

NEWS RELEASE

Hon Katrina Hildyard MP

Minister for Disabilities

Friday, 5 January 2017

\$1.7 million Changing Places to provide more independence for people with disability

South Australians with disability will have more independence when attending major public events and other attractions with four new Changing Places toilets to be built at popular metropolitan sites.

Changing Places are best practice disability toilets that include a hoist and other customised features so people with disability have a dignified and purpose built facility to use when they are out.

The first four new Changing Places will be built at Adelaide Oval, Rundle Mall, the new 'U City' development on Franklin Street and at Glenelg.

The State Government will also purchase two portable Changing Places - Marveloos – which are designed for major public events including concerts and festivals.

Currently there are no facilities in South Australia which meet full Changing Places specifications.

The State Government confirmed \$1.7million in the recent Mid-Year Budget Review toward building more Changing Places across South Australia.

The Marveloos are expected to be ready by the end of 2018.

Background

Changing Places include a range of features not available in standard accessible toilets, such as a height-adjustable adult-sized change table, a tracking hoist system, non-slip flooring and increased space to accommodate a person using a wheelchair and up to two carers.

Marveloos have additional features including an access ramp, external sun shade, heating and cooling and curtain for additional privacy.

A total of \$1.7 million has been allocated to Changing Places over four years, including \$300,000 towards building the two Marveloos and up to \$250,000 towards the other locations announced today.

Further locations will be announced in the future, including in regional South Australia.

Changing Places website (including Marveloo information): www.changingplaces.org.au

Quotes attributable to Minister for Disabilities Katrine Hildyard

The State Government is committed to improving access and inclusion for everyone in our community.

We know that Changing Places are considered 'best practice' facilities, and give people living with disability more independence and dignity.

Changing Places provide people with disability and their carers peace of mind so they can enjoy a day or night out without the worry of not having an appropriate restroom.

We want all South Australians with disability to have the opportunity to live full and active lives, and that includes attending major events and visiting community hubs with confidence.

I congratulate Adelaide City Council, the City of Holdfast Bay and Adelaide Oval Stadium Management Authority for co-investing in this important initiative.

Quotes attributable to Acting Lord Mayor Sandy Verschoor, City of Adelaide

People with disability are important members of our diverse community, and City of Adelaide is working to make the city more inclusive and accessible for all.

Following the success of the adult change facility which Council constructed at the Adelaide Aquatic Centre in 2016, this funding will enable us to deliver a best practice 'Changing Places' facility in the retail heart of Adelaide – the Rundle Mall precinct.

Investments like this in the social infrastructure of the city will encourage people from all walks of life to spend time enjoying all that Adelaide has to offer.

Quotes attributable to Deputy Mayor Amanda Wilson, City of Holdfast Bay

We welcome the opportunity to improve facilities for people with disabilities in Holdfast Bay, and look forward to working up more specific plans as further details become available.

Quotes attributable to Andrew Daniels, CEO, Adelaide Oval Stadium Management Authority

The SMA continually works to improve Adelaide Oval and ensure that it is a fully inclusive stadium for all South Australians, so we are delighted to have the opportunity to collaborate with the government on this important initiative.

The Adelaide Oval is fully DDA (Disability Discrimination Act) compliant, but we must continue to provide the best possible facilities and event day experience for our patrons.

Quotes attributable to Simon Schrapel, Chief Executive, Uniting Communities

As an organisation with a proud history of advocating for inclusion and in delivering services to people living with a disability, we were determined to ensure Adelaide's first radical mixed use high rise development incorporated a publicly accessible Changing Places toilet.

In designing the 20-storey U City, we took the initiative to construct a fully accessible Changing Places facility that could be used by U City residents, visitors, conference attendees, staff, and the general public.

As a building that will operate 24/7, the Changing Places toilet will be available for all who require it at any time of the day.