

/ Changing Places – Building Regulations Checklist

An accessible toilet can only be officially registered as a Changing Places facility if it meets certain criteria.

Tick off each item on this checklist when planning, designing, specifying, and installing a Changing Place. Completing these steps will ensure your facility meets the requirements to be registered as a Changing Place:

PLANNING

- At least 3m x 4m (12 sq m) space has been allocated for the Changing Places facility.
- There is at least 2.4m ceiling height.
- There is level-access to the facility or plans to install a suitable ramp / lift.
- The facility's location is publicly accessible.
- The facility's location can be clearly signposted throughout the building.

DESIGN & ROOM LAYOUT

- Doorway is at least 1000mm wide.
- At least 2000mm x 1800mm clear manoeuvring space.
- At least 1000mm clear space either side of the toilet.
- Hoist system provides full room coverage.
- Non-slip flooring.
- Visual contrast between grab rails and walls – typically blue grab rails on white walls.

SPECIFYING & INSTALLING EQUIPMENT

- Changing bench**
 - Height-adjustable (within 300mm – 1000mm range).
 - Adult-sized (minimum 200kg safe working load and 1800mm x 800mm size).
 - Wall-mounted or free-standing.
 - Accessible wide paper roll dispenser (at 800mm – 1000mm height).
- Peninsular toilet**
 - 480mm toilet seat height.
 - Avoid seat styles with a gap at the front.
 - Shelf for colostomy bags (at 950mm height; at least 400mm wide).
- Ceiling track hoist**
 - X-Y (or H-frame) system.
 - Minimum 200kg safe working load.
 - Handset controls with an accessible charge point.
 - Emergency stop and hoist lowering functions.
 - Compatible with a range of slings.
 - Instructions provided for use and charging.

Note: Changing Places facilities are not expected to include slings

- Hand washing facilities**
 - Basin; power-assisted height adjustment (within 580mm – 1030mm range).
 - Pressure-sensitive safety override system.
 - Lever mixer taps.
 - Accessible soap dispenser (at 800mm – 1000mm height).
 - Accessible paper towel dispenser; wall-mounted (at 800mm – 1000mm height).
 - Manually operated hand dryer.
- Bins**
 - General waste bin.
 - Large sanitary bin; suitable for adult-sized continence pads
- Grab rails**
 - Drop down rails positioned 320mm either side of the toilet.
 - Fixed rail on interior door (at 900mm height).
 - All fixed grab rails: min. 600mm length with 50mm – 60mm surface clearance.
- Privacy screen**
 - Wall-mounted or free-standing.
 - Retractable so as not to obstruct other equipment.
- Emergency alarm**
 - Two red pull cords – one accessible from the toilet and one near the door.
 - Pull cords reach down to 100mm from the floor.
 - Accessible alarm reset button (at 800mm – 1000mm height).
- Clothing hooks;** Positioned at two heights (1050mm and 1400mm).
- Mirror;** Full length (min 600x400mm).
- Shower**
 - Located next to the changing bench.
 - Level-access.
 - Detachable shower head (at 1200 – 1400mm height).
 - Accessible shower controls (at 750mm – 1000mm height).

Note: Showers are not required in all Changing Places facilities. They should be included in managed buildings e.g. leisure centres and service stations.

CHANGING PLACES CONSULTATION

If you need support and advice at any stage of a Changing Places project, please feel free to contact us!

Our team of specialists will be more than happy to help.

Innova Care Concepts have been providing Changing Places consultation, design and installation services for over 10 years. We've worked on over 100 Changing Places projects to date!