

DECISION NOTICE - CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY RELATED
Key Executive Decision taken by an OFFICER

KEY DECISION Subject: Toilet Closures

DECISION TAKER:

Name: Richard Protheroe

Job Title: Strategic Director

Signature:

Date:

REASON WHY THIS DECISION DID NOT APPEAR ON THE FORWARD PLAN AND THE URGENCY PROVISIONS WERE NOT FOLLOWED:

This key decision was taken as part of the Council's emergency response to the national Coronavirus Emergency. Due to the necessary speed of decision taking at this time it was not possible to comply with the Council's Constitution that includes the requirement to give 28 days' notice of the decision to be taken; publish details 5 clear days before the decision was taken; publish the decision within 2 days of it being taken; and provide the 5 day call-in period before implementation. Nor was it possible to comply with the Urgency provisions in the Constitution

DECISION TAKEN:

The old town toilets and town centre garden toilets were closed on 26/03/20. The disabled toilets in the town centre and taxi rank toilets will remain open to provide facilities for bus and taxi drivers.

REASONS FOR DECISION:

- To discourage non-essential customer journeys that could lead to the spreading of Covid-19
- To minimise the risk of spreading the virus through contact with surfaces.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED:

Consideration was given to increasing the frequency of cleaning; however, this was not practical given the available resources.

Consideration was given to closing all facilities; however, this would have had an impact on transport services.

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FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

No significant impact identified.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

This action is required to comply with the Coronavirus Act 2020.

EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

EIA screening identified no differential adverse impact as follows:

Characteristic	Differential Impact
Age	None
Disability	None – disabled toilets will remain open
Gender	None
Gender re-assignment	None
Marriage or civil partnership	None
Pregnancy or maternity	None
Race	None
Religion	None
Sexual orientation	None

CONSULTATIONS:

SBC internal COVID Business Continuity Cell - concur
Strategic Leadership Team - concur
Council Leader (Sharon Taylor) and Portfolio Holder (John Gardiner) - concur

Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee

I agree that this decision was reasonable in all the circumstances, was urgent and could not reasonably be deferred

I further agree that any delay likely to be caused by the call -in process would prejudice the Council's or the public interest and that the decision should not therefore be subject to call-in.

Signed:

Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date:

DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISION: 26/03/20