

EMAIL TO COUNCILLOR DAVE DIXON, COPIED TO MATTHEW SMITH, B&NES

From: Henry Brown [mailto:henrybrown@bethere.co.uk]
Sent: 07 December 2012 16:44
To: 'David Dixon (Clr)'
Cc: 'Matthew Smith'; 'Robin Kerr'
Subject: closure of public conveniences

Dear Dave,
cc Matthew,

I was instructed by the FoBRA committee meeting last night to object most strongly to your proposed closure of public conveniences in Bath, especially the ones at Monmouth Street/Seven Dials and the RVP pavilion.

- Public toilets are few and far between after the last round of closures, which I believe were targeted on Bath alone. You may need to look at the rest of the district, but Bath should not suffer again.
- We think closures are inconsistent with your equalities obligations.
- Public toilets are relied on particularly by elderly people, who cannot just march across town to get to Southgate or the Vaults.
- Public toilets are important for pedestrians. Closure will encourage more people to drive, worsening the already bad congestion and pollution.
- Public toilets are needed by parents with small children, who often cannot wait.
- Toilets in shops etc are not open at night, when there is increased demand for urination.
- There is no toilet in the George Street area, the biggest hotspot for evening drinking, since the Council closed the convenience in Lansdown Road. The Council should be looking to provide a public convenience here, not to reduce provision further. Closure of Monmouth Street is certain to lead to more urination in the quieter side streets.
- Closure of the toilet at the RVP pavilion will undermine the viability of the excellent cafe there. Cafes always feature a toilet.

Please keep us informed of developments on this important issue.

Best wishes,

Henry, 7 December



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