

Changing Places toilets

How can we make sure more buildings
that the public visit have them?

Information Booklet



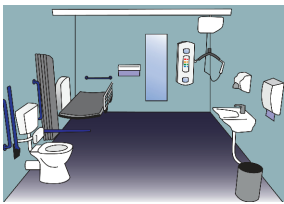
Easy Read version of:
Ministry of Housing, Communities
and Local Government.
Changing Places Toilets. A consultation paper
May 2019.

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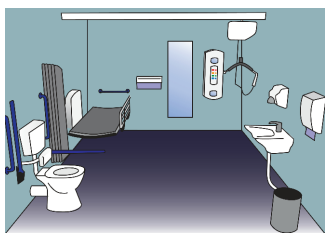
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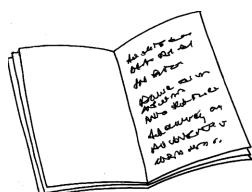
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Some words are in **bold**. There is a list of what they mean on the last page.



There is also an answer booklet to tell us what you think.

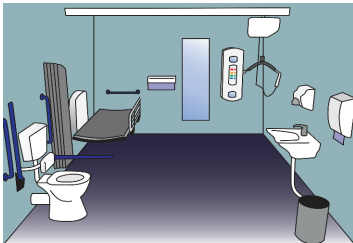


1. About this booklet

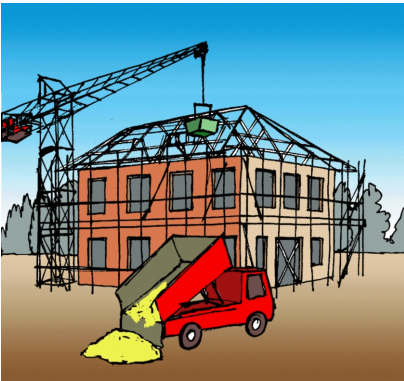


Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government wrote this booklet.



It is about having more Changing Places toilets in England in:



- new buildings visited by the public



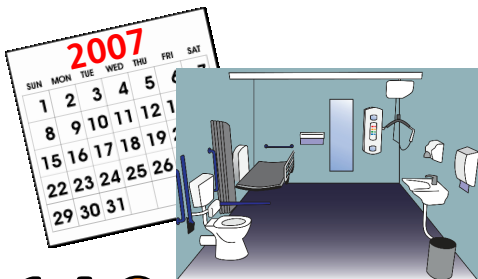
- older buildings that are having work done.



The government says having a disability should not stop you doing things you want to do.



Changing Places toilets help people with severe disabilities use public buildings, shops and transport.



140

In 2007 there were just 140 Changing Places toilets.



1,300

Now there are more than 1,300.



But we think at least 250 thousand people need them.



We must get better at planning what they should be like and where they should be.



This booklet tells you what we want to do.



There is also an Answers Booklet for you to tell us what you think. It also tells you how to send us your ideas.

July 2019						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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You need to do this before **22nd July 2019.**

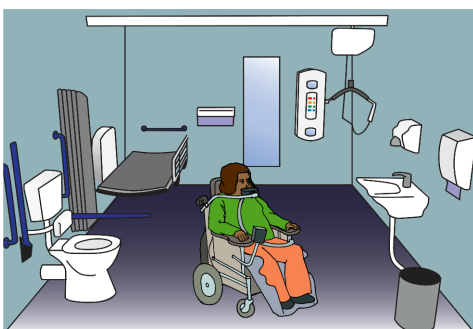


2. Changing Places toilets

Why we need more Changing Places toilets

Changing Places toilets have:

- a changing table big enough for adults
- **hoists**
- enough room for the person and their carer to move around
- a non-slip floor
- paper sheets to cover the bench
- a large rubbish bin.



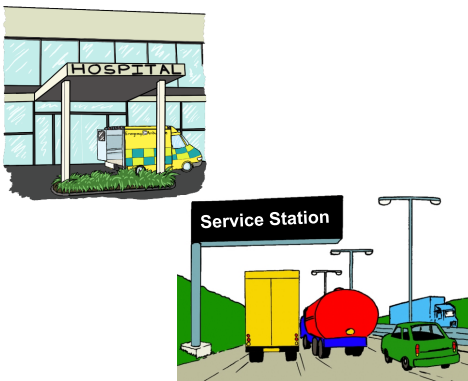
This means disabled people have a safe, clean place with everything they need.



