



Refurbishment of the toilet block at the Windmill Centre

The Windmill Management Committee have undertaken a scoping review for the essential refurbishment of the main toilets at the Windmill Centre. We don't think anyone is under any illusion about their current condition and their limitations.

The current configuration of the area has no acceptable disabled or baby changing facility, reducing the potential for the Windmill to be an accessible venue for many potential users. The condition of the facilities is outdated and unattractive with the addition of the following.

In evaluating the requirements of the toilet facilities, we have taken the following key factors into consideration:

- Maintaining the current toilet capacity
- Provide a safe and comfortable environment
- Improving facilities for parents with babies and young children
- Improving facilities for disabled users and their carers
- Ensuring the facilities meet the equality, diversity, and inclusion requirements of its users
- Cost effective solutions

Two options have been considered to address these factors:

Option One – Refurbishment of the current facility

Option Two – Reconfiguration to form a large all-gender toilet facility

In conducting this evaluation, we understand that the second option has been taken by many public establishments, such as schools, universities, hospitals and community halls, with a view to providing the availability of inclusive facilities for diverse user groups and communities.

The Option Two design would include an open plan area that has individual, floor to ceiling cubicles (maximising privacy) along with a fully functioned disabled toilet and baby changing facility. This would include the removal of the existing urinals. It is noted that currently almost all disabled facilities are already unisex/all-gender. A full Equality Impact Assessment has been conducted. We also still have single sex toilet facilities on the first floor.



Proposed Benefits

- Maximum use of the available space
- Provision of disabled toilet facility to the east side of the building
- Provision of a baby changing facility.
- Referee and umpire changing facility.
- Facility that flexes with any configuration of user group to meet the ebb and flow of the booking, resulting in reduced queuing times.
- Reconfigured storage
- No loss of toilet provision
- Offering facilities that do not intentionally discriminate against protected groups

It is noted that there are plans to provide additional disabled toilet facilities to the west side of the community centre and there are no current changes planned for the segregated male/female toilets upstairs.

Before undertaking any works, we wish to understand the views of the current users of the centre and local community. Please email all comments by the 11th April to: enquiries@thewindmilledddington

FAQ

Safeguarding: This is the responsibility of the authorised adult of any group. The open provision allows for adults of another gender to supervise all children under their care.

Cleaning: There is no evidence to suggest that more cleaning will be necessary because of the change. This will however be monitored. The priority of the committee is to ensure we are compliant with the guidance produced related to the current Pandemic.

Female Hygiene needs: Sanitary waste bins will be provided in each single cubicle.

Queuing: Evidence suggests that the waiting time for gender neutral toilets is reduced, specifically for women.

Privacy: The proposal is for floor to ceiling individual cubicle with no gaps capable ensuring privacy