

Prostate Cancer UK Campaign 'Boys need bins' Reasons for Call-In

1. The message from Cabinet is that people who are suffering incontinence as a result of Prostate Cancer should use a disabled toilet.

Prostate Cancer UK does not describe people who are suffering incontinence as a result of Prostate Cancer as disabled. Indeed quite the opposite.

The Prostate Cancer UK 'Boys need Bins' campaign calls for parity between everyone in relation to the disposal of incontinence pads and other hygiene waste products. The Prostate Cancer UK website says: "Boys need Bins is asking for existing legislation, which relates to female toilets, to be updated to give parity to everyone. This will allow men to correctly dispose of incontinence pads, stoma bag by/ products and associated hygiene waste items in a dedicated male hygiene bin.

It's not satisfactory that men are told to use a disabled toilet to accommodate their needs. Men need their own provision.

Telling men to use disabled toilets, but providing bins in female toilets does not provide parity. The logic of the Cabinet's position is that female users of the public toilets who need to dispose of sanitary products is that they should also use disabled toilets. The Cabinet's position also perpetuates stigma rather than challenges it.

We urge the Cabinet to think again.

2. Two Cabinet Members at the Cabinet Meeting advised that they had written to the two MP's who cover Torbay in support of the 'Boys Need Bins' campaign. However, as can be seen from point (1) what the Cabinet have agreed is at odds with the Prostate Cancer UK campaign. Can the Cabinet clarify exactly what they have asked the MP's to support?

Proposer: Councillor Long
Secunder: Councillor Penny

Appendix 1 – Original Motion
Appendix 2 – Cabinet Record of Decision