

Changing Places



The State Government has committed \$2 million to support the establishment of a network of Changing Places across WA .

Changing Places aim to improve access and inclusion for people who might not be able to fully participate in community life because of their bathroom needs.

The WA State Government is the first in Australia to commit to creating and funding a network of Changing Places.

What is a Changing Place?

- Changing Places are secure and private facilities for people with disability who need extra space and assistance to use the bathroom when out and about in the community.
- Changing Places are different from – and do not replace – standard universal accessible toilets.
- Changing Places include an adult-size, height adjustable change table, a hoist and enough room for two people to assist.
- All Commission-funded Changing Places are located near accessible parking bays.
- All Changing Places will have the same specifications so that people who use them can be confident that all Changing Places provide the same facilities.

Why Changing Places are important for WA

- Changing Places help make communities more accessible and inclusive.
- Changing Places open up more travel options in WA for people with disability who may not have visited an area previously due to their specific bathroom needs.
- Changing Places ensure that no one has to choose between dignity and freedom.

Locations

A total of 18 local government Changing Places are being built across WA. The first opened in Geraldton in January 2016. Please go to www.disability.wa.gov.au for more information.

Perth metropolitan area

Cockburn
Fremantle
Joondalup
Melville

Regional areas

Albany
Broome
Bunbury
Collie
Cunderdin
Gingin
Geraldton (open)
Kalgoorlie-Boulder
Katanning
Mandurah
Moora
Narrogin
Port Hedland
Toodyay

In addition to the 18 local government Changing Places, the Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority (MRA) and Department of Sport and Recreation have committed to building Changing Places in their redevelopment projects including;

- Elizabeth Quay (open)
- Yagan Square
- Scarborough Beach
- Waterbank development East Perth
- Perth Stadium (three Changing Places planned for this location)

Once completed, Changing Place locations will be listed on www.changingplaces.org.au/find-a-toilet/ and the www.toiletmap.gov.au.

More information

Who will use Changing Places?

It's expected that people with disability who need assistance using the bathroom, people using specialised medical appliances and others with age-related needs will use Changing Places.

Changing Places will be locked using an electronic keycard system and the Commission and National Disability Services (NDS) WA are leading the consultation on this. The keycard will help keep the Changing Places network secure, safe and reserved for people who need them.

Project Partnerships

The Disability Services Commission worked with NDS WA to gather input from over 600 people with disability and their carers regarding preferred locations. The \$2 million grants program for local governments was delivered in partnership with the WA Local Government Association (WALGA).

The history of Changing Places

The concept of Changing Places started in the United Kingdom where there are now over 860 Changing Places facilities in public spaces, shopping centres, football stadiums and pubs.

In Australia, a community campaign for Changing Places began in 2012 in Victoria. Please visit www.changingplaces.org.au for locations and more information.

Contact details

For more about WA's Changing Places project visit www.disability.wa.gov.au or email Access@dsc.wa.gov.au.