

Designing for Active Lives: Contextualising Public Toilet Provision

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Royal College of Art: Helen Hamlyn Centre for Design



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Are Toilets Important?

- Likely to be visited by many people
- Often given 'secondary' consideration by providers
- Often given secondary consideration at design stage
- Important image enhancer for visitor attractions
- Vital aspect of BE for age friendly society, sustainable transport...



Are Toilets Important?

Physical aspects of relieving bladder and bowel "Normal"

- NHS – ideally 4-6 times per day for bladder
- NHS – 3 times a day to 3 times a week for bowel
- Women more often due to menstruation, pregnancy and menopause
- Men more often due to prostate health



Are Toilets Important?

Physical aspects of relieving bladder and bowel with a condition

- IBS – multiple bowel movements and urgency to reach toilets
- 17% of UK population
- 11% Men
- 23% Women

Phew! Just made it?

But will you make it next time?
It's not normal to have to plan your life around toilet stops

Don't miss your free copy of Pathway to Success
A step-by-step guide to help manage your overactive bladder

To get your FREE copy call the above helpline number or visit our website today.

babf

Talk to your doctor or call our helpline on 0800 011 4619 or visit www.bladderproblem.co.uk

astellas

ATMEDIA

Are Toilets Important?

Physical aspects of relieving bladder and bowel due to medication

- High Blood Pressure/ Diuretics
- 1 in 4 UK adults (12.5 Million)
- 31% Men
- 26% Women
- 4 million people on anti-depressants
- 48% of UK population on medication
- 24% on more than 1 medication



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Are Toilets Important?

Physical aspects of relieving bladder and bowel due to age

- Toddlers urinate 4-8 times a day
- Older people – increased bladder frequency
- Need to use toilets more often
- Weakening bladder muscles
- Urgency



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Are Toilets Important?

Royal Society for Public Health
(2019)

Lack of toilets is “affecting equality, mobility, physical fitness and other aspects of health”

- Access to toilets when outside of the home is a necessity for living active lives



What makes a good toilet for active living?

- Acceptable
- Clean
- Comfortable
- Familiar
- Sense of security



What makes a good toilet for active living?

- Accessible
- British Standards – 50 design features
- Audited 101 toilets in England
- Not one featured all 50 recommended features
- Highest score 32 features
- Failure to adhere to recommendations can make toilets inaccessible to users



“As far as I’m concerned it’s neither public nor convenient.”



What makes a good toilet for active living?

- Available
- Provision is fragmented
- Public and private providers
- Different initiatives for extending provision
- Community Toilet Schemes
- Can cause confusion for users – whose in whose out?



The Great British Public Toilet Map

- Bring together fragmented situation
- A map for all ‘publicly accessible toilets’
- ‘Any toilet the public can use without being ‘a customer’
- Data gathered from all 407 local authorities through FOI.
- Open data from National Rail Enquiries; Open Street Map.
- Crowdsourcing
- On-line resource. App in development

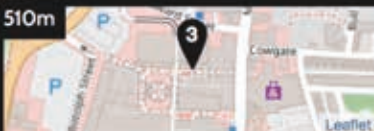
Logged in. [Log out](#)

[Add a toilet](#)


Nearest Toilets

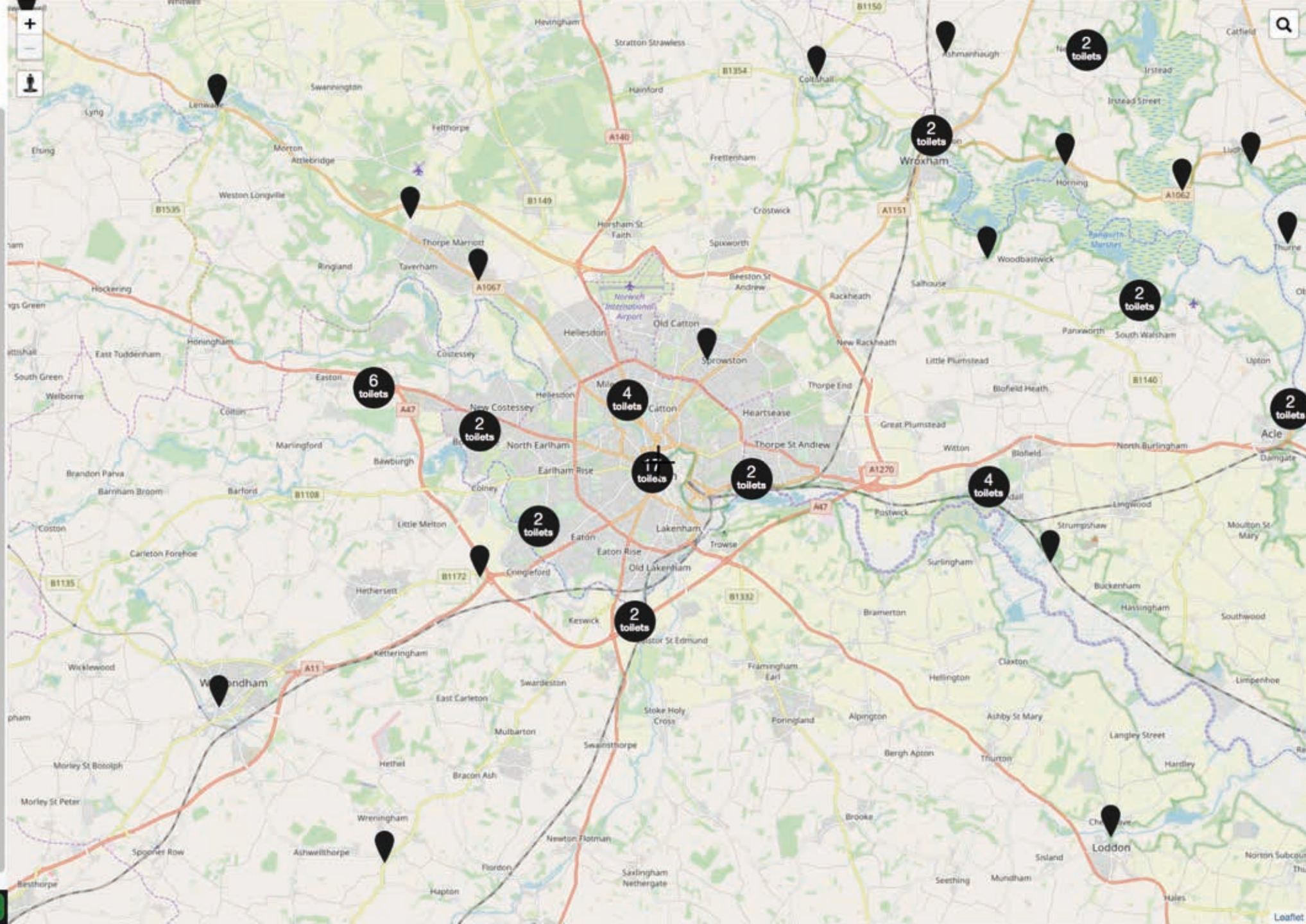
103m  [More info](#)

