

Case study: Working with Attractions for Greater Accessibility



Bristol Cycling Centre, Barnfield

Working with Attractions for Greater Accessibility



Utilising Existing Facilities

Trying to accommodate a large size bathroom in an existing building can be a challenge that discourages businesses from offering fully accessible disabled provisions. In public facilities the **BS8300:2009** recommends that a Changing Places toilet (12m² with a hoist, changing table and other ancillary items) is installed into any large size **new build** facility.

However, it is less widely known that you can achieve a Changing Places accreditation with anything greater than a **7m²** bathroom by converting an **existing facility**.

Colchester Zoo was one such business, approached by Essex County Council to begin a joint adaptation project earlier this year. With a desire for greater accessibility, OpeMed worked with Colchester Zoo and partners to provide **guidance and support** ensuring they would meet the Changing Places recommendations and adapt the facility to achieve a fully compliant Changing Places toilet.

Alex Downing, Development Director for Colchester Zoo said:

*"We are delighted to have been given the opportunity to offer this facility to guests. We hope that this facility may **encourage new visitors** to the park now that the Changing Places toilet is available. We would like to think this allows guests who require this assistance to have **an enjoyable day out knowing there is the relevant equipment available if required.**"*

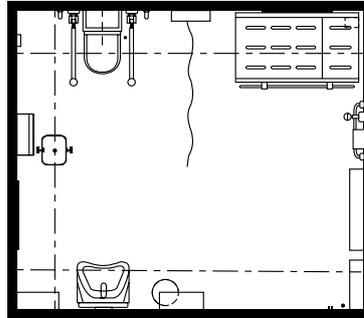
Renovation funding and work was carried out by Colchester Zoo, with equipment funded by Essex County Council as part of the Short Breaks for Disabled Children and Young People Capital Programme. Colchester Zoo Changing Places was registered April 2016



Colchester Zoo, Colchester

How it works

Changing Places is a campaign on behalf of people who cannot use standard accessible toilets. This includes people with profound learning disabilities, their carers, as well as other disabled people. They need Changing Places toilets with space and the right equipment.



A Changing Places installation includes:

- **12m² of space** for those in need of space for a wheelchair and two carers
- The **OT200 Ceiling Hoist** with our unique gravity charging, system designed to help ensure carers avoid risk of injury.
- An adult-sized height adjustable **Changing Table**
- A height adjustable or fixed height **Washbasin**
- A mobile **Privacy Screen**
- Grab rails, Support arms, a Colostomy Bag shelf and other ancillary products included in the **BS8300:2009** standard.



Colchester Zoo, Colchester

Future proof investment

Investment into a permanent Changing Places facility is not always viable where businesses need to remain flexible and locations can become changeable.

Our work with **Bristol Council Cycling Centre** is a great demonstration of how a business can ensure they always have the capability to support their customers.

Our mobile Changing Places toilet arrives **pre-fabricated** and carefully designed to be a mobile, stand-alone, permanent solution.

When the company needs to re-locate, the investment can travel with them, thus future proofing their business and ensuring they can always cater for the needs of the disabled community.

Read more about our mobile Changing Places unit by visiting: www.opemed.net/moving-changing-places-future/



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For more information, contact the **Opemed Team** and call **+44 (0) 1252 758858**

www.opemed.net