



# Cabinet (Resources) Panel

## 9 September 2014

<b>Report title</b>	Changing Places Toilets	
<b>Decision designation</b>	AMBER	
<b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b>	Councillor Val Gibson Children and Young People	
<b>Key decision</b>	No	
<b>In forward plan</b>	Yes	
<b>Wards affected</b>	All	
<b>Accountable director</b>	Sarah Norman, Community	
<b>Originating service</b>	Health and Wellbeing	
<b>Accountable employee(s)</b>	Kathy Roper	Disability Commissioning Team Manager
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<b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>	Capital Programme Working Group 17 June 2014	

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### Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Cabinet (Resources) Panel is recommended to:

1. Approve the allocation of £33,000 from the Short Breaks for Disabled Children capital scheme to create a Changing Places toilet in the Mander Centre and £40,000 to create a Changing Places toilet at the Civic Centre.

## **1.0 Purpose**

1.1 The purpose of this report is present information to support the development of two Changing Places toilets in the city to support disabled children and young people to have greater access to the city and all its amenities.

## **2.0 Background**

2.1 Children and young people with profound and multiple learning disabilities, as well as other serious impairments such as spinal injuries, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis or an acquired brain injury, often need extra facilities to allow them to use the toilets comfortably.

2.2 Changing Places toilets are different to standard disabled toilets with extra features and more space to meet these needs. Each Changing Places toilet provides:

- A height adjustable adult-sized changing bench
- A tracking hoist system or mobile hoist if this is not possible
- Enough space in the changing area for the disabled child or young person and up to two carers
- A centrally placed toilet with room either side for the carers
- A screen or curtain to allow the disabled person and carer some privacy

2.3 Wolverhampton has a large number of disabled toilets across the city but none of them meet the Changing Places standards.

2.4 Capital money has been received from the Department of Education to fund capital projects that enhance the lives of disabled children and young people. Discussions with parents of disabled children and young people in the city identified the need for more specialist toilet and changing facilities. Families said that this would enable them to go out and about more and join in more community activities.

## **3.0 Progress**

3.1 Sites have been explored across the city, in conjunction with the council Access Officer, to ensure that the toilet facilities are provided in the most accessible places.

3.2 City Centre venues at the Civic Centre and the Mander Centre have been identified as suitable. Other sites are being explored in the Bilston and Wednesfield areas of the city.

## **4.0 Financial implications**

4.1 The Capital Programme includes £149,000 for Short Breaks for Disabled Children which is grant funded from the Department of Education at the end of the Aiming High for Disabled Children initiative. The capital was allocated to the city council to improve the lives of disabled children, young people and their families.

4.2 Approval is requested to allocate £33,000 to fund capital works at the Mander Centre and £40,000 for the Civic Centre. This will leave £76,000 to cover the cost of the remaining two Change Places toilets, once the sites have been identified.

4.3 There is no additional revenue implications associated with these schemes. The Mander Centre has agreed to cover all revenue cost e.g. cleaning. The Civic Centre Changing Places toilets will be serviced through the main cleaning contract.  
[AS/20082014/B]

## **5.0 Legal implications**

5.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report. [RB/19082014/O]

## **6.0 Equalities implications**

6.1 An equalities analysis has been completed. This proposal will support disabled children, young people and their families to have greater access to facilities in the community. The facilities will also be accessible to adults with a learning disability or significant physical disabilities.

## **7.0 Environmental implications**

7.1 There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

## **8.0 Human resources implications**

8.1 There are no human resource implications for the city council.

## **9.0 Corporate landlord implications**

9.1 The Changing Places toilet that is due to be located within the Civic Centre will be incorporated into the design works for the FutureSpaces refurbishment programme.