**Environmental Services**

**Saving target of £120k on public toilets cleansing budget, as part of Place Directorate MTSRP**

**Headline statement:**

The Council wishes to provide public conveniences which are:

* Modern and well maintained and which meet the needs of both the residents and visitors to the district.
* Meet acceptable standards of cleanliness and hygiene.
* Located strategically across the district.
* Accessible and safe to all users.
* Flexible and can readily cope with fluctuating levels in the demand experienced in particular locations throughout the year, and can address night time economy issues.

**We recognise that we may have to close some facilities in order to invest in those remaining to meet our objectives.**

**The 12 facilities that we have prioritised for improvement are:**

Monksdale Road, Alexandra Park, Sydney Gardens, Henrietta Park, Alice Park, Parade Gardens, Royal Victoria Park Play Area, Charlotte Street Car Park, Riverside Coach Park, Odd Down Park and Ride, Memorial Park Keynsham, The Shallows Saltford.

The remaining 15 facilities that we currently operate may have to close or be transferred to other management arrangements in order to improve these priority sites.

We are currently undergoing a tender exercise to seek options for an improved quality of service.  Tenders are expected back during the second week in January for evaluation against our objectives.  The MTSRP details a potential saving of £120K on public convenience provision which may be achieved as a result of this tender exercise and by focussing on our priority sites.

**Further detail:**

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| **Action proposed** | * Closure of 15 Council-run public toilets to achieve savings and establish the budget level to ensure an acceptable standard of cleansing is deliverable at the remaining ones. (This is not the current position due to previous budget cutting). * Investigate and pursue a range of actions to mitigate the impact of closures, facilitate alternative provision and provide the service in a range of ways - and action where proven viable and feasible. |

Locations serving green spaces/parks and transport hubs should be the priority for retention over shopping precincts and city / town centres as alternative provision can generally be found in those areas.

Any facilities that are finally closed should be sold off (not mothballed as this incurs ongoing and future costs for Property in particular). Income from sales (net of cost of closing down, misc costs like Wallgate and Water Bunny contract changes) to be shared with Property / reinvested to improve remaining facilities / put towards funding possible relocations of existing APCs.

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| **Keep and aim to improve**  **– 12** | **Other arrangement or close**  **– 15** |
| Odd Down P&R  Cleaning to be part of site management and attendant duties once extension complete | The Island Midsomer Norton (APC)  Alternative provision at The Hollies and along the High Street  Potential for revised agreement with MSN Town Council and/or relocation into old Town Hall |
| Monksdale Road – Sandpits play area and Linear Way/Two Tunnels green space in vicinity | Greenlands Road, Peasedown St John  Explore opportunity for transfer to Parish Council at no future cost to Council |
| Riverside Coach Park, central Bath – potential for closure in future through self-funded/resourced provision at new coach park or drop-off point.  Location is also proposed for redevelopment (North Quays) and possible future opportunity for private sector reprovision | Bradford Road, Combe Down  Explore opportunity for transfer to local community/resident group at no future cost to Council |
| Alexandra Park, Lyncombe – park/green space | Larkhall Square, Lambridge  Explore opportunity for transfer to local community/resident group at no future cost to Council |
| Sydney Gardens, Bathwick – park/green space | Shaftesbury Road, Oldfield Park (APC)  Explore opportunity for transfer to local community/resident group at no future cost to Council or relocation of unit. |
| Henrietta Park, Bathwick – park/green space | Ashton Way, Keynsham  Town centre redevelopment is creating some extra provision in the Council building and the main new café, other alternative provision along the High Street – cafes and pubs.  Also Memorial Park facilities to be retained close by |
| Alice Park, Lambridge – park/green space | High Street, Weston  Explore opportunity for transfer to local community/resident group at no future cost to Council |
| Memorial Park, Keynsham  park/green space | Dominion Road, Twerton.  Explore opportunity for transfer to local community/resident group at no future cost to Council |
| RVP Play area, Upper Bristol Road  Park/green space/play area. | RVP Pavilion (Bowling Green): other Council provision close by – Charlotte Street car park, RVP Play area.  Plus Pavilion café and Excel tennis facilities (currently exclusive to their users) |
| The Shallows, Saltford – riverside green space/amenity and picnic area. | Charlotte Street (APC)  Council and other provision close by – Charlotte Street car park and all central shopping area facilities.  Explore opportunity for transfer to local community/resident group at no future cost to Council or relocation of unit |
| Parade Gardens – central city, high profile park  Need to look for opportunities to invest to improve quality eg through redevelopment of colonnades. | Approach Golf Course, Upper Common  Anticipated transfer fully to Aquaterra or new golf specialist contractor from July 2013 |
| Charlotte Street car park.  Serves car park, plus RVP / Royal Crescent tourist area, Royal Avenue vicinity.  Improved signage needed in the vicinity | Gullock Tyning Midsomer Norton  Opportunity for public access at the nearby sports/leisure centre through contract re-let (2013/14/15). Interim arrangements may be required. |
|  | London Road, Batheaston  Explore opportunity to change current Parish agreement to no future cost to Council |
|  | High Street (Red Lion) Paulton – Explore opportunity to change current Parish agreement to no future cost to Council |
|  | Monmouth Street (Seven Dials)  Alternative provision through city centre large shops, cafes, restaurants, bars, Council facilities, The Podium (external Ladies and Gents), Southgate plaza facilities, Southgate restaurant quarter facilities due to open late 2012 (to be open 21 hours per day)  Opportunities for reprovision by private sector developments in more suitable locations through CIL or other external funding or development gain mechanisms |