

Budget Template

Service	Community Services			Ref.	CS2b
Activity Heading	Public Conveniences				
Savings Name	Public Conveniences – Partial Closure (Alternative to full closure)				
Current Budget (£m)	£1.233m	Current Staffing (FTE)	1		

Savings Proposal *(detailed description, including implications for service delivery)*

95 Public Conveniences (PC) and 22 HCS scheme toilets are open and in use 2015/16:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closures, operating amendments and where practicable replacement with Highland Comfort Schemes and/or transfer of closed assets to third parties. To be introduced over 2 years with an overall saving for year 1 (2016/17) of £250k and for year 2 (2017/18) of £299k 	0.250
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain higher use or strategic tourism sites with no local alternative; some could be closed and replaced with HCS or transferred to Communities. Close the remaining sites with an offer of negotiated transfer to community groups or businesses with no HCS contribution. No residual cost to Council upon disposal of sites. 	0.299
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce honesty boxes throughout with 20p recommended contribution. 	0.075
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contractors redundancy attributable to the Council for staff originally TUPE'd approximately 16 FTE staff. 	-0.030 (TBC)

Financial Year	Savings £m	Staff Impact FTE
2016/17	0.250	0
2017/18	0.344	0
2018/19		
Total	0.594	0

Impact on Council Programme *(please state if any)*

Highland First Item 28 Tourism: Lack of public convenience facilities may have a negative impact on tourism and by focussing on retaining higher use or strategic tourism sites with no local alternative it is hoped that the impact will be low.

Impact on Service Performance *(eg achievement of targets, service levels etc)*

No change.

Customer Impact, Including Equalities & Rural Implications *(please reply YES or NO to questions 1-3 below)*

1. Will the change impact positively or negatively on particular groups of customers or in particular places? (YES/NO)	Yes
If no, state why	
If YES, state why	<p>PC's attract people and thus:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Businesses taking on a Highland Comfort Scheme toilet may attract more business. 2. Businesses may suffer where a PC is closed and there is no alternative. 3. Closure of some sites will remove disabled and baby changing facilities which would have a potential adverse impact on these user groups 4. There would be fewer across Highland however the potential impact in rural

	areas given the lack of alternative facilities would be greater.
Mitigating action	The Highland Comfort Scheme will be promoted in place of closed facilities. Focus on retaining strategic tourism sites with no local alternative.
2. Do other savings proposals impact on the same group of customers? (YES/NO)	No
3. If equalities impacts are identified above, a full impact assessment is needed. Is new information required to be gathered for that e.g. consultation with groups affected? (YES/NO)	Yes
3A. Equalities Summary EQIA completed, mitigation identified.	

Deliverability and Risks

Proposals for closures will be made by officers and need to be agreed with Members.

Risks:

- Closures will not be popular and may prove difficult to deliver;
- Potential for public health risk at remote sites
- Some people with health or disability needs plan their journeys around availability of toilets for the disabled.