We’re elated!
The Government’s funding allocations for Changing Places Toilets (CPTs) in England went live this month with an allocation of £23.5 million for Local Authorities (LAs) against a total budget of £30 million up to 2023/24.
A further Round of the Changing Places Fund is anticipated later in 2022.
Over 250,000 severely disabled people do not have access to public toilet facilities that meet their needs. CPTs, unlike standard accessible toilets, have an adult changing bench and hoist facilities as well as extra space for care givers. There are around 1,300 registered CPTs in England but demand for provision is outstripping supply.
This programme is being delivered in partnership with the charity Muscular Dystrophy UK, co-chairs of the Changing Places Consortium, who will be supporting local authorities in their delivery.
To find out more about the allocation process, please see the government website.

We’re delighted to share that another Changing Places Toilet has arrived in Wales, this time in Christchurch Newport. This facility is a real asset to the whole community.
And we think the sky-blue walls are a brilliant feature with Christchurch village being located at the top of Christchurch Hill and offering wonderful panoramic views.
If you’re passing be sure to check out this Changing Places Toilet as well as having a chance to view the beautiful Monmouthshire countryside to the north.

Scotland Cross-Party Group
Paul O’Kane Member of the Scottish Parliament (MSP) is the creator and convenor of a new Changing Places Toilets’ Cross-Party Group in Scotland. The first meeting was held at the beginning of March and was well-attended.
English campaigner Lorna Fillingham was invited to be a guest speaker and spoke about her experience as a Changing Places Toilets’ campaigner, delivering her petition to parliament and the £30 million fund towards Changing Places Toilets in England.
Fiona Souter, PAMIS Changing Places Toilets’ lead, presented to the group and explained PAMIS’ long history leading the campaign in Scotland. Fiona told the story of Jenny Whinnett, parent carer, and her son Craig, whose story was the inspiration behind the campaign beginning in 2003.
These meetings will be held quarterly, and you can request to join future meetings by emailing Angela.Dulley@parliament.scot.

Christchurch Newport

Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland (ORNi) is a not-for-profit organisation who make it easier for people to responsibly enjoy the outdoors. With funding from the Northern Ireland Environment Agency, ORNi has been working to highlight the need for more inclusive experiences in the outdoors, with a particular focus on ensuring Changing Places toilets are considered.
ORNi hosted a webinar for key outdoor recreation stakeholders on 12th April 2022, with guest speakers including Karen Hoe from the Changing Places Consortium.
The webinar highlighted the Changing Places campaign and the standards and processes that should be followed when developing a facility. Examples of lived experience and a demonstration of how Changing Places toilets change lives, enabling more people to access the outdoors.
The College is extending its inclusive ethos throughout the campus, commissioning Closomat to install a Changing Places Toilet (CPT) in the SkillsXchange building.

Wakefield College Estates Manager, Diane Henry, says;

“We want to promote access and education to all and therefore felt the way forward was to put in Changing Places Toilets, each on the ground floor, near reception, for optimum accessibility.”

These facilities include adequate space (12sqm), a height adjustable changing bench and hoist. Both of the Wakefield College CPTs also include a height adjustable washbasin and Closomat ‘wash and dry’ toilet. Wakefield College felt a Changing Places room with a wash and dry toilet rather than a standard WC would truly fulfil its ethos of access and education to all.
You may be aware that there are now three Changing Places Support Officers on the MDUK Changing Places team.

Kerry Thompson, Ceri Davies and Marta Salamonowicz all look forward to advising you about best practice relating to the planning, design and installation of CPTs and support you to make sure that facilities are fully complaint to Building Regulation BS8300.

We're here at the end of a phone or via email, and happy to jump on Zoom/Teams too!

By sharing plans with us in advance of work starting, you'll be ensuring that any amendments that may be necessary to make sure that CPTs can be fully registered and feature on the official Changing Places Toilets' map.

It's a brilliantly intensive journey from planning your CPT through to the day when it's fully registered on the map, so we want to make sure that you know we're fully engaged and here to support you 100% along the way.

Contact us at: cpt.support@musculardystrophyuk.org

March's Registration round-up

Hovercraft Terminal - Southsea, Portsmouth
Lord's Cricket Ground - London
The Canch Park - Worksop
The Midlands Arts Centre - Birmingham

Details of all registrations can be found on the official Changing Places toilets map.

Stay engaged:
Follow us on social media for all the latest updates!