There is an **online** map to help people find the nearest Changing Places toilet.



At the moment the government asks people who own buildings to put in a Changing Places toilet if they can. They do not have to do this.



Different parts of the government are working to have Changing Places toilets in places like motorway service stations and hospitals.

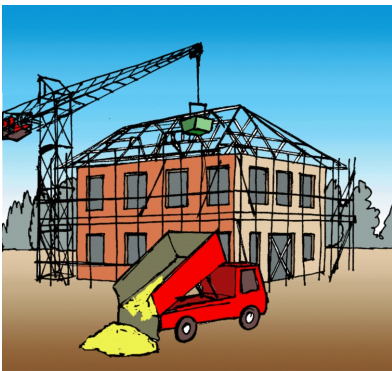


Rules about building work

Building Regulations are rules to make sure people are healthy and safe in and around buildings.



They include rules about making buildings **accessible** for disabled people.



The rules apply at the time a building is being:

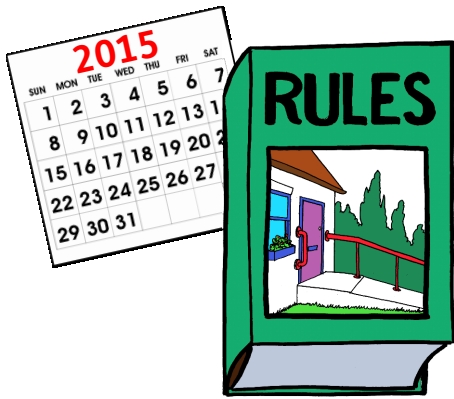
- built



- made bigger



- changed to a public building, hotel or shop.



In 2015 the government brought in new rules about making houses and homes **accessible**.

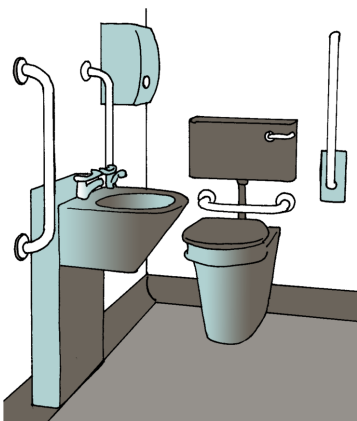


They are looking at how building regulations can make buildings **accessible**.

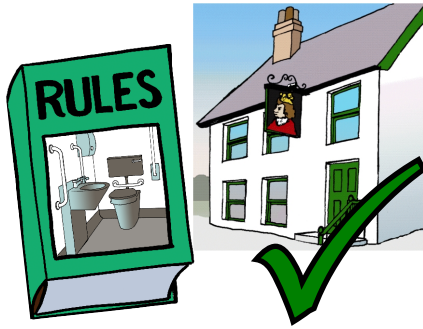


Your ideas about Changing Places toilets will help this happen as quickly as possible.

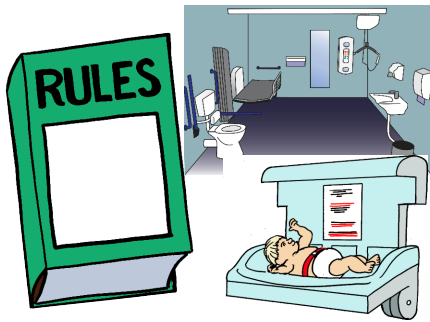
Accessible toilets



Accessible toilets have lower sinks, hand rails and enough room for people to move about in a wheelchair.



The rules say even small buildings should have a toilet that people with wheelchairs can use.



The rules say it is good if larger buildings have a changing table for adults and a separate room for changing babies.



A law called the Equality Act says shops and public organisations must make **reasonable adjustments** to help disabled people use their services.

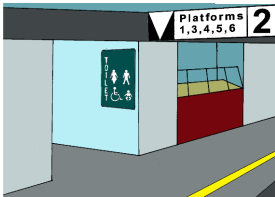
Reasonable means sensible and practical. The law understands that you cannot make big changes to some older buildings.