440m  [More info](#)

510m  [More info](#)

529m  [More info](#)

535m  [More info](#)



Update This Toilet

Align the crosshair with where you believe the toilet to be.

Toilet name

Waterloo Park

Who can access?

Public

Facilities

Female and Male

Accessible facilities

Unknown

Opening hours

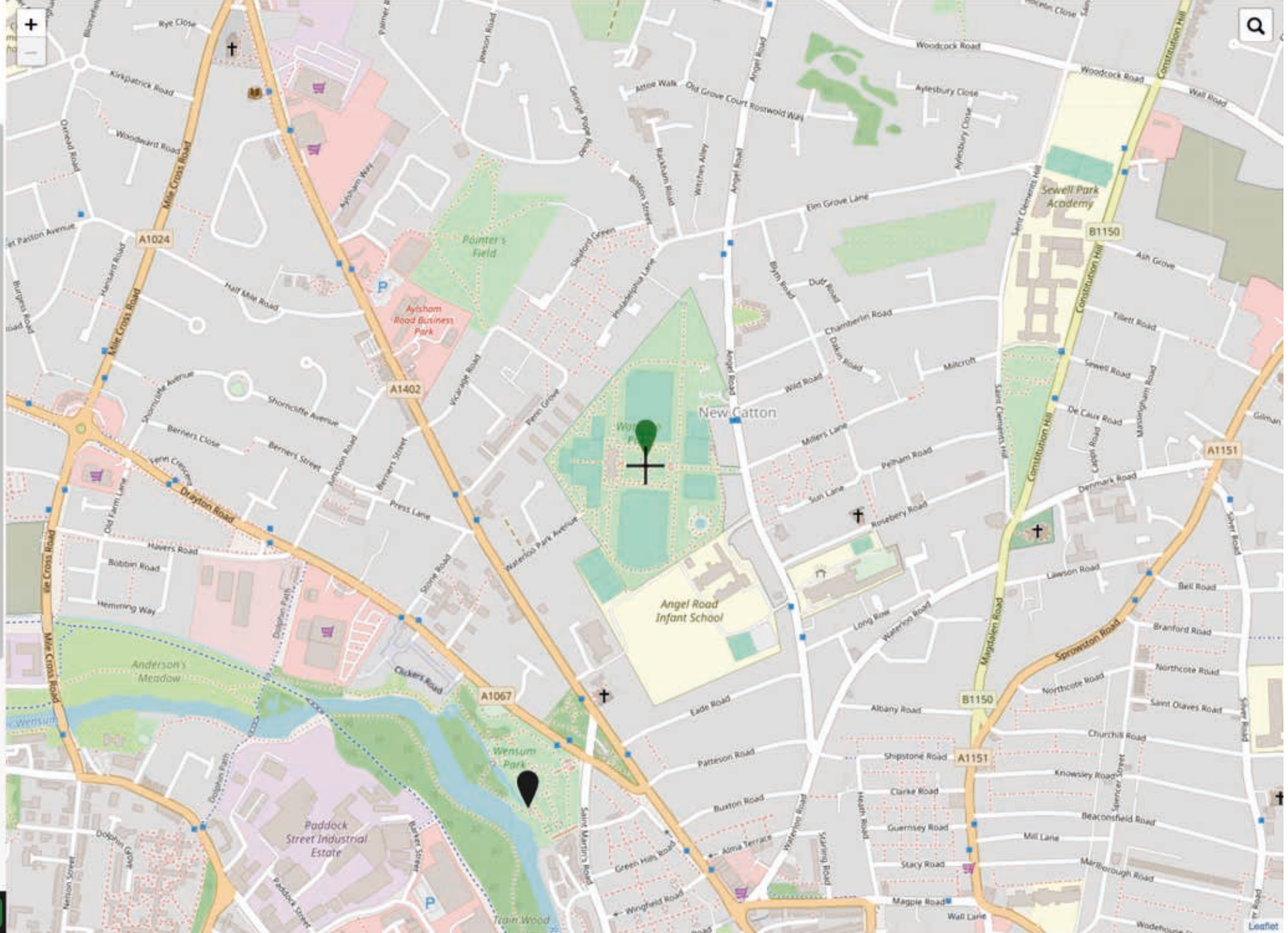
Daylight hours only

	Yes	No	Don't know
Attended?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Baby changing?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Automatic?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Radar key?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Fee?

