Briefing notes on Issues included in the Forward Plan Issue 2005/06

SERVICE AREA: ENVIRONMENT

Report ref	Report title: PUBLIC CONVENIENCE STRATEGY

Summary and Nature of Decision to be taken/Intended Outcome

Officers would like approval from Members to undertake the following tasks.

The closure of so many public toilets around 6/7 years ago for very good reasons has left the borough far short of the amount of PCs necessary to adequately meets the needs of the community.

SHORT TERM SOLUTIONS:

Use existing funds within the Public Convenience budget to improve sign posting. The signs should show the direction of, and distance to, the nearest PC with symbols for the various facilities available e.g. nappy changing. Officers would also like to use existing funds to improve upon equality matters, by ensuring that instructions for use of public toilets are written in at least one other of the Borough's top ten languages spoken apart from English.

LONG TERM SOLUTIONS:

Officers believe that the formulation of any Public Convenience Strategy must consider the needs of all potential users. This include local residents and tourists, people with mental and physical disabilities and their carers, parent with babies and young children.

To achieve the above Officers would like to consult on a framework strategy, which includes proposals for increasing the number of toilets in the Borough and working in partnership with other stakeholders and service providers to achieve this.

Timescale for decision:

Report scheduled to go to the August 2005 Executive.

Contact Details:

Neal St Lewis

StreetScene Manager StreetCare -020-8937-5079