

ROCHDALE CROWN OIL ARENA HERITAGE STATEMENT



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SECTION A: INTRODUCTION

A1: KEY DATA

Heritage Assets: Spotland Bridge Conservation Area

Location: Rochdale, Greater Manchester, adjacent Crown Oil Arena

Building type/function:

The Arena is used for sports activities by many diverse organisations by both men, women, boys and girls across a wide range of age groups. The Arena also has two function rooms which are used regularly for celebrations, weddings, funerals, seminars and dining/corporate events.

Development proposal:

It is proposed to install a Changing Places Toilet facility on the car park at Spotland stadium. The facility would arrive as a self-contained pod built off site and connected to existing utilities once craned into position. The pod will be positioned onto level ground and is a single storey room with external dimensions 4.830m x 3500m with a maximum height of 2.815m.

A2: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report relates to proposals for installation of a Changing Places Toilet at Crown Oil Arena which is adjacent to Spotland bridge conservation area.

The facility layout has been approved by Muscular Dystrophy UK who have been appointed by Central Government and the Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities in order that all facilities include generic specialist equipment and the internal space meets approved dimensions. The facility provides essential toileting facilities for families with disabled people who require assistance/carers as they cannot use a toilet by themselves. Included within the CPT is a hoist system and changing bed to help with difficulties lifting a person but also to provide the disabled person with dignity and help them to feel safe.

The scheme is considered favourable, as it can only attract more families to enjoy days/evenings out at this local venue and indeed could well increase footfall within the conservation area itself. The external elevations will be clad sympathetically to match the existing stadium colours.

Once approved and in-situ, this CPT facility will be registered with the CPT Consortium and will be listed on their website which is available for all to access. The website allows searches for CPT facilities nationwide which will encourage disabled persons and their families to travel to these areas, confident that welfare facilities are provided, allowing them to relax and enjoy their day.

A3: LOCATION AND SETTING

Crown Oil Arena is located near the centre of Rochdale at post code OL11 5DR and is adjacent to Spotland Bridge Conservation Area.

A4: IMPACT OF PROPOSAL

The special character of Spotland Bridge Conservation Area shall be preserved in its existing state as the proposed installation of the CPT pod will have no visual impact on its surroundings with being externally clad to match existing buildings at the Arena. The importance and existence of the conservation area may well be enhanced by the CPT pod as it could encourage additional visitors to Rochdale town centre and its historical treasures.