

£30 million investment to provide Changing Places toilets

Funding will improve access for people who cannot use standard accessible toilets and their carers.



- £30 million available from government to install life-enhancing Changing Places toilets in existing buildings in England
- Changing Places toilets are a lifeline for more than a quarter of a million disabled people across the UK
- Government working in partnership with Muscular Dystrophy UK (MDUK) as co-chair of the Changing Places Consortium to provide support to councils
- Local authorities will soon be invited to “opt in” to receive a proportion of this funding, based on need, to install facilities in their communities

More than 250,000 disabled people in the country will benefit from greater access to life-enhancing Changing Places toilets, as the government announces a new £30 million fund to increase the number of facilities across England.

Announced today (4 March 2021) by Regional Growth Minister Luke Hall, the move follows laws that came into effect from January 2021 that made the provision of Changing Places toilets compulsory in certain new buildings.

Changing Places toilets are larger accessible toilets for people who cannot use standard disabled toilets, with equipment such as hoists, curtains, adult-sized changing benches and space for carers.

This programme will be delivered in partnership with the charity Muscular Dystrophy UK, co-chairs of the Changing Places Consortium, who will provide advice to support councils in their delivery.

Changing Places toilets for severely disabled people to be compulsory in new public buildings

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/changing-places-toilets-for-severely-disabled-people-to-be-compulsory-in-new-public-buildings>

- Compulsory inclusion of Changing Places Toilets in new public buildings to help 250,000 people
- Shopping centres, sports stadiums and arts venues among buildings listed
- Changes will help ensure everyone in society benefits from lockdown easing

A major change to building rules in England will require thousands of large (12m²) and well-equipped accessible toilet facilities to be designed and built into new public buildings, from next year.

The government estimates it will add the toilets to more than 150 new buildings a year. A £30 million fund to install Changing Places in existing buildings will open in the next few months.

Shopping centres, supermarkets, cinemas, stadia and arts venues are just some of the buildings that will be required to include at least one Changing Places toilet.

There are more than 1,400 Changing Places toilets in the UK, up from just 140 in 2007, but more are needed to support more than a quarter of a million people who need them in the UK.