The amount e.g. £0.10

Any notes?





Toilet Map Explorer exists to help people who want to know more about the data behind the [The Great British Public Toilet Map](#)

You've come to the right place if you want to:

- Get a statistical overview of the data
- Search for specific toilet data
- Explore the data by UK Administrative Geography
- Learn how to use our APIs to power your application
- Learn about the Licensing terms under which you can use this data

If you're looking for the nearest Loo you're better off using [The Great British Public Toilet Map](#)

If you're looking for information about our software please head on over to [our Github repository](#)

Stats

You can view a selection of high level statistics [here](#)

Search

You can search for toilet data using keyword searches [here](#)

Licensing

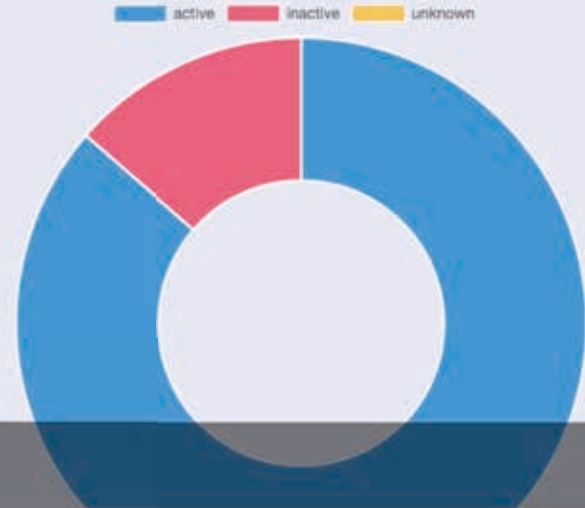
Licensing information coming soon

API

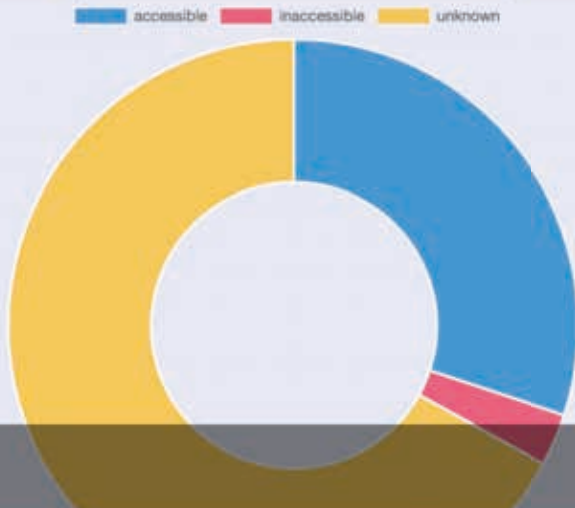
The Toilet Map API is expressed in [GraphQL](#). The endpoint is served at `https://www.toiletmap.org.uk/graphql`. You can [visualise the schema](#), or [experiment with queries](#). To conduct mutations, or to get un-redacted results for certain fields you'll need to supply some credentials in an `Authorization` header. Please get in touch if you'd like to know how to achieve that. Please familiarize yourself with the terms under which our data is licensed before making use of it.



