

Victoria Borwick AM
Chair, Health and Public Services Committee

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Boris Johnson
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10 January 2012

Dear Boris

Public Toilets in London

Thank you for your response to the Health and Public Services Committee update report on public toilet provision, dated 17 October 2011. The Committee is grateful for your support on several of the recommendations, notably on Recommendations 2 (increasing public access to major companies and organisations' toilets); Recommendation 4 (including guidance on public toilet provision in Supplementary Planning Guidance) and Recommendation 5: (Adopting the standard open data format to improve the accessibility of data on publicly accessible toilets).

However, the Committee is disappointed that you believe recommendation 1 would be too difficult to implement in practice. This recommendation states that:

The Mayor should instruct all organisations in the GLA Group to allow public access, where possible, to the toilets in the buildings they occupy. The Mayor should write to all relevant boroughs to indicate that these buildings are available for membership of a borough-run community toilet scheme.

The Committee believes that since the GLA set up the Open London Scheme to encourage businesses to allow public access to their toilets, we should lead by example by doing the same. We appreciate that not all GLA buildings can allow public access to their toilets, but believe that some should be able to do so on request. I would therefore be grateful if you could reconsider your response, and ask GLA Group Organisations to assess whether they could provide public access to the toilets in each of their workplaces.

I would be grateful if you could respond to this letter by 27 February, to enable me to report back to the Committee at its last meeting this year on 8 March.

Yours sincerely,

Victoria Borwick AM
Chair, Health and Public Services Committee

If you have any queries about this letter please contact Susannah Drury, Scrutiny Manager:
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