

Report of the Chief Executive

TOILET PROVISION IN PREMISES SELLING FOOD AND DRINK1. Purpose of report

To seek members' views on the introduction of a policy for the provision of toilet accommodation in premises selling food and drink.

2. Background

Section 20 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 (the Act) empowers local authorities to require sanitary facilities to be made available for the use of the public in "relevant places" defined under the Act including "*places used for the sale of food and drink to members of the public for consumption at the place*".

The Act gives the local authority the power to require the owner/occupier to provide sanitary accommodation of specific kinds and number, in a specified time.

'Relevant Place' includes a place which is used or is proposed to be normally used for the sale of food or drink to members of the public for consumption at that place.

Broxtowe Borough Council currently does not have an approved policy on this matter. As such, officers of the Environmental Health Section can only recommend good practice where they find a food business where seating is provided and there are no toilets. Very few complaints are received from the public about this issue but it is felt that the situation in Broxtowe should be regularised, even if that means simply maintaining the current position of officers just giving "best practice" advice

Within Nottinghamshire, none of the other authorities have policies on this issue, but simply offer advice.

In order to regularise the situation, members are asked to consider the options outlined in the appendix and decide on the preferred option.

3. Financial implications

It is anticipated that the costs of consultation can be contained within existing budgets.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked:

- 1. to decide on the preferred option with respect to toilet provision in places used for the sale of food and drink to members of the public for consumption at the place, and RESOLVE accordingly.**
- 2. Consult with existing food and drink premises and the public.**

Background papers

Nil