

## Loch Public Toilets

Council is aware that the Loch community is pushing for toilets to be installed in Sunnyside Park in Loch, just 250 metres from the existing facilities.

The Loch Community Development Association (LDCA) has been informed about Council's position on the provision of an additional public toilet in Loch. A briefing was held on Wednesday 4 March 2015 to provide Councillors with an overview of the current status of public toilets in the shire. At that briefing Councillors discussed the LDCA request for a toilet in Sunnyside Park and some of the guiding principles for the consideration of new Council funded and maintained public toilets.

The outcome of the briefing in regards to the LDCA proposal was that Council currently had no funds or plans to support the construction of a new public toilet in Loch or the resources to maintain and clean an additional public toilet.

For Council to consider additional Council funded, constructed or operated public toilet facilities two of the following four criteria must be met:

- There is no existing facility within 500m for high use areas (>250 visitations daily) and 1km in low use areas (<250 visitations daily) of an already established public toilet facility.
- There has been a significant increase (25%) in permanent / seasonal township population using the 2011 census data as benchmark.
- There has been a new activity established – eg: a playground or barbecue that attracts in excess of 20 users per day.
- There is a capacity problem at an existing public toilet, with demand for public toilet use at the venue leading to queues on a daily basis.

Given that the public toilets in Loch are only 250 metres away from Sunnyside Park, that the population has not increased markedly and that there is no capacity problem with the current facilities, this project has not been included in Council's 15 year capital works plan.

Council has a renewal program in place for existing public toilet facilities, which takes into account asset condition, serviceability, functionality and accessibility. In the past five years Council has renewed the public toilets in Dumbalk, Fish Creek, Toora and Yanakie with Waratah Bay and Tarwin Lower in progress at present.

The LDCA has been advised that it can make a submission to the 2016/17 Budget if it is seeking support for a Council funded and maintained facility.

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