Building Changing Places toilets



The Changing Places website has ideas about how to set up a Changing Places toilet.

This includes which type of buildings should have Changing Places toilets. For example:



- public buildings
- buildings with set opening hours
- buildings linked with transport
- places where people go for the day or spend their spare time
- schools, college and universities
- hospitals.



But companies and organisations can choose whether to build a Changing Places toilet or not.



The law does not say they have to.

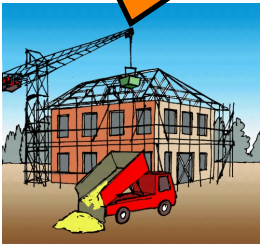
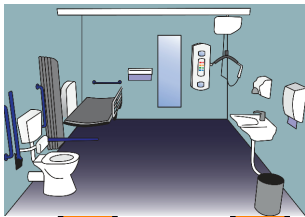


3. Our plans to have more Changing Places toilets

Using Building Regulations

We want to change the **Building Regulations** so there must be a Changing Places toilet in:

- all new, large buildings used by the public
- older large buildings that are made bigger or changed to a public building.



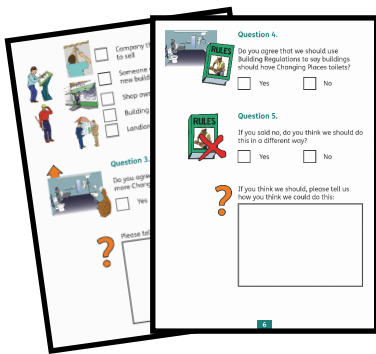
We think this will be quicker than letting local councils put Changing Places toilets in their local plans.



It will also mean that people who build and people who use these buildings will know what should be happening.

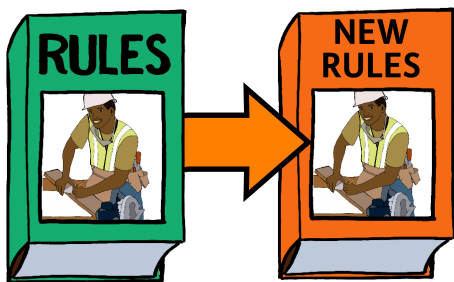


Small or older buildings must show they have looked at whether they can have a Changing Places toilet. If they cannot build one they must show they have made other changes or **reasonable adjustments**.

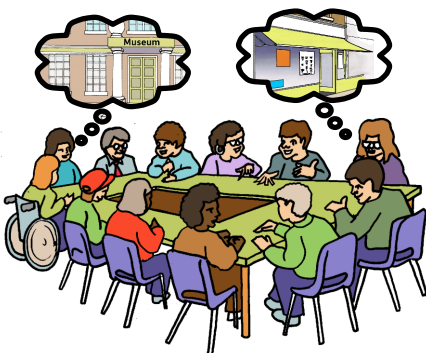


Questions 3, 4 and 5 ask about this.

What the Building Regulations would say



We would change the **Building Regulations** to say which type or size of buildings must have Changing Places toilets. They would also look at things like how many people use the building and how long they go there for.



We would need to think about what the **regulations** mean for each building. For example, a small building which lots of people visit might have to provide a Changing Places toilet.

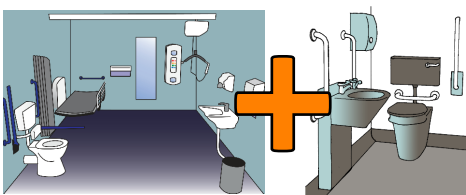
Transport buildings



We would also have rules for some transport buildings like airports, railway stations, ports and coach stations. If more than 10 million people use them each year they must have Changing Places toilets.



The rules might not apply to all transport buildings. But we hope companies will think about Changing Places toilets in new buildings or when they change older buildings or make them bigger.



Buildings would have to provide Changing Places toilets as well as ordinary and **accessible** toilets.

Which buildings should have Changing Places toilets?