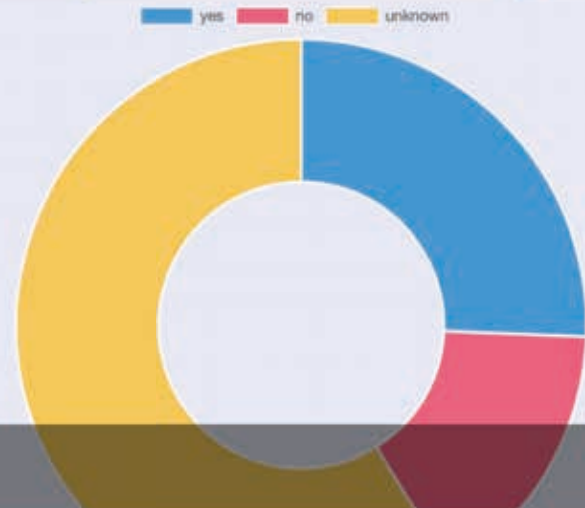
Public Loos
Loos marked for public use



Closed Loos
Loos marked as closed

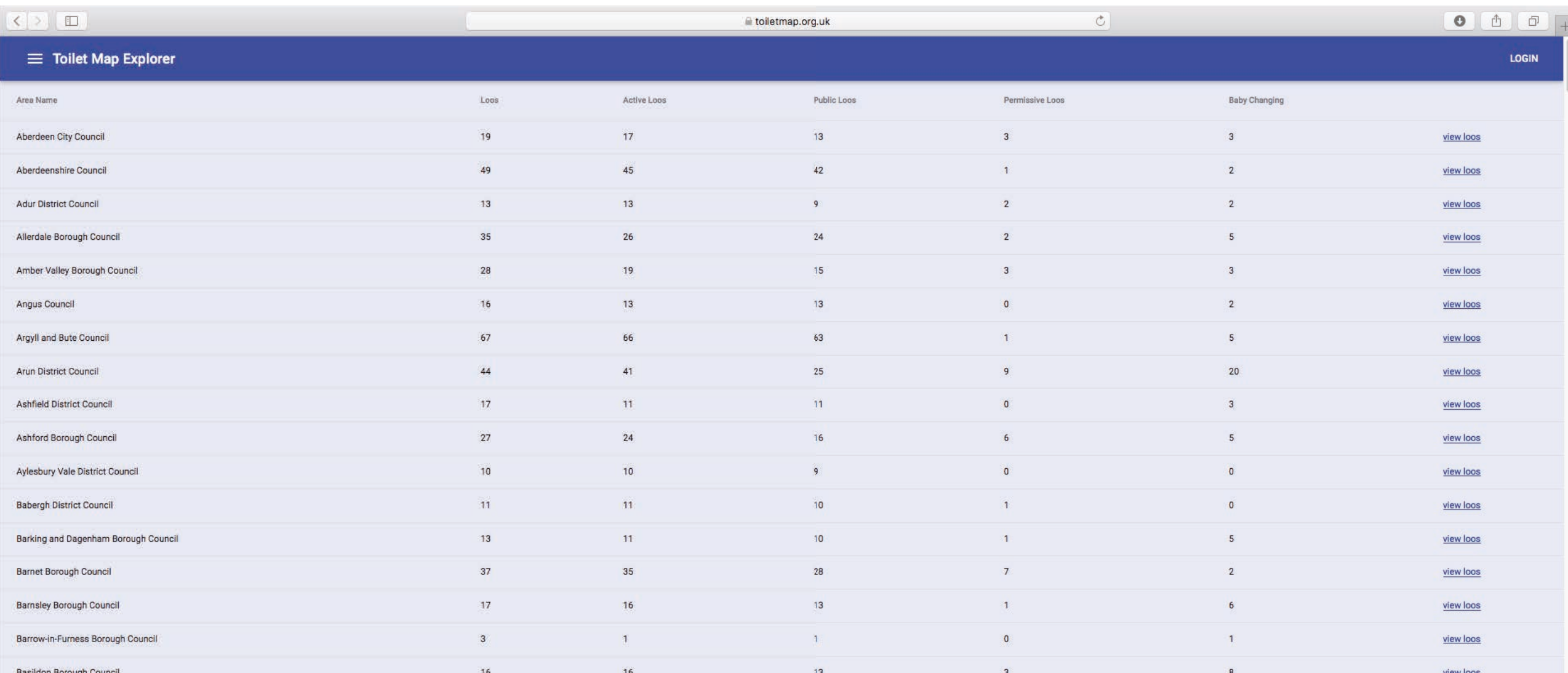


Accessible Loos
Loos marked as accessible



Baby Changing
Loos with baby changing facilities

Council Analysis



Area Name	Loos	Active Loos	Public Loos	Permissive Loos	Baby Changing	
Aberdeen City Council	19	17	13	3	3	view loos
Aberdeenshire Council	49	45	42	1	2	view loos
Adur District Council	13	13	9	2	2	view loos
Allerdale Borough Council	35	26	24	2	5	view loos
Amber Valley Borough Council	28	19	15	3	3	view loos
Angus Council	16	13	13	0	2	view loos
Argyll and Bute Council	67	66	63	1	5	view loos
Arun District Council	44	41	25	9	20	view loos
Ashfield District Council	17	11	11	0	3	view loos
Ashford Borough Council	27	24	16	6	5	view loos
Aylesbury Vale District Council	10	10	9	0	0	view loos
Babergh District Council	11	11	10	1	0	view loos
Barking and Dagenham Borough Council	13	11	10	1	5	view loos
Barnet Borough Council	37	35	28	7	2	view loos
Barnsley Borough Council	17	16	13	1	6	view loos
Barrow-in-Furness Borough Council	3	1	1	0	1	view loos
Basildon Borough Council	16	16	13	3	8	view loos

