

ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO AND DECISION OF ENVIRONMENT AND NEIGHBOURHOODS COMMITTEE ON 23rd SEPTEMBER 2021

SUBJECT: Changing Places Toilets Expression of Interest

REPORT AUTHOR: Helen Cooper, Energy Efficiency Officer

DATE: 13 September 2021

EXTN: 01903 737737

AREA: Technical Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Authority is sought to support the submission of an Expression of Interest (Eoi) to help fund four Changing Places Toilets in the district. Changing Places Toilets are larger accessible toilets for severely disabled people, with equipment such as hoists, privacy screens, adult-sized changing benches, peninsula toilets and space for carers.

Proposed locations are Regis Centre car park, Bognor Regis, Wildfowl and Wetland Centre, Arundel, Hotham Park, Bognor Regis and Coastguard toilets, Littlehampton.

This report is submitted as an urgent item as there was insufficient time to prepare the expression of interest, and the accompanying report in advance of the normal publication date. The report cannot go to a later Committee meeting date because the submission deadline for the expression of interest is 26 September 2021.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Endorse the submission of the Expression of Interest for funding of four additional Changing Places Toilets within the district.
2. In the event the Council is successful in obtaining government funding for Changing Places Toilets, that authority is delegated to the Group Head of Technical Services to accept the grant.
3. In the event the Council is successful in obtaining government funding for Changing Places Toilets, that authority is delegated to the Group Head of Technical Services, in consultation with the Chair of the Environment & Neighbourhoods Committee, to submit any necessary planning applications.
4. Approve a virement of up to £117k (if all 4 bids are successful) from the capital

programme for toilet refurbishment for match funding of the bid.

5. Recommend to the Corporate Policy and Performance Committee that, in the event that government funding is awarded for Changing Places Toilets:
 - that the capital programme for toilet refurbishments is increased by up to £117k (depending on the amount of match funding required for the Changing Places Bid) to allow the existing programme to be delivered in 2022/23.
 - An additional £4,200 per toilet is included within the revenue budget (for a maximum of three toilets).

1. BACKGROUND:

Local Authorities can apply for a share of a £30m fund to install life-enhancing Changing Places Toilets (CPTs) in public places and tourist attractions, providing a significant increase in areas where users want them most.

There are currently around 1,200 registered Changing Places Toilets in England – these are larger accessible toilets for people who cannot use standard accessible toilets, with equipment such as hoists, curtains, adult-sized changing benches, and space for carers. Over 250,000 people in the country need these facilities to enable them to get out and about and enjoy the day-to-day activities many of us take for granted.

Research conducted by the Research Institute for Disabled Consumers, showed the top three locations where these facilities should be made available were country parks, open spaces, and tourist attractions. The top three venues were: beaches and the seaside, motorway services, and parks or gardens.

Proposed locations for CPTs in Arun District:

Government has made a notional 90K-100K funding allocation for Arun District Council to be bid for.

Based on the stakeholder feedback and deliverability we propose to put forward an Expression of Interest (Eoi) with the following sites within it. They are listed in order of priority and include the proposed delivery year:

- Regis Centre car park (demountable and relocatable structure behind the existing toilet block) 22/23
- Wildfowl & Wetland Centre, Arundel (within existing building) 21/22
- Hotham Park (demountable structure) 22/23
- Coastguard toilets, Littlehampton (within the existing block as part of refurbishment works). 23/24

The Wildfowl & Wetlands Centre are to partner with the council and provide a location within the centre. They will also manage and maintain the facility.

The Wave includes CPTs which our leisure services operator is making available to the public and will be placing these facilities on the national CPT website shortly.

Timescales:

The EoI deadline for submission is 26th September 2021.

Successful local authorities should expect to receive initial grant funding in Autumn 2021, subject to Ministerial approval. Works to be carried out from 2021-2024.

