

## CCH Environment Working Group - confidential

### 1. Background –

- 1.1 The Bear Pit currently has both Male and Female Toilet blocks, within each block there are only a few units that are working properly and the Gents has asbestos in the Ceiling. This site is one of two sites in Bristol that has an attendant.
- 1.2 At Full Council on the 21<sup>st</sup> February it was agreed to cut the Public Toilet Budget by £40k this financial year and by a further £400k in the £2018/19 year this represents most of the current budget.
- 1.3 This represents a 95% cut to the budget
- 1.4 We aim to increase and improve public toilet provision in the City, which we can do by following the lead of other Councils across the UK.
  - The Bristol Comfort Scheme will work with businesses and the voluntary sector to identify venues which offer access to their facilities to the general public – this will be marketed via App, map and signage at the sites.
  - By asset transfer to enable the voluntary sector to offer provision in part of the site, whilst using the rest of the site for income generation.
  - Or by renting/selling to the businesses sector at a reduced rate with retention of some toilet service to be managed by the owner/tenant as part of the covenant on that site.
- 1.5 There are currently three voluntary sector parties interested in the Bearpit Toilets and we think that it would be appropriate to offer the site for asset transfer this year. This would need to be a competitive process, however in an ideal world the parties would come together to submit a joint application.
- 1.6 BCC would pay for the removal of the Asbestos in the Gents Toilet, however all other costs of refitting or redeveloping would need to be funded by the successful applicant.
- 1.7 Currently the asset transfer process involves conversations with the Neighbourhood Partnerships, which will not be around after June 2017.