

MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL

**ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

16 FEBRUARY 2010

REPORT OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY OFFICER

Report prepared by Esther Bell

1. Update on the Implementation of the Community Toilet Scheme

1.1 Issue for Consideration

1.1.1 To consider the written update on the Community Toilet Scheme.

1.2 Recommendation of the Overview and Scrutiny Officer

1.2.1 That the Committee considers the written update, attached at **Appendix A**, of the Assistant Director of Environmental Services, Steve Goulette and make recommendations as it sees fit.

1.3 Reasons for Recommendation

1.3.1 At its meeting on 19 January 2010, the Environment and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered its future work programme and agreed to receive a written update on the implementation of the public conveniences decision at its meeting on 16 February 2010. The relevant extract of the draft minutes of the meeting are as follows:

"A Member highlighted the progress of the Community Toilet Scheme and noted that she had only seen one community toilet scheme sign in the town centre. Furthermore, another Member noted that he felt a notice depicting the location of nearby public conveniences and/or community scheme toilets would be useful at the location of closed public conveniences in the town centre. The Committee therefore agreed to receive a written update on the implementation of the public conveniences decision at its meeting on 16 February 2010. The Committee also agreed to identify where community scheme toilets were whilst they were in the town centre, as well as locating information regarding the Council's public conveniences on the Council's website to inform its response to the written update. A number of Members noted that the closure of town centre public conveniences had reduced the number of needle disposal points and agreed to ask the Street Cleansing Team whether or not it had noticed

an increase in the number of inappropriately disposed used needles in the town centre.”

1.3.2 The requested update is attached at **Appendix A** and a spreadsheet showing the number of needles found that were ‘improperly disposed of’ is attached at **Appendix B**.

1.4 Alternative Action and why not Recommended

1.4.1 The Committee could choose not to consider the update, however this could diminish knowledge of the work undertaken to progress the community toilet scheme.

1.5 Impact on Corporate Objectives

1.5.1 The provision of public conveniences is a discretionary function, however poor quality facilities could adversely affect a number of the Council’s priorities.

1.6 Risk Management

1.6.1 There are no risks associated with the Committee considering the public conveniences update.

1.7 Other Implications

1.7.1

- 1. Financial
- 2. Staffing
- 3. Legal
- 4. Equality Impact Needs Assessment
- 5. Environmental/Sustainable Development
- 6. Community Safety
- 7. Human Rights Act
- 8. Procurement
- 9. Asset Management

1.8 Relevant Documents

Appendix A - Community Toilet Scheme Update
Appendix B – Needle disposal