

ANGUS COUNCIL

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 20 JANUARY 2015

CHANGING PLACES (PAMIS) FACILITIES

REPORT BY STRATEGIC DIRECTOR- COMMUNITIES

ABSTRACT

Following the motion at Angus Council on 11 September 2014 the Strategic Director- Communities was requested to report on the existing provision of Changing Places toilets - adult changing facilities for use by persons with Profound and Multiple Disabilities.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) notes the current and proposed Changing Places (PAMIS) toilets provision;
- (ii) notes the requirement to apply a further £12,000 of Communities current year revenue underspend to fund the proposed facility at Arbroath Visitors Centre and that £6,000 of this will require to be considered for carry forward by the next Policy & resources committee; and
- (iii) agrees to the future consideration of Changing Places toilets and to build a network of facilities as opportunities arise.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN/SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT/CORPORATE PLAN

2.1 This report contributes to the following local outcomes contained within the Angus Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement 2013-2016:

- Our communities are developed in a sustainable manner
- Our natural and built environment is protected and enjoyed
- Angus is a good place to live in, work in and visit
- Individuals are involved in their communities
- We have improved the health and wellbeing of our people and inequalities are reduced

3. BACKGROUND

At the Angus Council meeting of 11 September 2014 the members unanimously resolved to approve the motion:

“That this Council: ...

... requests that the Strategic Director- Communities submits a report to the appropriate Council Committee which would identify the existing provision of such (PAMIS) facilities in Angus and what steps could be taken to enhance this provision, both in terms of locality and standards”.

A Changing Places toilet is a full sized adult changing room, equipped with hoists and changing bed to enable people with Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties (PMLD) the right to use a toilet with the same dignity and privacy as others.

Changing Places is a national campaign with the aim of ensuring that Changing Places toilets are available across the nation. Currently there are lots of toilets designed for disabled people but these do not meet the needs of up to 250,000 disabled people and their carers. They are too small and do not have the special equipment that people with profound and multiple disabilities need. Toilets that are big enough and have this special equipment are called Changing places toilets. The campaign was initially started by Profound and Multiple Impairment Service UK (PAMIS) who have now joined forces with other groups to form the Changing Places Consortium. Over 170 organisations and agencies across the UK are supporting the Consortium's 'Changing Places' campaign.

PAMIS have campaigned for the provision of these Changing Places toilets to make the built environment, goods and services, and access to cultural and leisure services more accessible to people with PMLD. PAMIS successfully campaigned to achieve a change in the British Standard (on the Design of Buildings and their approaches to meet the needs of disabled people BS 8300:2009), to include a full sized adult changing facility.

PAMIS, through the Changing Places Consortium and along with many other organisations has been campaigning for toilets to be provided in all towns and cities across Scotland. In February 2009, Changing Places toilets were included in the British Standards BS8300, this means that they should be included in all new larger buildings and complexes such as:

- Large railway stations & airports
- Sports & leisure facilities
- Cultural centres such as concert halls and art galleries
- Shopping centres
- Health facilities such as hospitals

The requirements of a Changing Places facility are as follows:

- an adult sized, height adjustable changing bench which is either wall mounted or free standing
- a ceiling tracking or a mobile hoist
- a peninsular (centrally placed) toilet
- a privacy screen or curtain
- a large bin for pads
- an emergency alarm
- a paper roll
- a non slip floor
- adequate space for a disabled person when they are not in their wheelchair, their wheelchair and one or two carers. The standard minimum size was 7m² in 2006; it has now been revised to 12m² (3m x 4m), BS8300:2009 (fig 58)

4. CURRENT POSITION

There are number of facilities already within Angus which are listed on the PAMIS website but as some of these Changing Places were built before the new British Standard, BS 8300: 2009 was launched they are not all as large as the standard now recommends but they all have a height adjustable changing bench and a hoist. The sites are:

Arbroath	Lochlands Resource Centre	Cairnie Road
Forfar	Lilybank Resource Centre	Arbroath Rd
	Glen Loch Centre	Whitehills Hospital
Kirriemuir	Websters Sports Centre	Prosen Road
Montrose	Montrose Sports Centre	Marine Avenue
	Rosehill Resource Centre	Forties Road
Monifieth	Beach Front Play area (early generation)	

5. FUTURE PROPOSALS

The facilities above are available to users of the premises and visitors in need of the facilities. Due to the nature of the facilities there is a need to keep the facilities secure but accessible. Such facilities are therefore not suited to stand alone units and are best located where there are staff available to service the facility (cleaning etc) provide emergency assistance and security.

