

# Muscular Dystrophy UK

Fighting muscle-wasting conditions



## **MDUK SUPPORT PACKAGE TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES**

As co-chair of the Changing Places Consortium, Muscular Dystrophy UK will be making a full package of support available to Local Authorities in receipt of funding for the installation of Changing Places toilets. Dedicated Changing Places Support Officers will be on-hand to provide Local Authorities with advice and information and to connect them with a wide range of expertise. A comprehensive Changing Places manual will be available to Local Authorities covering all aspects of the installation and management of a Changing Places toilet, which will be accompanied by bespoke virtual training sessions.

Local Authorities will be connected with local stakeholders, including Changing Places users, and will be able to draw on a wealth of case studies and testimonials to benefit from best practice from other installations. Information and signposting will be available on the leading Changing Places toilets suppliers that install and provide equipment and throughout the programme Muscular Dystrophy UK will work with Local Authorities to publicise their participation and the availability of new Changing Places toilets as they are completed. Only officially registered Changing Places toilets are able to use the Changing Places branding and signage and appear on the digital Changing Places map and Local Authorities will be supported through this process.

Local Authorities in receipt of funding through the programme will access to a full package of support managed and co-ordinated by Muscular Dystrophy UK in its role as co-chair of the Changing Places Consortium.

### **Dedicated advice and information**

Local Authorities in receipt of funding from MHCLG will have access via [changingplaces@muscular dystrophyuk.org](mailto:changingplaces@muscular dystrophyuk.org) to advice and information from dedicated Changing Places Support Officers. They will help to guide Local Authorities through the process for designing and planning the installation of a Changing Places toilet.

Through the Changing Places Support Officers, Local Authorities will also have access to support with more complex queries from members of the Changing Places Consortium and other experts that might require specific technical expertise. Installing a Changing Places toilet in an existing building can present more complicated challenges and the Changing Places Support Officers will be on hand to support Local Authorities every step of the way.

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Local Authorities will also be able to receive advice to help them make decisions about where toilets should be located based on the findings of the largest ever consultation of users of Changing Places toilets.

## **Changing Places manual**

A comprehensive Changing Places manual will be available to Local Authorities covering all aspects of the installation and management of a Changing Places toilet. Information covered includes; the legislative and regulatory background around Changing Places toilets; the planning and design of a Changing Places toilet; the equipment and environment required in and around a Changing Places toilet; and the management and maintenance required of a Changing Places toilet.

## **Training**

Local Authorities in receipt of funding from MHCLG will have access to bespoke virtual training sessions that will accompany the Changing Places manual. These training sessions will explain the full process and key points to consider around the installation and registration of a Changing Places toilet in an existing building and their safe maintenance and upkeep. Further training on specific aspects of Changing Places will also be made available as the programme develops.

## **Learning from others**

With over 1,200 Changing Places toilets registered in England there is a wealth of case studies and testimonials that we can share with Local Authorities about Changing Places toilet installations in a wide variety of settings, venues and sectors.

## **Connecting Local Authorities with local partners**

Local Authorities will be connected with local organisations, charities, Changing Places users and community groups to help ensure that communities can assist and support Local Authorities on where new Changing Places toilets should be located – and celebrate their participation in the programme.

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## Suppliers and installation companies

Signposting, information, and contact details will be available about the leading Changing Places toilets suppliers and manufacturers that install and provide equipment.

## Promotion and publicity

Throughout the programme MDUK will work with Local Authorities to publicise their participation and the availability of new Changing Places toilets as they are completed through website updates social media and national and local press activity.

## Registration

Only officially registered Changing Places toilets are able to use the Changing Places branding and signage and appear on the digital Changing Places map. Local Authorities will be supported through that process – and by engaging with MDUK throughout the full planning and installation processes it can be ensured that there are no issues at this final stage and that facilities meet the required registration criteria. Advice will also be available on service and maintenance contract requirements.



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