Council Analysis

- Large councils of natural interest
- Councils with strong CTS

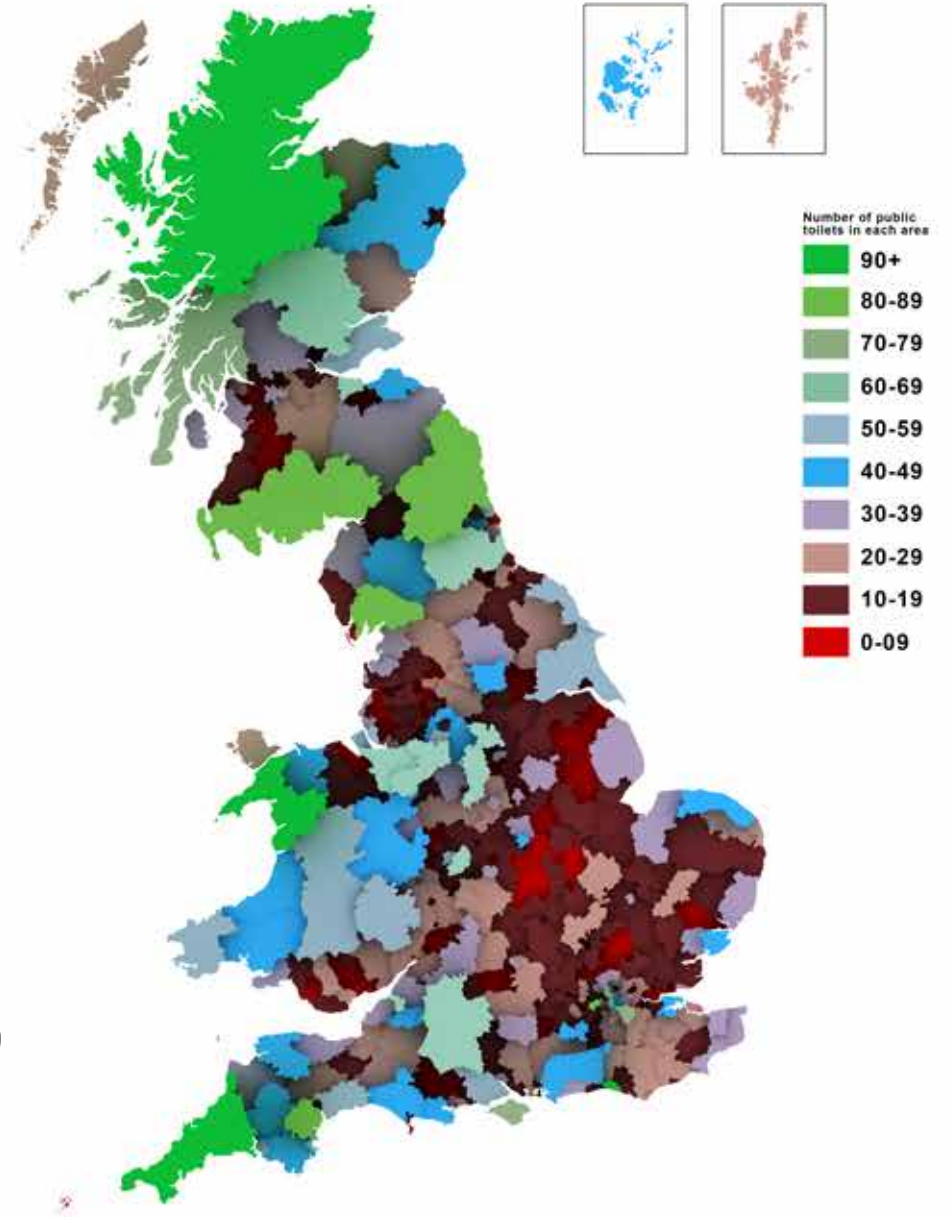
Most toilets:

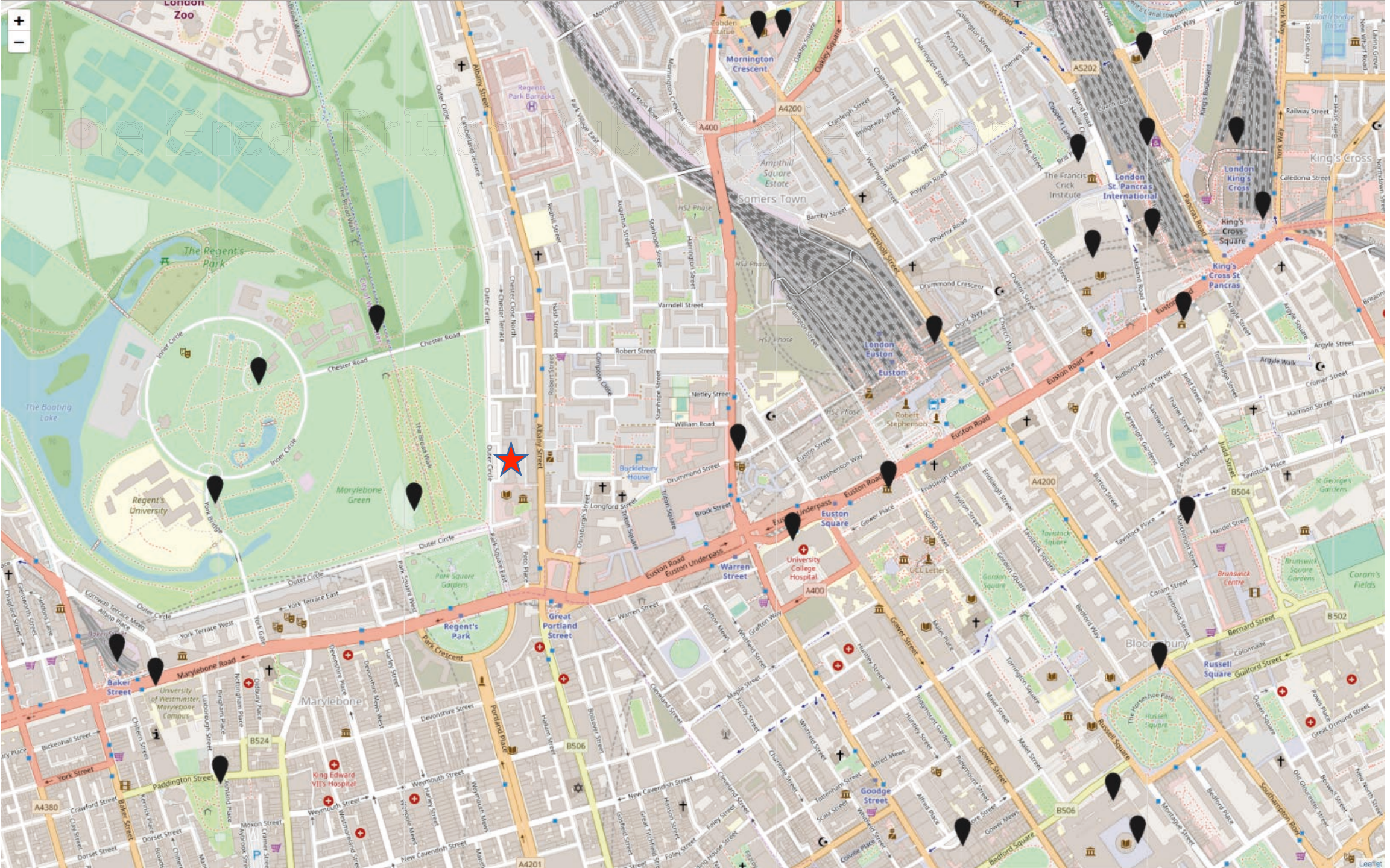
- Cornwall (203)
- Highlands (191)
- City of London (108)

