



14. NOTICES OF MOTION

14.1 Public Toilet Facilities

I, Councillor Heather Cunsolo, give notice that I intend to move the Motion outlined below at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 01 September 2021:

That Council:

1. Notes that the provision of clean, fit for purpose public amenities is a key responsibility of Council and that these facilities enable all members of the community to use and enjoy public open spaces.
2. Notes that in 2015 Council removed soap and paper towel dispensers from public toilets across the City in response to vandalism but that considerable time has since passed and that it is timely to review that decision.
3. Requests that the CEO:
 - a. Provide a report to Council on the costs, and timeline for the reintroduction of soap dispensers to Council's public toilets before the commencement of summer 2021/22, and that the report includes measures to assess the effectiveness of the reintroduction.

Supporting Information

Council has approximately 38 public toilets that it maintains and operates on behalf of the community. These facilities are located in high visitation areas such as along the foreshore, activity centres, in parks and playgrounds. In 2015, Council ceased providing soap and hand drying paper towel in public toilets. This was in response to rising rates of vandalism and theft. It was costing about \$50k a year in vandalism. The anecdotal recollections of officers who were involved at the time are that the majority of the vandalism was related specifically to the paper towel dispensers.

We would likely look at installing motion activated stainless steel ('vandal proof') units. These have a long-life battery in them and dispense soap automatically. They are more hygienic and are less prone to vandalism because the mechanism is hidden away from view. If Council resolved to pass the notice of motion, we would aim to bring a report back within a month or so. That would enable the soap dispensers to be rolled out well ahead of summer.

The issues around vandalism and the condition of Council's public toilets was extensively assessed as part of the public toilet plan. A copy of the plan can be found on the Council [website here](#).