

## Funding for Public Toilets

Wiltshire Council is launching a Community Toilet Scheme. The council is looking for businesses it can work with across the county to make more toilets available to the public. It is also hoping the scheme will deliver longer opening hours and more convenient locations.

Any business or community building in Wiltshire can become involved. The scheme promotes the buildings as being happy to allow non-customers to use their toilet facilities during their normal opening hours.

Participating properties will display a sticker in the window, so wherever you see this sign it means you are welcome to use the toilet facilities without necessarily having to ask or make a purchase.

The council recognises that some buildings will need to make improvements to their current facilities and so has allocated £1,000 per community area board to pay for 'one off' set up costs for the financial year 2016/ 17. Applicants can apply to their local community area board for grants up to £250 for improvements.

Many businesses and community buildings already provide public toilets and I believe this scheme will help further deliver major benefits to visitors to Wiltshire. It recognises the change in requirements for public convenience provision whereby commercial and retail buildings have become the provider of choice for public toilet users. It is hoped that the funding the council is making available will encourage even more properties to open their doors to residents and visitors to Wiltshire.