Social care units need such facilities for their customers but the operating hours which are weekdays only limit the use by visitors not associated with the unit. Sports/leisure complexes have the advantage of longer opening hours and therefore can extend the availability of such facilities particularly into the evenings and weekends.

In July 2014 a meeting with PAMIS representatives discussed the opportunities for inclusion of facilities at the new Brechin and Forfar Community Campuses.

Due to the advanced position of the Brechin project at that time adaptations have been proposed to include two Accessible Changing/ Accessible Toilet facilities which are smaller area rooms compared to the desirable 12m². The costs of these proposals including equipment are contained in the project costs.

The planned Forfar leisure facility will include two Accessible Changing/ Toilet facilities, each designed to be a PAMIS facility to BS8300:2009. In addition a smaller Accessible Changing/ Toilet facility will be located in the Swimming Pool Wet Changing Village.

Members will recall the representation to 11 September 2014 Council meeting by Ms Speed and the fund raising of £10,000 in the Loo Tour De Britain by Mr Speed. A potential opportunity for a PAMIS facility in Ms Speed's home town of Arbroath at the Harbour Visitor Centre in an existing underutilised area, has been identified. The estimated costs of the building alterations (combining two rooms into one and door adaptations) and fitting out the room is estimated at £42,000. Discussions are on going regarding the design and the adjacent restaurant has agreed to facilitate access.

The above programme would form the basis of a network of facilities across the county, with the inland areas having coverage and partial coverage in the coastal Burghs giving access to the associated recreational opportunities. The new facilities in Arbroath and Forfar will supplement the existing provision and by being available over weekends and evenings will significantly increase the availability of such facilities and enhance PMLD patients' opportunities to use social activities and services. The proposed sites have advantages over other potential buildings such as the Reid Hall in Forfar, and new primary schools in Arbroath as these facilities have more limited opening hours.

Further facilities could be developed when funding and opportunities arise including being incorporated in future build projects. The next steps would be to identify opportunities in Carnoustie and supplement the early generation facility in Monifieth, which would complete a network across all Burgh towns. It proposed that options are examined to this expand network when opportunities arise either through new build or refurbishment works, subject to budget provision. To maximise the advantages to people with PMLD such facilities will be provided where they can be utilised at weekends as well as weekdays and where evening use is maximised thereby realising the maximum benefit for users.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost of provision of a PAMIS facility in an existing building is approximately £35,000 for the equipment plus any costs of the room/alterations within the building and on going revenue costs for energy, cleaning and replacement.

The proposed facilities in Brechin and Forfar are contained in the capital and revenue budgets for these projects.

The proposal for the facility in Arbroath is estimated to cost £42,000 of which £6,000 will be incurred in 2014/15 and the remaining £36,000 in 2015/16.

The estimated cost can partly be met from the donations raised of £10,000 and £20,000 from Communities current year revenue underspend (approved for carry forward to 2015/16 at Council on 11 December 2014, report 504/14 refers).

This leaves a balance of £12,000 and it is proposed that this be funded by applying further Communities revenue underspend, with £6,000 being utilised in 2014/15 and the remaining £6,000 requiring an increase to the carry forward to 2015/16. Members are asked to note that the additional carry forward will require to be considered by the Policy & Resources committee at its meeting on 3 February 2015.

As and when opportunities are identified in Carnoustie and Monifieth, budget consideration will be addressed at that time.

NOTE: The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are:

- Minutes of Meeting of Angus Council - 11 September 2014.

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