Fewest toilets:

- Flintshire (4)
- South Ribble (4)
- North Kesteven (4)

2016 GBPTM data





The Great Britain PubToilet Map



What are Publicly Accessible Toilets?

Traditional Toilet Block

Individual Cubicle Toilets

Automatic Public Convenience



Parks & Cemeteries



Libraries



Town Hall

Other Public Buildings

Public

Accessible to public

Inaccessible to public

Public

Traditional Toilet Block

Individual Cubicle Toilets

Automatic Public Convenience



Parks & Cemeteries



Libraries



Town Hall

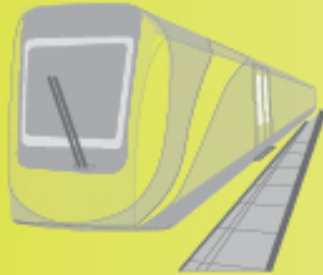
Other Public Buildings

Accessible to public

Inaccessible to public

Private

Shopping Centres



Train & Bus stations

Ferry terminals



Community Toilet Scheme

Department Stores

Large Stores

Fast food

Pubs

Museums and Galleries

Cafes



Restaurants

Hotels

Betting shops

Offices

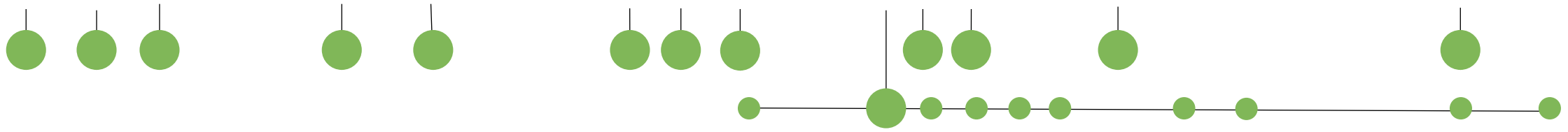
Accessible to public

Inaccessible to public

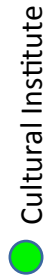
Publicly Accessible Toilets

- Traditional Toilet Block
- Individual Cubicle Toilets
- Automatic Public Convenience
- 
- Shopping Centres
- Parks & Cemeteries
- 
- Train & Bus stations
- Ferry terminals
- Libraries
- 
- Community Toilet Scheme
- Department Stores
- Large Stores
- Fast food
- Pubs
- Museums and Galleries
- Cafes
- Town Hall
- 
- Other Public Buildings
- Restaurants
- Hotels
- Betting shops
- Offices

