

Services Committee held 12th October 2023.

84/23/24 **TO RECEIVE QUOTES TO SUB-CONTRACT THE PUBLIC CONVENIENCES AND CONSIDER ANY ACTIONS AND ASSOCIATED EXPENDITURE.**

The Town Clerk provided background information for the suggestion to sub-contract the cleaning of public conveniences.

The Town Clerk reported that working closely with the department has highlighted many inefficiencies, some have been dealt with, however, one that has always been tricky to resolve is the operations of the public toilets.

Difficulties include recruitment and staff currently carrying out the operations at a detriment to other duties and Town Council responsibilities.

Each week the Service Delivery Department loses approximately 15 hours to the grounds / maintenance work due to weekend working to mainly cover the operations of the toilets.

The Town Clerk reminded Members of the various areas of grounds maintenance that the department is responsible for. This includes but is not limited to, two large Cemetery Grounds, Pillmere Estate, town areas, soon to be Victoria Gardens and any future devolution opportunities.

The Town Clerk advised that the loss of hours operating the public toilets could be better utilized during the week covering the areas of responsibility.

Members discussed the cost and operational impact currently being experienced. Members noted that the quotes received will need to be revised due to the decision under minute 82/23/24 to close Longstone Park toilets during the Winter period.

It was proposed by Councillor Gillies, seconded by Councillor Mortimore and **RESOLVED;**

1. To approve in principle to appoint company A to open, clean, and close the Town Council public conveniences 7 days per week totaling 3.5 hours per day in line with the Town Council operational hours, subject to a revised quote being received;
2. To create a new budget code - Public Toilet Commercial Cleaning;
3. To vire £32,000 from 6700 EMF Staff Contingency to Public Toilet Commercial Cleaning to cover associated cost.

It was proposed by Councillor Gillies, seconded by Councillor Mortimore and resolved to **RECOMMEND** to the Personnel Committee to review the staffing implications working with HR Support Consultancy reporting back at a future Services Committee meeting.