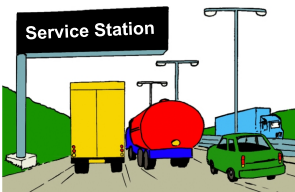
These types of buildings should have Changing Places toilets:



- shopping centres or retail parks that are larger than 30 thousand square metres



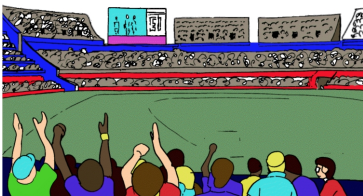
- some very large shops over 2 thousand 500 square metres that are not in a shopping centre or retail park



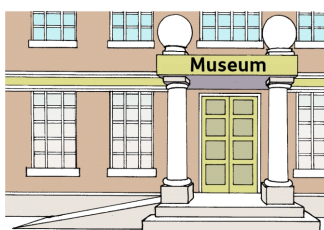
- motorway service areas



- transport buildings that more than 10 million people use each year



- any theatre, sports stadium, theme park or entertainment building that holds more than 2 thousand people



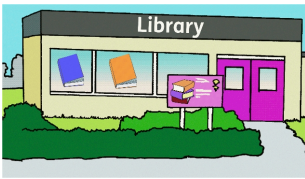
- buildings like museums, concert halls, art galleries or faith centres that more than 300 thousand people visit each year



- cinemas with 5 or more screens or more than 350 seats



- schools and colleges that the community can use



- public libraries over 3 thousand square metres



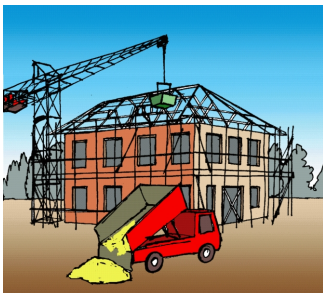
- hospitals and community care centres



- sports and leisure centres over 5 thousand square metres



- hotels with more than 100 rooms.



Changing Places toilets must be put in when the building is:

- first built



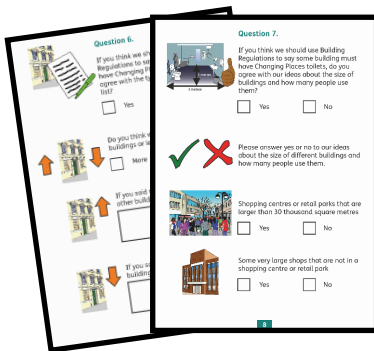
- made bigger



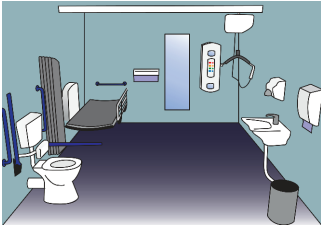
- has building work to make it more accessible



- changes from being a private building to somewhere the public can go.



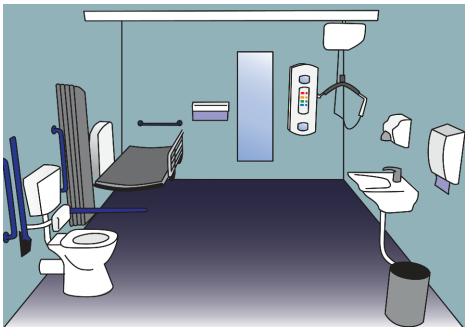
Questions 6 and 7 ask about this.



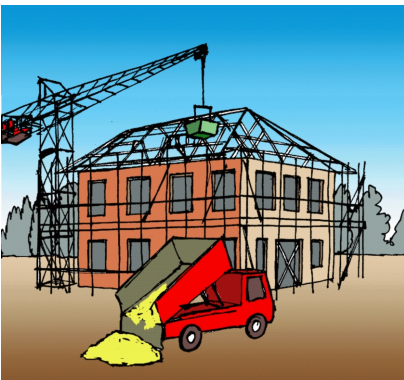
4. Size and equipment for Changing Places toilets



A Changing Places toilet should be big enough for carers to support someone with a disability.