Accessible to public Inaccessible to public



 Included on Great British Public Toilet Map



Cultural Institute



Community Toilet Scheme



Public Toilet



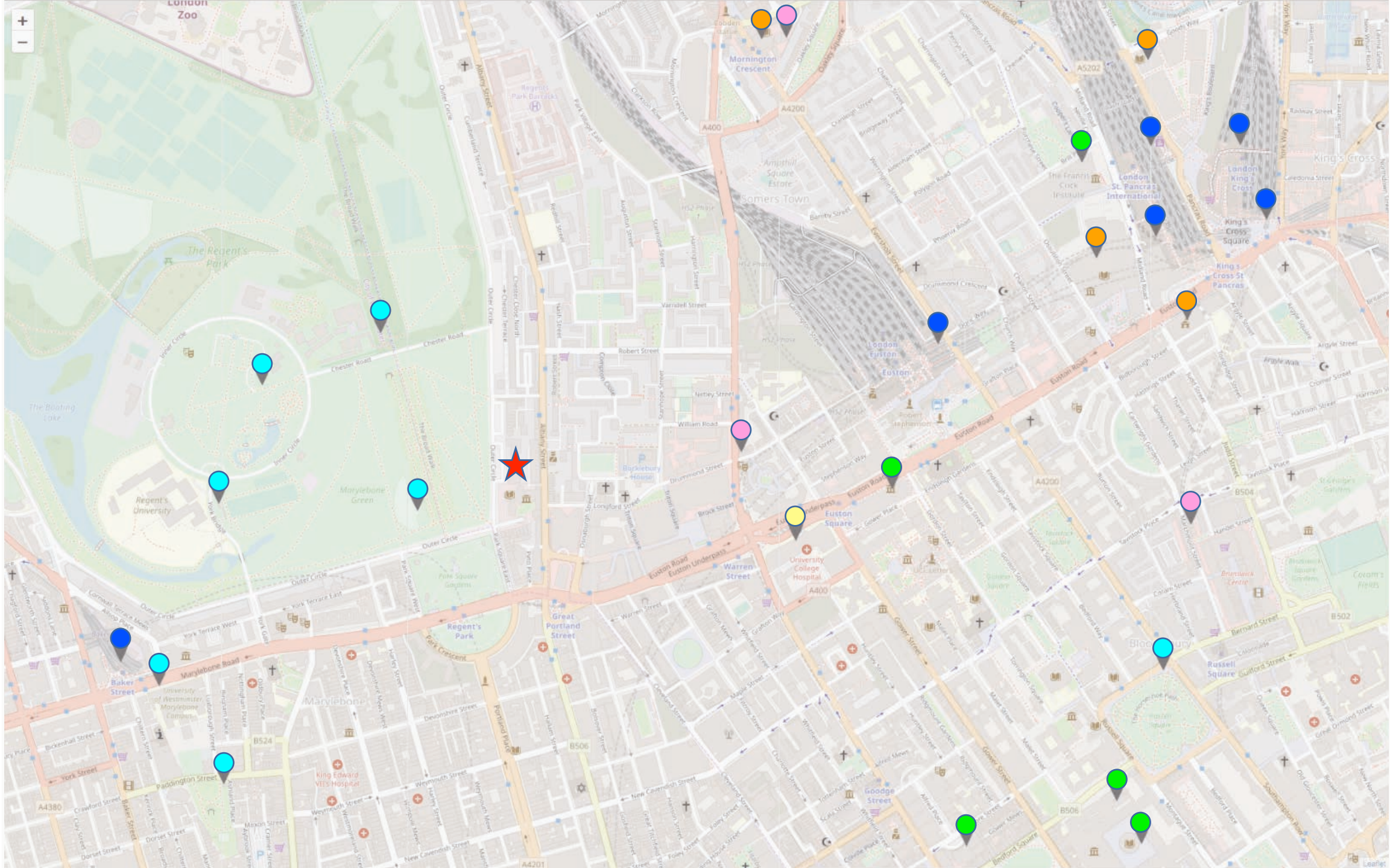
Hospital



Public Building



Train / Tube Station



Cultural Institute



Shopping Centre



Community Toilet Scheme



Public Toilet



Hospital



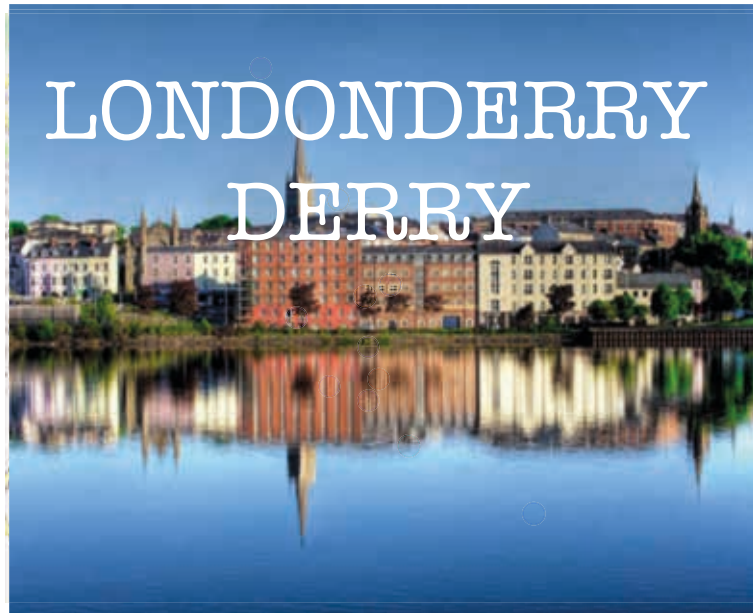
Large Store



Public Building



Train / Tube Station



City centre toilets

- Public already relying on private providers
- Multiple providers (e.g. shopping centre, bus station, department store)
- Present as joined up provision, cover most hours.
- Expand with community toilet scheme.

