

ACCESSIBLE BABY CHANGING FACILITIES

Accessible baby changing facilities will satisfy the performance objectives if:

- 1. The arrangement of fittings and minimum overall dimensions comply with the provisions in Figure 35.
- 2. A fixed height baby changing bench positioned 750mm above finished floor level is provided.
- 3. The washbasin has a rim height of 720mm to 740mm above finished floor level.
- 4. Soap dispensers and hand drying facilities are positioned close to the washbasin at height of

between 800mm and 1000mm from the underside of the units to the finished floor level.

- 5. A wall mounted nappy vending machine is provided with controls and dispensing drawer located no more than 1000mm above the finished floor level.
- 6. A nappy disposal waste bin is provided – preferably recessed into the wall.

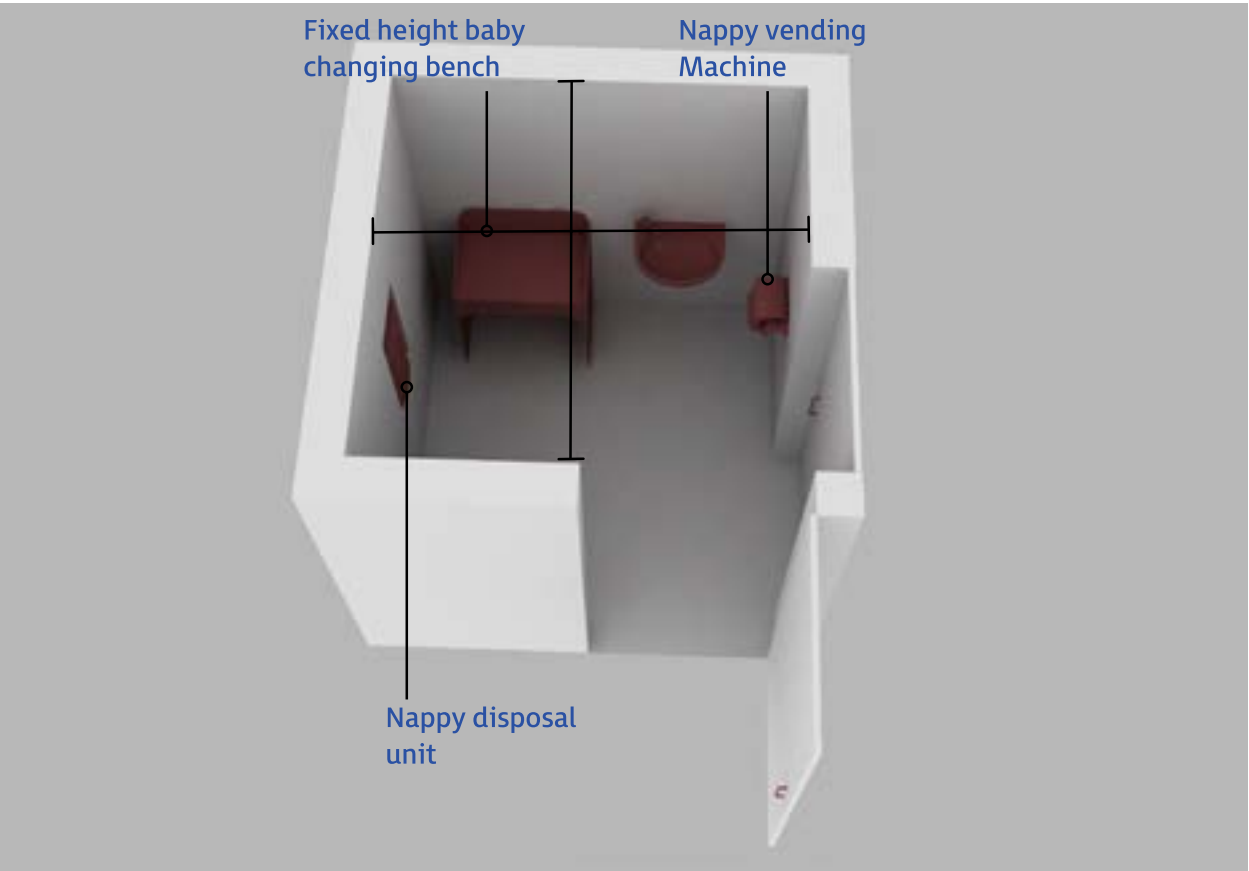


Figure 35 / An example of a baby changing facility

4.5.2 MANDATORY DESIGN OBJECTIVES

GENERAL

- 1. The location and design of toilet accommodation should respond to the needs of all building users. Unisex toilet accommodation should enable a partner or carer of the opposite sex to provide assistance if necessary. Changing places (CP) toilets should accommodate the needs of people with multiple disabilities who may require more space, additional facilities and appropriate assistance. CP toilets should be provided in retail malls, sports, leisure and entertainment venues, large hotels, transport interchanges, healthcare buildings and education establishments.
- 2. The provision of larger cubicles within separate sex toilet accommodation will benefit ambulant disabled people as well as parents with children and people with luggage.
- 3. In male toilet accommodation wheelchair users and people of shorter stature should have access to at least one urinal mounted at a lower height – where more than one urinal is provided.
- 4. The design of toilet accommodation should also take account of the particular safety issues related to vulnerable users e.g. the need for visual fire alarms for people with hearing impairments and the potential for people with reduced tactile sensitivity to burn themselves on hot taps. Likewise doors should be operable by people with limited strength or manual dexterity and be capable of being opened in the event that someone has collapsed against them whilst in the cubicle.

- 5. The travel distance to reach an accessible toilet should be kept to minimum as some users may need to use the facilities more frequently.

WHEELCHAIR-ACCESSIBLE UNISEX TOILETS

- 1. A unisex toilet is more readily identifiable than an accessible cubicle in a separate sex toilet and is more likely to be available when required.
- 2. The layout and positioning of the sanitary ware and associated fixtures is critical with respect to the wheelchair manoeuvring space and the dimensional guidance should be strictly adhered to.
- 3. Where more than one accessible unisex WC is provided the layout should be handed on alternate floors (or in different locations in large single storey buildings) to provide a choice of right-hand or left-hand transfer. Signage should be provided to indicate left-hand transfer layouts. Where space allows larger compartments should be provided which allow for both right-hand and left-hand transfer.

TOILETS IN SEPARATE-SEX WASHROOMS

- 1. Ambulant disabled people and vulnerable users should be able to use a WC compartment within any separate-sex toilet washroom to avoid unnecessary travel to unisex toilet accommodation.
- 2. Where space allows enlarged cubicles suitable for use by both ambulant disabled people and people who require additional space e.g. parents with children and people with luggage should be provided.

- 3. Consideration should be given to the provision of fold down tables within washrooms for baby changing.
- 4. Standard WC compartments should have adequate manoeuvring space clear of any door swing.
- 5. Where a separate-sex washroom is accessible to wheelchair users it should be possible for them to use both a urinal and a washbasin.