**Public Conveniences – Briefing for Elected Members**

In 2011, the Council made a decision to reduce the budget of the Public Conveniences service by £300,000, a saving that was delayed until the 2015/ 2016 financial year. There was an additional budget proposal to reduce the service budget by a further £300,000, which would have resulted in the closure of all public toilets outwith the city centre.

The Council made a decision on 12 February 2015 to reject the proposal of the additional £300,000 budget saving. The original saving of £300,000 is still required in order to contribute towards the Council’s budget target for the 2015/2016 financial year, which will require around ten public toilets to be closed.

An initial list of 12 public conveniences has been identified for closure, based on the following criteria:

* Condition
* Usage
* Accessibility
* Alternative publicly accessible toilets
* Potential for Community Toilet Scheme in local area (an initiative where businesses receive an annual payment for allowing members of the public to use their toilet facilities without making a purchase)

If you require further information about the selection criteria, please email [waste@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:waste@edinburgh.gov.uk)

This initial list will be used as the basis for a customer survey, which will be launched on the Council’s [Consultation Hub](https://consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/) as of Monday 13 April 2015. Members of the public will be asked for their feedback on this list, and how these proposed closures may impact on them personally or on their local community. The survey will be live for a period of six weeks, and will close on Monday 25 May.

The results of this survey will be collated and analysed; and used along with up to day user figures to enable the Council to make the final decision on which toilets should be closed.

The toilets that make up the initial list of proposed closures are:

* London Road
* Tollcross
* St John’s Road
* Canaan Lane
* Middle Meadow Walk
* Joppa
* Hawes Pier, South Queensferry
* Granton Square
* Ardmillan
* Currie
* Canonmills
* Juniper Green

The link to the survey will be forwarded to all Community Councils, Friends of Parks groups and Neighbourhood Partnerships, as well as the voluntary sector and business community to ensure they are given the opportunity to provide their comments. The survey will also be featured in a blog post on the Council’s website. It would be appreciated if you would include the [survey link](https://consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/sfc/public-toilets-survey) in any newsletters or updates to your constituents.