Example: WCityStop.info, Wolverhampton

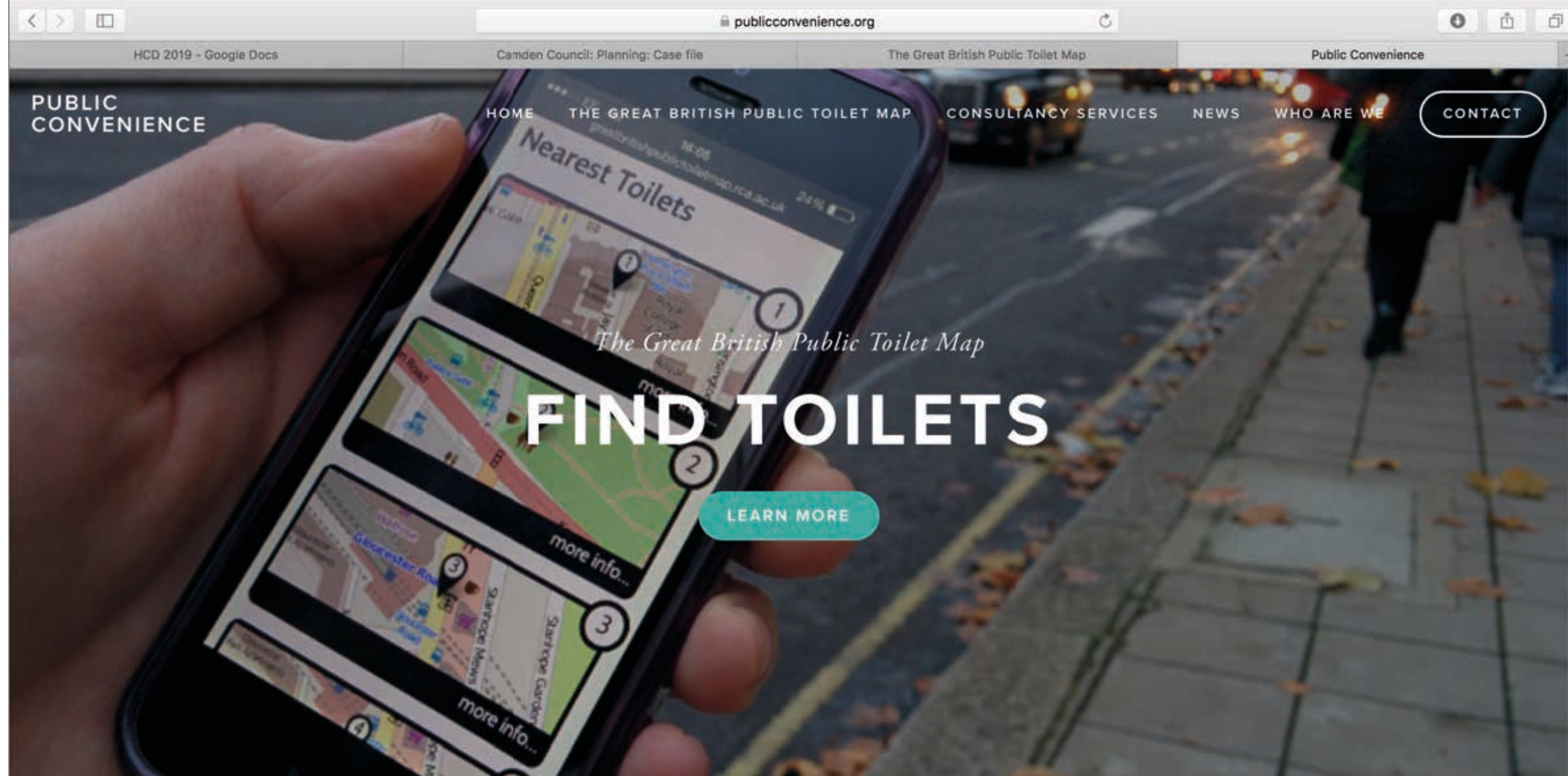


Park toilet

- Dedicated public toilet
- Accessible, inclusive
- Functional & clean
- Safe – preferably attended
- Free
- Robust

Example: London Fields

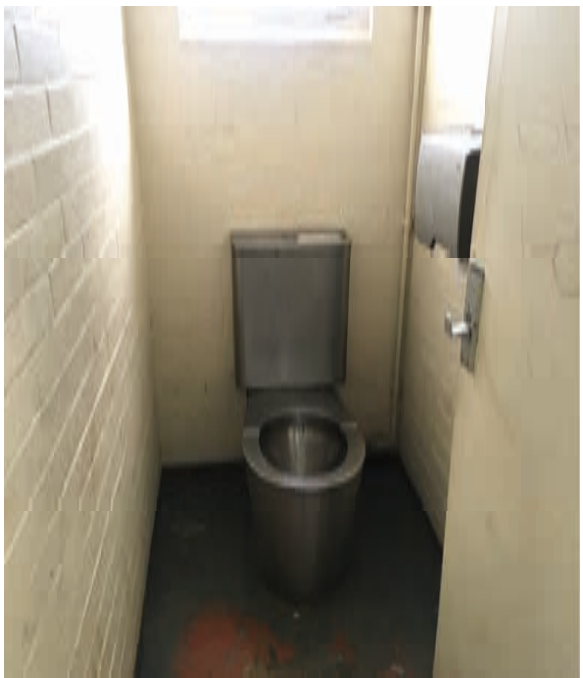




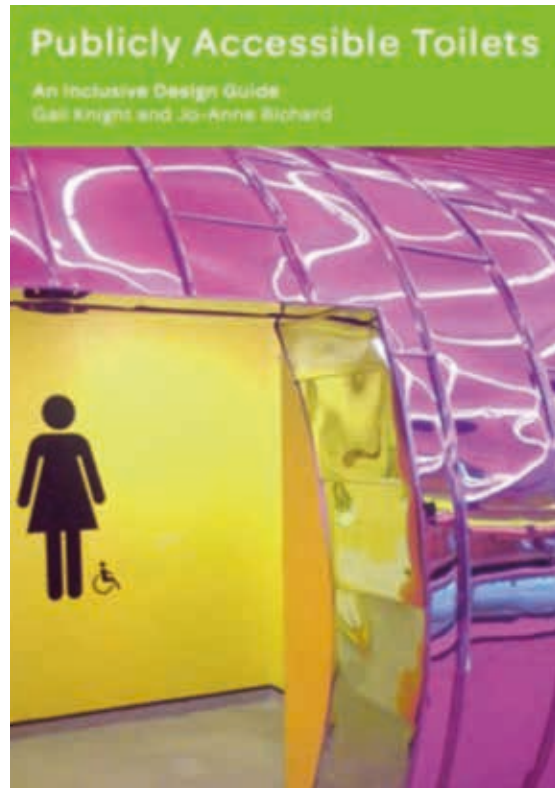
FIND TOILETS

[LEARN MORE](#)

At Public Convenience we work to improve publicly accessible toilets for everyone - to ensure a public service that meets the public need.



Where to find info



Royal College of Art



British Toilet Association

British Standard 6465: Sanitary installations

Part 1: Design & Scale of provision

Part 2: Space recommendations

Part 3: Selection, installation & maintenance

Part 4: Public Toilets

Thank you

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Great British Public Toilet Map

toiletmap.org.uk / @gbtoiletmap

Public Convenience Ltd

<http://publicconvenience.org>



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