

**THIS PAPER RELATES TO  
ITEM 13  
ON THE AGENDA**

## **Motion to Clackmannanshire Council Meeting 21<sup>st</sup> August 2025**

Investing in Inclusive Play: Refurbishment and Future Management of Public Toilets at West End Park, Alloa

### **Council Notes:**

- The Scottish Government's £60 million Playpark Renewal Programme supports the enhancement of play spaces across Scotland.
- This funding may be used not only for play equipment but also for supporting infrastructure, including public toilets located within or adjacent to playparks.
- West End Park is Alloa's largest public park and a key community space, with **£372,000** already invested in play facility upgrades through this programme.

### **Council Recognises:**

- The park's public toilet facilities are currently closed, limiting accessibility and reducing the overall impact of recent investment.
- Clean, safe, and accessible toilets enhance our parks inclusivity and sense of welcome — particularly for families, disabled users, and others with additional support needs.
- The Scottish Government has confirmed (letter dated 2 July 2025, attached) that toilet refurbishment is an eligible use of Playpark Renewal Programme funding.

### **Council Further Notes:**

- The need to identify a **financially sustainable and community-led model** for the long-term operation of any refurbished facility.
- Contactless payment systems, as successfully introduced in Stirling, Arbroath, and North Ayrshire, offer a practical way to support ongoing operational costs while maintaining access and minimising misuse.
- There may be further opportunities to explore **community ownership and management**, including via a **Community Asset Transfer**, to ensure long-term sustainability and local empowerment.

### **Council Agrees:**

- To progress with any required refurbishment of the public toilets within West End Park, Alloa, using eligible capital funding from the Playpark Renewal Programme.
- To consider a range of operational models for the future management of the facility, including:
  - Implementation of a contactless payment system;
  - A potential **Community Asset Transfer** to a suitable local organisation;
  - Other community-led or partnership models that ensure long-term sustainability.

- To engage with local stakeholders and community groups to shape potential options.
- To request a report by early 2026 outlining possible ownership or management models, and a proposed delivery timeline.



Councillor Ellen Forson  
Ward 4, Clackmannanshire South

10<sup>th</sup> August 2025

**Minister for Children, Young People and The Promise**

Ministear airson Clann, Daoine Òga is An Gealladh

**Natalie Don-Innes MSP**

Natalie Don-Innes BPA



**Scottish Government**  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
gov.scot



Our Reference: 202500469644

Your Reference: EF/JD

2 July 2025

Dear Councillor Forson,

Thank you for your letter of 5 June 2025 enquiring if the play park renewal funding can be used for refurbishing public toilets within play parks.

The Scottish Government's £60 million play park renewal programme is for public, free-to-access parks and has been distributed to local authorities over the course of this parliamentary term. The intention behind this funding is to improve play opportunities for children everywhere in Scotland, so that they can experience more play and better play. Local authorities have a general responsibility to maintain play parks that serve their communities and this investment provides a boost in funding to accelerate local plans and improve play experiences for all children in Scotland.

As per the National Principles letter sent by the Cabinet Secretary in October 2021, the Scottish Government recommends that local authorities consider if work on play parks should include features other than play equipment that will support families to visit and enjoy the parks, and to make play parks more inclusive. This can include, for example, extra seating, suitable surfaces, toilet facilities, planting, improved access points and circulation routes, and water fountains which, as also highlighted in your letter, may all help to make parks more inclusive, welcoming and enjoyable. Therefore, the expenditure on refurbishing public toilets that are located within or immediately adjacent to public, free to access play parks would be considered eligible under the terms of this funding.

I wish to thank you for your continued support and commitment to deliver this programme within Clackmannanshire and I look forward to continuing to work together to achieve better outcomes for our children and communities.

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See [www.lobbying.scot](http://www.lobbying.scot)

Tha Ministearanna h-Alba, an luchd-comhairleachaidh sònraichte agus Rùnaire Maireannach fo chumhachan Achd Coiteachaidh (Alba) 2016. Faicibh [www.lobbying.scot](http://www.lobbying.scot)

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Yours sincerely



**NATALIE DON-INNES**

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