

Miss Lorna Fillingham comments

Page: [Policy S6 Public toilets](#)

Section: [S6](#)

The wording in this paragraph leaves too much open to interpretation and will not, in my opinion, support disabled users rights in securing more Changing Places toilets.

I would therefore ask that the wording be changed and the following information to be taken into account to support this.

One in 260 people NEED Changing Places toilets (with adult changing bench, hoist and toilet) in order for their toileting needs to be met in a dignified humane and timely manner. Without these facilities disabled children have to be changed on toilet floors, or in the back of cars. Many of these disabled individuals are immunocompromised and/or vulnerable due to their underlying conditions. When a disabled individual gets too big to be lifted then they have very little option but to sit in soiled pads for prolonged periods of time (which is detrimental to good skin integrity), or limit time out in the community, this can become socially isolating. All of the above is completely degrading to the individuals concerned.

Carers, both paid and unpaid, which includes parents, teachers and community nurses, amongst others, have to resort to using manual moving and handling techniques that are considered too dangerous for nurses to use in hospitals because of the known health risks to both the carer and to the person being lifted. This currently can occur when taking disabled children, teenagers and adults to hospital appointments, on school trips or days out in the community.

In order to protect those people living with disabilities and their carers, a stronger stance needs to be taken, in the interest of the public health of all those affected.

I submit this petition <http://bit.ly/toilets4all> and all the comments on it as evidence for the need for stronger action.

I therefore ask you to change this clause so it reads as follows.

In following the "guidance and direction" in Part M of the Building Regulations and best practice BS8300 and being mindful of the authorities responsibility under the Equality Act then developments where there is public access such as major leisure facilities, large shopping centre's, transport hubs, and other large buildings where the public have access must have a Changing Places toilet in addition to a standard accessible toilet;