



EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION

REPORT OF:	Executive Member for Public Health, Prevention & Wellbeing
LEAD OFFICERS:	Strategic Director of Environment & Operations
DATE:	28 February 2024

PORTFOLIO/S AFFECTED: Public Health and Wellbeing

WARD/S AFFECTED: (All Wards);

SUBJECT: Installation of a Changing Places Toilet Facility at Witton Country Park adjacent to Witton Park Arena

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In September 2022, the Council submitted an expression of interest to receive funding for Changing Places toilet facilities as part of the Round 2 funding.

We have successfully secured up to £75,000 towards the installation of a Changing Places Modular Facility at Witton Country Park as part of this funding scheme.

The proposal is to install a modular build Changing Places toilet facility adjacent to Witton Park Arena and close to the entrance at Witton Park.

We have completed a procurement process and the highest scoring bidder, Danfo (UK) Limited has submitted a quote to complete this project for £71,229 which is within the available funding which has been secured to complete the project.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive Member:

- Approves the installation of a Changing Places Toilet facility at Witton Country Park.
- Delegates authority to the Strategic Director of Environment and Operations to procure the works from Danfo (UK) Limited who were the highest scoring bidder in the recent procurement process.

3. BACKGROUND

Changing Places toilets are large accessible toilets for severely disabled people. They are now legally required in all new public buildings in England with a capacity for 350 or more people. Shopping centres, supermarkets, sports and arts venues will be required to include at least one Changing Place toilet facility.

Over a quarter of a million people in the UK need changing places toilets to enable them to get out and about and enjoy the day-to-day activities which many of us take for granted. To use a toilet in

safety and comfort, severely disabled people need to be able to access a Changing Places toilet, which has more space and the right equipment including a height adjustable changing bench, a peninsular toilet and a ceiling hoist.

Currently there is only one Changing Places Toilet in the borough, which is situated in Blackburn Market, so we are currently under-provided for with regards to fully accessible toilet facilities for people with severe disabilities.

The Government has made a £30 million Changing Places fund available to install more facilities in existing public venues. Local authorities are invited to submit bids on behalf of their Boroughs.

In Round 1, funding of £62,000 was secured and is funding the installation of a Changing Places Toilet Facility by Blackburn Cathedral.

In Round 2, the Council successfully secured up to £75,000 towards the installation of a Changing Places Modular Facility at Witton Park as part of this funding scheme. Further funding was secured for Blackburn Rovers to install a Changing Places Toilet facility at Ewood Park.

The Council has completed a procurement process, and the highest scoring bidder (Danfo) has submitted a quote to complete this project for £71,229 which is affordable within the funding secured to complete the full project.

Once these changing places toilets have been developed and completed, there will be four changing places toilet facilities in the Borough to support people with severe disabilities.

4. KEY ISSUES & RISKS

Witton Country Park is the busiest park within the borough as it is visited by residents from across Blackburn and Darwen and surrounding areas. Siting a changing places toilet within the park will enable people with severe disabilities to use the country park in the knowledge that they have access to a fully accessible toilet facility.

There is a risk of vandalism or misuse of the facility, however the changing places toilet facility will be supervised by staff working at Witton Park Arena and the facility will be locked overnight by the team at Witton Park Arena when locking up the Arena.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The installation of a changing places toilet facility in Witton Country Park aligns with the Council's Corporate Plan and one of our core missions to build happier, healthier safer communities. The changing place toilet facility will enable people with severe disabilities to use Witton Country Park in the knowledge that fully accessible toilet facilities are available for them to use.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Initial maintenance will be covered by a warranty, however, thereafter there will be ongoing maintenance costs which will be funded from the existing Witton Park Arena budget.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Procurement is in accordance with Contract Procurement Procedure Rules. The contract will be in a form approved by legal officers in the contracts and procurement team.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

None – the changing places toilet facility will be managed by the team at Witton Park.

9. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Please select one of the options below. Where appropriate please include the hyperlink to the EIA.

Option 1 Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required – the EIA checklist has been completed.

Option 2 In determining this matter the Executive Member needs to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA link here)*

Option 3 In determining this matter the Executive Board Members need to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA attachment)*

10. CONSULTATIONS**11. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

The recommendations are made further to advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been considered. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

12. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Declarations of Interest of any Executive Member consulted and note of any dispensation granted by the Chief Executive will be recorded and published if applicable.

VERSION:	1
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CONTACT OFFICER:	Joanne Byrne/Martin Eden
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DATE:	02 February 2024
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BACKGROUND PAPER:	
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