2. PROPOSAL(S):

1. Endorse the submission of the Expression of Interest for funding of four additional Changing Places Toilets within the district.
2. In the event the Council is successful in obtaining government funding for Changing Places Toilets, that authority is delegated to the Group Head of Technical Services to accept the grant.
3. In the event the Council is successful in obtaining government funding for Changing Places Toilets, that authority is delegated to the Group Head of Technical Services, in consultation with the Chair of the Environment & Neighbourhoods Committee, to submit any necessary planning applications.
4. Approve a virement of up to £117k (if all 4 bids are successful) from the capital programme for toilet refurbishment for match funding of the bid.
5. Recommend to the Corporate Policy and Performance Committee that, in the event that government funding is awarded for Changing Places Toilets:
 - a. that the capital programme for toilet refurbishments is increased by up to £117k (depending on the amount of match funding required for the Changing Places Bid) to allow the existing programme to be delivered in 2022/23.
 - b. An additional £4,200 per toilet is included within the revenue budget (for a maximum of three toilets).

3. OPTIONS:

Alternatively:

Endorsement of the submission of Expression of Interest, less any sites which the Committee wish to see removed.

Not to Endorse the submission of Expression of Interest.

4. CONSULTATION:

Has consultation been undertaken with:	YES	NO
Relevant Town/Parish Council	X	
Relevant District Ward Councillors		X
Other groups/persons (please specify)	X	
Muscular Dystrophy UK, Bognor Town Council, Arun Access Group, Littlehampton and Bognor Shopmobility,		

Chestnuts Day Centre, Bognor, The Laurels Day Centre Rustington, Care Support West Sussex, Social Care at WSCC, Parents and Carers Support Organisation (PACSO) and The Aldingbourne Trust.		
5. ARE THERE ANY IMPLICATIONS IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL POLICIES: (Explain in more detail at 6 below)	YES	NO
Financial	X	
Legal	X	
Human Rights/Equality Impact Assessment	X	
Community Safety including Section 17 of Crime & Disorder Act		X
Sustainability		X
Asset Management/Property/Land	X	
Technology		X
Other (please explain)		X
<p>6. IMPLICATIONS:</p> <p>Financial Implications: If successful, £40,000 per unit is grant funded. Other than the Wildfowl & Wetland Trust site, each of the other locations is likely to need Arun District Council to provide in the region of £35,000-£40,000 capital per site match funding. There is no provision currently in the approved Capital Programme for this. In order to avoid growth, it is considered prudent to switch capital resourcing from the existing toilet refurbishment capital budget for the purpose of providing the Changing Places Toilets. If the bid is successful, it will be necessary to include growth in the programme for this. Assuming confirmation of funding is received in autumn 2021, the capital programme proposals could be adjusted to include this in the expected year. Annual maintenance/cleaning costs are expected to be in the region of £4,200 per annum per site (excluding the Wildfowl & Wetland Trust site). This would be an additional cost to current maintenance and cleaning costs so would have to be shown as budget growth if the Council's bid succeeds. Members will be aware that capital and revenue funding is restricted and there is a possibility that not all growth bids can be supported in setting the Council's budget.</p> <p>Legal: Agreement will be required for the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust to set out the terms and conditions of the grant if successful.</p> <p>Equality Impact Assessment: The installation of CPTs would have a positive impact on disabled people and support Arun District Councils Equality Policy 2014.</p> <p>Asset Management/ Property/ Land: Property Estates and Facilities Manager has been consulted and assisted in the</p>		

identification of appropriate locations. The team will be responsible for project management of these CPT installations and the ongoing maintenance.

7. REASON FOR THE DECISION:

The contribute to the Council' commitment of creating an inclusive environment. The Equality and Diversity Policy 2014 sets out how the council support the Equality Act 2010 CPTs are an example of a "reasonable adjustment". Arun have produced a Changing Places Toilets Guidance document that also highlights the Council's commitment to being inclusive and welcoming. The installation of more CPTs in the district will make the area more accessible to severely disabled people, including those with profound and multiple learning disabilities. Everyone should be able to access public toilet facilities that meet their needs and enjoy public spaces.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Changing Places Location Maps

CPT Location Analysis Spreadsheet

Equality Impact Assessment

Arun District Council Changing Places Toilets Guidance [download.cfm \(arun.gov.uk\)](#)

Expression of Interest Form - ADC