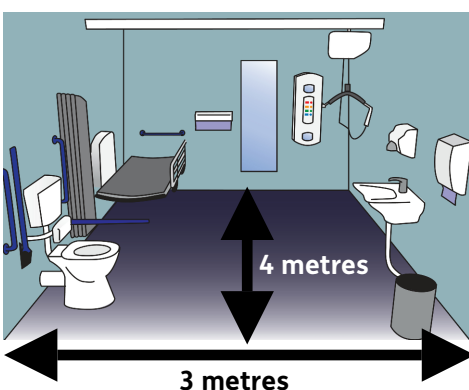


There should be enough room for a wheelchair and for people to move about, turn and use the toilet, sink, **hoist** and fold-down changing bed.

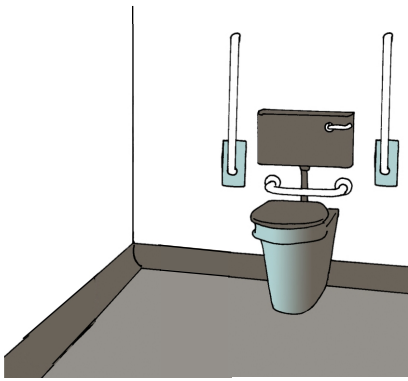


Standard Changing Places toilets

Our idea is to have standard Changing Places toilets in new buildings.



This would be a room which is 3 metres wide and 4 metres long.

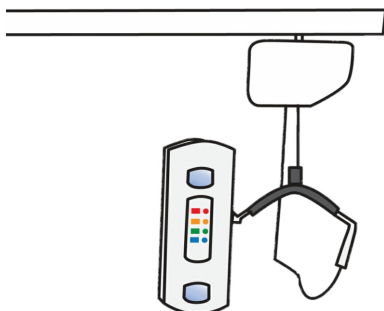
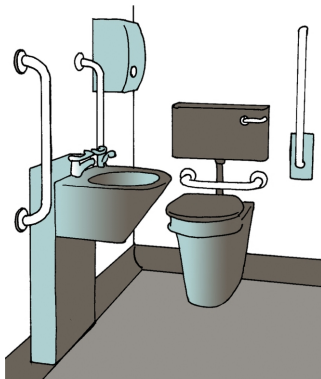
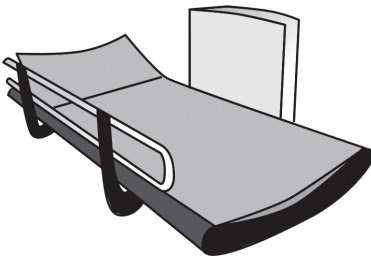


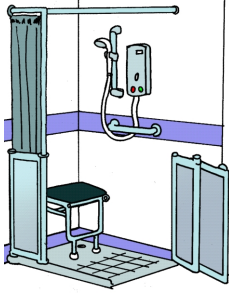
The toilet should have space on either side for the person to get out of their wheelchair or for carers to help them.



There should also be:

- a hoist
- basin
- adult-sized changing table that you can move up and down
- shelves
- safety rails
- a non-slip floor
- a track on the ceiling so carers can fit slings to the **hoist** to lift the person around the room





- a shower if there is enough space.



The important thing is to have space for the person to move around or to be lifted safely to use the different equipment.

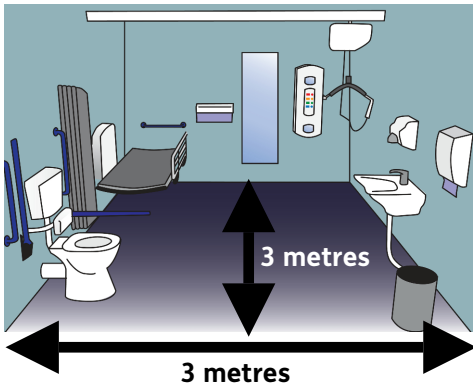


Smaller Changing Places toilets

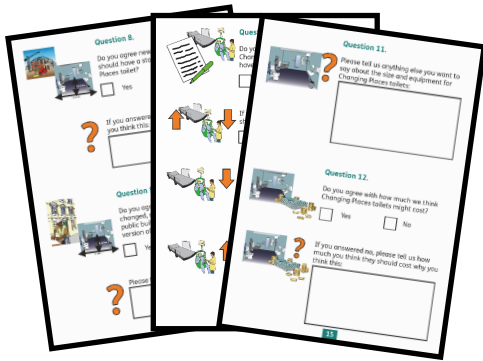
Buildings that are changed, made bigger or changed to a public building, hotel or shop could have a smaller version of the toilet.



