

OVERVIEW & INTRODUCTION

- The “Bog Standards” are driven by the findings of the Need The Loo Campaign.
- They are a set of standards and guidelines for businesses and planners to adopt.
- They have been co-created by the campaign’s core team and local people who want to use their lived experiences to ensure that Public Toilets in Coventry are not a barrier for people wanting to access public spaces.
- They are supported by Coventry’s Public Health Department, DEAP panel & Grapevine.

Coventry has a number of public toilets in the city centre, a mix of Council and privately managed. There are also many businesses and public spaces with toilets that could be accessed by the public, but are currently not.

Our recent survey on public toilets in the city centre highlighted not all are of an acceptable standard, and there are areas of the city with inadequate provision. Footfall is being impacted, as people limit visits, only go to specific areas or choose other options to avoid the city centre altogether.

LIVED EXPERIENCED SOLUTIONS...

SIGNAGE - this has been identified as a key recommendation.

- Information on-line with map re location and facilities available at each site.
- Businesses to have information online about their toilet facilities
- Appropriate signage about 150 yards away, and signs outside with opening times.
- Signs to show if the cleaner is present and is male or female.
- Customer feedback - Notice of who to report any issues too

ESSENTIAL PROVISION - The basics

Flushable toilets, lockable doors, toilet paper, clothes and bag hooks, waste paper and sanitary waste bins, good lighting, hand-washing and drying facilities, mirror, ventilation / air freshener, regular checks and cleaning, prompt repairs.

Separate facilities for males and females are crucial due to varying needs, such as childcare, pregnancy, and privacy concerns, particularly for some religions or abuse survivors. To ensure inclusivity, all genders should have access to safe toilets with baby changing stations.

ACCESSIBLE TOILETS

Grab rails, wide - easy-open - doors, hooks and mirrors at an appropriate height for wheelchair users, integral wash basin hand dryer, sanitary and waste bin, ventilation/air freshener. Stoma friendly toilets - provide a shelf and mirror (for, e.g. users with a stoma who need somewhere clean to place changing equipment)

PLANNING TO ADD OR UPGRADE TOILETS?

- Self contained cubicles were highlighted as the most favourable option due to both cleaning and toileting needs being met in a private space.
- For all toilet provision, space needs to be a top priority. Can the toilet be accessed if someone has shopping bags, mobility aids, etc?
- Gender Neutral Toilets should be self-contained, floor to ceiling walls and doors to ensure privacy. For user safety reasons/avoidance of misuse, they should not be situated in ‘out of the way’ locations.

Further Information:

- Need The Loo Public Questionnaire Summary
- Toilets Matter – a short guide to law and good practice.
- British Standard 6465 parts 1-4 re sanitary installations, Document M of Building Regulations.
- www.gov.uk/government/news/new-building-requirements-for-separate-male-and-female-toilets
- [Stoma friendly toilets pdf - Colostomy UK](#)