

**Joyce Holman**

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**From:** Robert Core <RCore@swindon.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 28 November 2017 16:35  
**To:** Joyce Holman  
**Cc:** Steve Anns; Martin Hambidge  
**Subject:** RE: Toilets in Queens Park & Town Gardens

Dear Joyce

We have looked in detail at the costs for providing winter opening for the public toilets at both Queens Park and Town Gardens and can offer the following schedule, there are however some restrictions on Fridays and Christmas opening but I have added some possible options.

Opening and Closing times 9<sup>th</sup> December- 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018.

Both Queens Park and Town Gardens.

Mon-Thurs 8:00-15:30

Friday 8:00-12:00 (Your Environmental Officer could close them at 15:30)

Sat-Sun 8:00-15:30

The cost to do this over the above period includes cleaning and locking at a value of **£5,988.00**

The 2018/19 full winter costs would be **£10,720.00** these values also include cleaning equipment and Materials replenishment and electricity/water costs. These are estimated to be in the region of £900.00 per site.

I'm afraid this does not cover either Christmas Day, Boxing Day or New Year's day as cover will not be available. You could perhaps use your Environmental Officer to lock and unlock and just do a basic clean during these periods if the parish wanted to see them open.

There are however some caveats to the service as mentioned below and not captured in the price above. Any damage during the winter period either through vandalism or freezing conditions would need to be funded by the parish, there is some frost protection to the interior but in extreme weather conditions pipes that are usually drained down during the winter can freeze and considerable damage can be caused. The cost of such repairs must be agreed before commencing the winter opening as I fear unfunded repairs would close the toilets indefinitely.

As I have previously said we started to close these premises over the winter due to rough sleeping and antisocial behaviour, our teams will politely ask people to leave before closing but if this is refused then there is little option other than leaving the toilets open. Often the doors are wedged shut from the inside leaving few options other than to wait for the "resident" to leave the next day. The police tend not to respond to calls to aid removal and my team are not in a position to force eviction nor would I want them too given the obvious risks involved for all.

Happy to discuss if required, this is an at cost service and not intended to make profit for SBC. If costs are substantially above the estimate then this will need to be discussed by both parties.

Kind Regards