

Record of Decisions

Brixham Changing Places

Decision Taker

Cabinet on 23 February 2023.

Decision

1. That, subject to the Change request and associated funding from the Department for Housing and Levelling Up being agreed, the project for the delivery of the 1 Changing Places unit in Brixham town centre car park be approved; and
2. That the ongoing revenue maintenance and cleaning costs be added to the current Council contract with Healthmatic.

Reason for the Decision

The installation of this facility will make Brixham town centre and surrounding area more accessible and inclusive to residents and tourists who have a profound disability.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 8 March 2023 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in the Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

A Changing Places toilet provides sanitary accommodation for people with multiple and complex disabilities who have one or two assistants with them. Without a suitable changing bench, many disabled people have to be laid on the floor to be changed. This is undignified, unhygienic and puts assistants at risk of injury. Changing Places toilets are designed for people who cannot use a standard accessible toilet and include enhanced adaptations and equipment to assist the user and their carers.

Within Torbay there is currently one Changing Places toilet which was located behind the Vue cinema on Paignton seafront. In March 2022 Torbay Council was successful in bidding for grant funding to support the installation of 1 Changing places unit, in the Brixham town centre carpark.

At the meeting, Councillor Stockman proposed and Councillor Morey seconded a motion that was agreed unanimously by the Cabinet, as set out above.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

An alternative option was to locate the Changing Place next to a current toilet block as it has the nearby utility and sewer connections which will be needed for any solution. However, this would have required the expansion of the pavements to allow enough access around the unit, which would have subsequently impacted the flow of traffic in the carpark and reduced the loading space which was utilised by the adjacent Tesco store. Due to these considerations and the proximity to the main flow of traffic to potential users as a result this option was discounted.

Is this a Key Decision?

No

Does the call-in procedure apply?

Yes

Declarations of interest (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None.

Published

28 February 2023

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Leader of Torbay Council on behalf of the Cabinet