People told us that smaller Changing Places toilets would mean more places could have them.



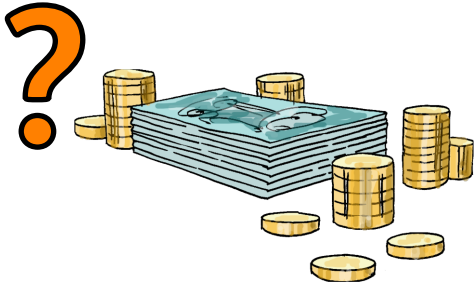
This would mean fitting the same equipment into a room that is at least 3 metres by 3 metres.



Questions 8, 9, 10 and 11 ask about the size and equipment for Changing Places toilets.



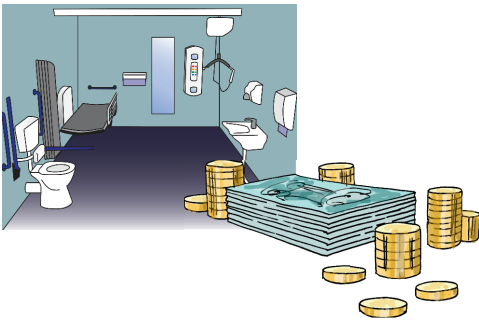
5. Is this worth doing?



How much will it cost?

We looked at how much it would cost if the rules said buildings must have Changing Places toilets.

£28,000 - £43,000



A Changing Places toilet can cost between £28 thousand and £43 thousand. This depends on whether it is in a new or an old building and how much work must be done.



We think the new rules would mean about 156 new Changing Places toilets each year.

**£4,000,000 -
£6,000,000**



This would cost about £4 to £6 million each year.

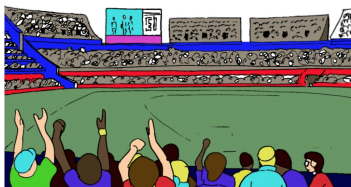


Businesses would also have to pay to keep the toilets clean and working properly.

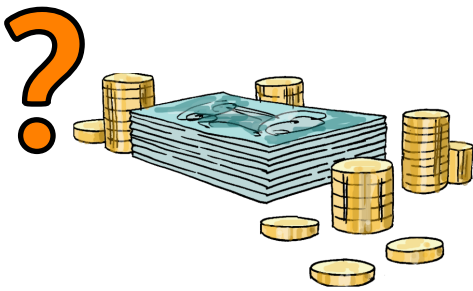
What will people get out of it?

More Changing Places toilets will mean more people with severe disabilities can:

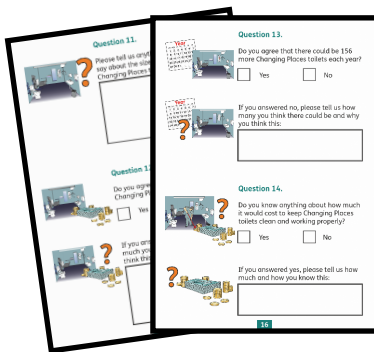
- travel
- go shopping
- go out for the day
- go to concerts, the cinema and sports events.



It will make life better for disabled people and their carers.



It is difficult to say how much money this is worth. But we think businesses will get more customers if they have a Changing Places toilet.

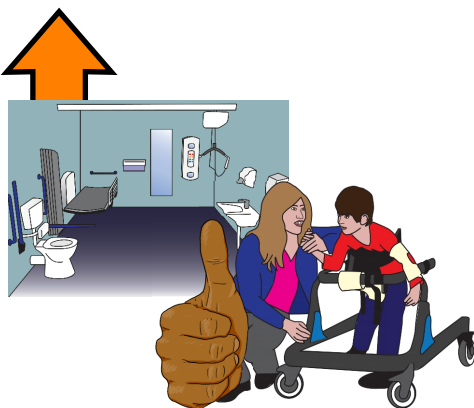


Questions 12, 13, and 14 ask about this.



Will it stop discrimination?

