
Report To:	Environment & Regeneration Committee	Date:	29 August 2019
Report By:	Ruth Binks Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	Report No:	ENV040/19/LC
Contact Officer:	Tony McEwan, Head of Culture, Communities and Educational Resources	Contact No:	01475 712828
Subject:	Hunters Place and Kilblain Street Public Conveniences		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Environment and Regeneration Committee to pilot an early closure of the Hunters Place and Kilblain Street Public Conveniences due to ongoing anti-social behaviour.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 Current opening hours of the public conveniences are from 8am to 9pm, the facilities are maintained by Facilities Management staff.
- 2.2 Due to an increase in anti-social behaviour and vandalism, the Social Protection Team, Facilities Management Staff and Police Scotland recommend that a pilot is undertaken to close the facilities at 6pm in line with the closure of the Oak Mall, to establish whether this will reduce incidences of anti-social behaviour in the toilets and possibly the immediate surrounding area. The pilot will last for twelve months.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Environment and Regeneration Committee:
- approves the pilot for an early closure for Hunters Place/Kilblain Street public conveniences; and
 - agrees to a further report being submitted after 12 months evaluating the pilot.

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Facilities Management currently maintain 7 public conveniences within Inverclyde and staff are on site various times throughout the day to clean and maintain the conveniences up until 5pm in the evening. Thereafter the toilets are unmanned until they are closed by the Community Wardens at 9pm.
- 4.2 There have been ongoing issues with anti-social behaviour/vandalism in the Hunters Place/Kilblain Street public conveniences. Toilets have been set on fire, doors kicked off, etc. which has been a considerable cost to the Council. This has also caused inconvenience to the public where toilets have to be closed for days at a time until repairs are carried out.
- 4.3 A meeting took place between the Social Protection Team Leader, Facilities Management Staff and Police Scotland to try to find a resolution to the ongoing issues

5.0 PROPOSALS

- 5.1 A pilot is undertaken for an early closure at Hunters Place/Kilblain Street public conveniences. The facilities will close at 6pm instead of 9pm, which would coincide with the closing of the Oak Mall.
- 5.2 The proposal was raised from the meeting that took place between the Social Protection Team Leader, Facilities Management Staff and Police Scotland to try to find a resolution to the ongoing issues
- 5.3 The Police confirmed that closing the 2 facilities earlier would save them manpower time in having to carry out checks on them after 6pm.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Finance

Financial Implications:

There are no financial costs associated with the information provided in this paper.

One off Costs:

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/(Savings):

Public Engagement Events, communications and administration costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

6.2 Legal

There are no legal implications.

6.3 Equalities

Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

YES (see attached appendix)

NO – There is no equality impact with this change. However, an Equality Impact Assessment will be carried out if the pilot is a success and we wish to close permanently.

6.4 Repopulation

N/A

7.0 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 N/A

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 N/A