden illnesses. This signage is used on all Council toilet facilities, and its use is growing among partners.

Council resolves to;

- As part of the Biennial Review of the Local Toilets Strategy which starts in December, provide an update on the current state of council toilet provision

across the city, including details on when they are open, how often they are cleaned and maintained, and how accessible they are.

- Ask the cabinet member with responsibility for public facilities to include in the Biennial Review issues identified and raised within this motion to ensure all residents (including people with differing ability, gender, age, ethnicity and religion) can access appropriate facilities when away from home, including the need for additional female provision.
- Ask the Cabinet Member to provide periodical updates to Council by way of inclusion in the Cabinet Member Statement detailing the results of regular audit and monitoring of public toilet facilities, including reporting on the partnerships with other public, private and third sector providers in terms of growing the number of public toilet facilities.
- As part of the recent submission to the World Health Organisation to join the Global Network of Age Friendly Communities and Cities, toilet provision has been identified as an area of focus in the Council's Age Friendly Cities work programme.