At the moment businesses choose whether to have a Changing Places toilet or not.



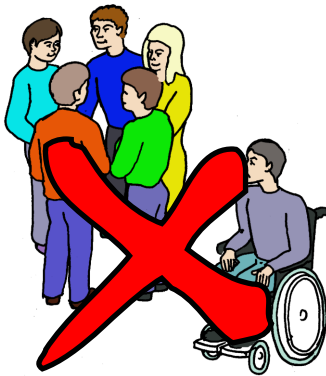
We think having more Changing Places toilets will help people with severe disabilities and their carers.



Changing Places toilets help about 250 thousand people in the UK to go to places they could not go before.



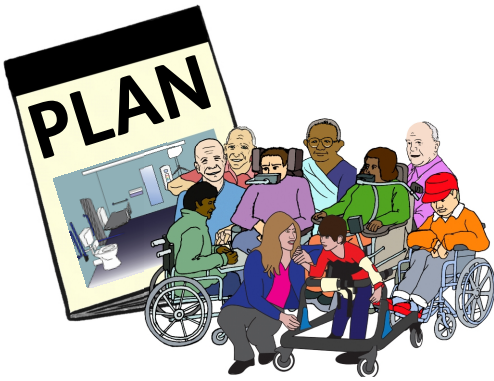
Most of these people have severe disabilities but many older people also need a lot of support to get around and use toilets.



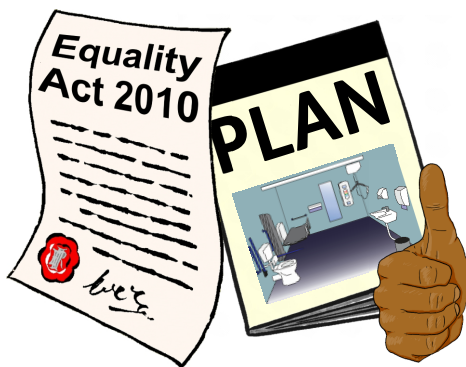
The Equality Act says the government must:

- get rid of **discrimination, harassment and victimisation**
- find ways to make sure everyone has the same chances in life.





We do not think our plans for more Changing Places toilets will be bad for any groups protected by the Equality Act.



We know the plans will help older people and people with a disability.

Question 15.

Do you want to say anything about how our plans will affect people with disabilities or other groups protected by the Equality Act?

Yes No

If you said yes, please tell us why you think this will be good or bad for people:

17

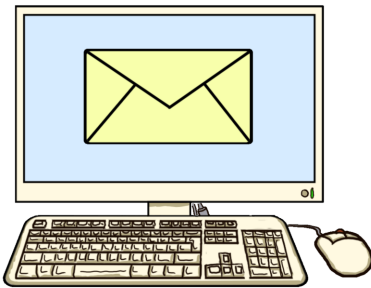
Question 15 asks about this.



6. What happens next?

July 2019						
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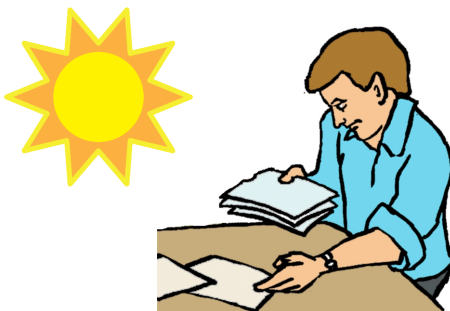
Please send us your answers before
22nd July 2019.



You can email them to:
ChangingPlaces@communities.gov.uk



Or post them to:
**Changing Places Consultation
2 SW
Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF.**



We will look at what people say over
the summer.



Then the government will say what they will do.



We must keep to the government's rules about **consultations**. If you think we have not done this, please let us know.

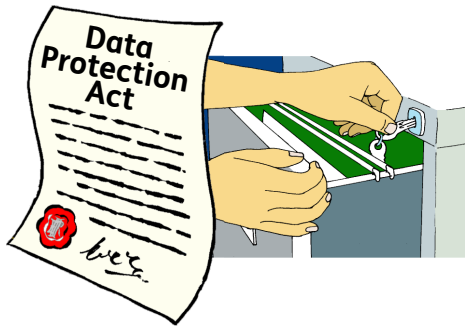


There are rules about sharing your personal information and things you tell us.



