

Scrutiny briefing note

The Economy Scrutiny Panel has asked for an update on the following issues. This briefing contains the latest position as at July 2020.

Subject: Public Conveniences Update

At a meeting of 28th May 2020 cabinet received a paper outlining a number of recommendations which, if implemented, could enable the Council to use the savings from the closure of Grant Street to remove the 20p Pay-To-Use charge across all the Resort Public Conveniences.

Officers could further explore the potential lease out of the public conveniences at the Boating Lake. The potential savings associated with a reduced contract for the new facilities at Sea Road and the lease of the Boating Lake Public Conveniences could potentially facilitate the re-opening of the former Public Conveniences at North Promenade, which would result in maintaining an equal provision of Resort facilities but across a more favourable geographical footprint.

Cabinet resolved to Instruct the Director of Resources and Governance (having full regard at this time to public health and other issues arising from the COVID response and at the Director's discretion as to timing) to implement the following:

- a) *Grant Street Public Conveniences to close;*
- b) *Removal of Pay-To-Use entry charges to Public Conveniences throughout the Resort of Cleethorpes;*
- c) *Boating Lake Public Conveniences – explore lease out and provide contract payment to Community interest;*
- d) *Reduction on contract costs at Sea Road – through management of new and reduced provision leased to Danfo; and*
- e) *Explore the reopening of North Promenade Public Conveniences - leased in and sub-leased to Danfo.*

Whilst there was some urgency to see the benefit of free use for the remainder of the season the nature of the delegation gives an opportunity to update Scrutiny on the delegated explorations contained within the cabinet mandate. Therefore, this briefing note provides the latest position following recent progress.

- a) *Grant Street Public Conveniences to close.*

In line with the cabinet mandate the Grant St toilets did not re-open following the facility being closed for the Winter period (October to Easter). Signage has been installed to ensure the public are signposted to the nearest public convenience facilities.

- b) *Removal of Pay-To-Use entry charges to Public Conveniences throughout the Resort of Cleethorpes.*

As a result of a) above and d) below the charges to facilities across the resort have been removed at a broadly neutral financial cost to the Council. This was implemented on 10th June 2020.

- c) *Boating Lake Public Conveniences – explore lease out and provide contract payment to Community interest.*

Negotiations have taken place to understand whether the appetite for a community interest to take on the facility.

- d) *Reduction on contract costs at Sea Road – through management of new and reduced provision leased to Danfo.*

This action will be enabled as part of the capital works to provide new public conveniences at Sea Road. Discussions are ongoing with Danfo to discuss the new arrangements once work has completed.

- e) *Explore the reopening of North Promenade Public Conveniences - leased in and sub-leased to Danfo.*

Discussions are ongoing with the owner of North promenade toilets. There is an appetite to bring the toilets back into use and the actions taken above have provided a budget to allow for a lease arrangement which will as mentioned previously be at a broadly cost neutral position overall.

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