

More Ladies Toilets at Entertainment Venues

Since I first proposing this petition I have learned that the 2010 Building Regulations refer to the guidance of a code of practice for new public assembly buildings. An extract from the standards is reproduced below.

This guidance applies only to new buildings. Like many people I was not previously aware of this recent code of practice. I would now like to propose a project – a programme of works over the next five years for these standards to be applied to all non domestic buildings. This could also include provision of toilets for disabled people in existing older buildings.

I would argue that provision of equivalent rather than equal toilet facilities for men and women is an equalities issue, likewise better provision for disabled people.

This project would represent an improvement to the infrastructure of Wales and to the quality of life for a significant part of the population. A programme of works would be an employment project on a manageable scale and could benefit from contributions from different parts of the economy. It could help to provide work in these lean times. Any points of detail on this issue could be dealt with by subcommittee, eg very small venues, historic buildings and so on.

Now that Wales has legislative powers it could be a leader in this everyday equalities issue and the subcommittee could be the Number One Ladies Toilet Directive Agency. SWJ.

BS 6465-1: 2006 - Sanitary installations. Code of practice for the design of sanitary facilities and scales of provision of sanitary and associated appliances (+A1:2009) 6.8 Assembly buildings where most WC use is during intervals or other concentrated periods of time such as where people would be arriving and leaving at the same time including , for example, theatres, cinemas, concert halls, sports stadiums, conferences and similar buildings.

(Special thanks to Michelle Barkley and Clara Greed for the information below)

Table 1 – Minimum provision of sanitary appliances for assembly buildings where most toilet use is during intervals		
Sanitary appliance	For male visitors	For female visitors
WC	2 for up to 250 males; plus 1 for every additional 250 males or part thereof	2 for up to 20 females; plus 1 for every additional 20 females or part thereof up to 500 females; and 1 per 25 females or part thereof over 500 females
Urinal	2 for up to 50 males; plus 1 for every additional 50 males or part thereof	–
Washbasin	1 per WC and in addition, 1 per 5 urinals or part thereof	1, plus 1 per 2 WCs or part thereof