If you do not want us to share your information please tell us why. We will look at what you say but cannot promise to keep it **confidential**.

7. Your personal information



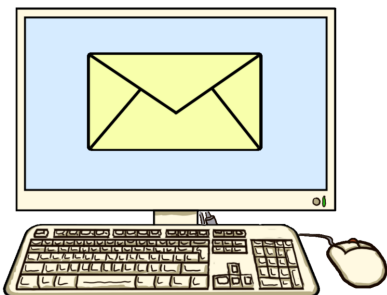
The Data Protection Act is a law about collecting, using and storing personal information.



Data means personal information like your name, address that might tell people who you are.



It is not the information you give us when you answer the questions.



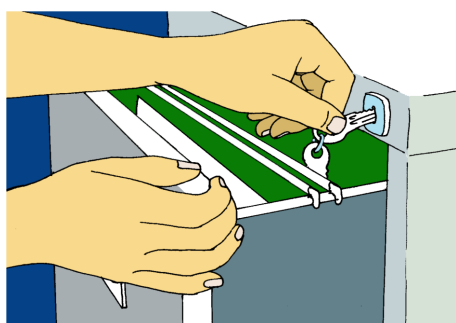
The Data Controller is the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. You can email them at: **dataprotection@communities.gov.uk**



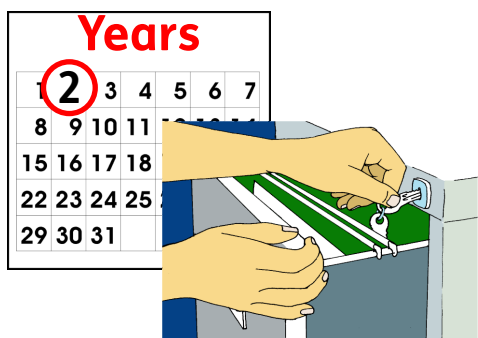
We collect your personal information so we know who answers the questions and so we can contact you if we need to.



The law says we can use this information to collect information for the **consultation**.



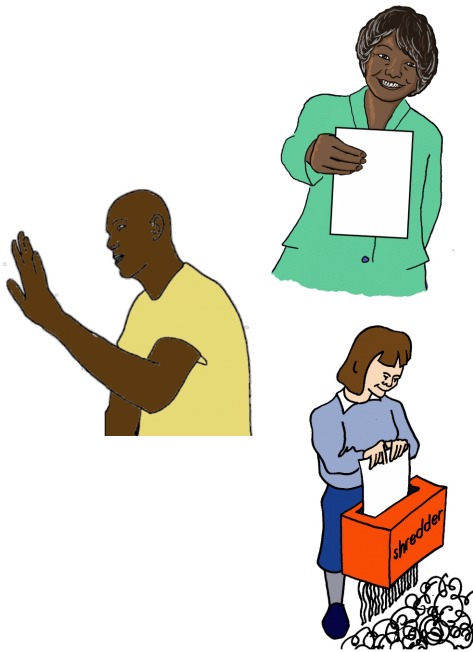
Your information will be kept safely by a company called Survey Monkey until the consultation ends. Then we will store it.



We will keep your personal information for 2 years after the consultation finishes.



We will not use your personal information to make any decisions.



You can ask us to:

- show you the information we have about you
- stop using your information
- get rid of your information safely.



You can complain if you think we have broken the law about data:

On the website:
www.ico.org.uk



Telephone:
0303 123 1113

8. What the words mean

Accessible

Easy for everyone to use or get into.

Building Regulations

Rules to make sure people are healthy and safe in and around buildings.

Confidential

Secret or private.

Consultations

Organised ways of asking people what they think.

Discrimination

Treating someone worse than other people because of things like their race, age or sex.

Harassment

When someone deliberately does something to frighten, upset or anger you.

Hoist

Equipment that you use to lift something or someone.

Online

On the internet.

Reasonable adjustments

Changes to make sure disabled people have the same chance as other people to use buildings or services.

Victimisation

Picking on someone or treating them unfairly.



Credits

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