

Project: Dublin CC Accessibility Audits

Job No: 23399



Use Type: Public Park

Auditor: N Williamson

Date of Audit: 06/02/2007

Capita Ref: 135

Name: Albert College

Address: North West

**Section 1: Approach Routes & Street Furniture**

REF	QUESTION	Y/N	LOCATION	RECOMMENDATION	QTY	PHOTO REF	PRIORITY	COSTS
1.1	Is the park easy to find?	No		refer to 1.7				
1.2	Is the park within convenient walking distance of: Public Highway, Public Transport, Car Parking?	Yes						
1.3	Is the surrounding approach routes level?	Yes						
1.4	Are the approach routes minimum 1.8m wide?	Yes						
1.5	Are approach route surfaces even and slip resistant?	Yes						
1.6	Do approaches to crossovers have the necessary contrasting tactile surfaces and dropped kerbs?	No		The main crossover at the junction with Hampstead Avenue has tactile paving installed. However, it is not colour contrasting. Therefore, provide contrasting tactile blister paving to provide suitable guidance and warning to persons with a visual impairment.  Also, provide tactile paving either side of the zebra crossing at the NE entrance to the park	2	1,8	2	€2,000

1.7	Is the approach route to the park entrances clearly signed?	No	surrounding area	Directional signage is unsuitable for persons with a visual impairment. Therefore, provide suitable signage offering directions to the main entrances in the area surrounding the park. Directional signs should be suitably positioned to allow persons approaching from all directions to see them easily. For medium range location and direction signs the text height should be a minimum of 60mm. The background of the general signboard should be white and the text should be black or dark blue.  Please refer to BS 8300 'Table 5' and 'Table 6' in the BS300 and NDA Buildings for everyone for details.	1		1	€2,000
1.8	Is the approach route to the park suitably lit (if park operates after dark)?	No		According to signage at the park entrance the park is only supposed to be in use in daylight hours. Therefore, no recommendation is being made to provide suitable lighting in this instance.				€0
1.9	Is the approach route to the park entrances free of hazards such as bollards, litter bins etc?	Yes						
1.10	Is there a designated drop-off point close to a park entrance to allow disabled visitors arriving at the park in vehicles to be safely dropped-off? Is it well signed/marked out?	No	car park	There is no designated drop off point provided for this building. Subject to an assessment of need, consider the benefit of providing suitable road markings and signage to designate a drop off point.	1	14	2	€1,200

**Section 2: Car Parking**

REF	QUESTION	Y/N	LOCATION	RECOMMENDATION	QTY	PHOTO REF	PRIORITY	COSTS
2.1	Is there accessible car parking within the park or in close proximity of the park for use by disabled visitors?	No	car park	There are no wheelchair accessible parking facilities provided. However there is adequate room for 2No.to be provided in the car park. Accessible parking spaces to be marked out 4.8m x 2.4m with a 1.2m transfer zone to the side and rear. The designated spaces should be positioned as close to the entrance as possible. Suitable high level signage (incorporating the international symbol for access) should accompany the designated space to help limit misuse of the accessible parking space.	2	14	2	€2,500
2.2	Is the accessible car parking space(s) 4.8m long by 2.4m wide with 1.2m side and rear transfer zones (6.0m x 2.4m with 900mm rear transfer zone for parallel parking bays)?	N/A						
2.3	Is the accessible car parking surface smooth, even and free from loose stones?	N/A						
2.4	Is it adequately lit (if park is open after dark)?	No		refer to 1.8				
2.5	Is there a sufficient number of accessible parking bays to meet the requirements of the park (1 space per 25 standard spaces; 3 spaces per 25-50 standard spaces; 5 spaces per 50-100 standard spaces)?	N/A						

**Section 3: Park Entrances**

REF	QUESTION	Y/N	LOCATION	RECOMMENDATION	QTY	PHOTO REF	PRIORITY	COSTS
3.1	Is the park entrance(s) easy to find, well signed and clearly distinguishable from the façade?	No	6No.entrances	There is unsuitable signage at the parks entrances. Provide suitable signage at the entrances around the park and at the 2No.entrances to the playpark area. Signage should have the name of the park and the hours that the park is open. Ensure that the text size and colour contrast correspond with the specifications detailed in NDA Buildigns for Everyone and BS300:2001 table 5 and 6.	1	3	1	€6,500
3.2	Is there suitable signage to the main entrance(s) of the park indicating what facilities are available to assist visitors with a disability (i.e. accessible routes, parking, toilets etc)?	No	6No.entrances	Provide signage as close as possible to the entrance indicating the facilities/ assistive equipment etc. available within the park for use by disabled visitors.	6	2,5,6,8,13,15	1	€1,200
3.3	Is there level access to park entrances?	No	stepped entrance	Currently one entrance adjacent to the car parking area is stepped. No recommendation is being made to remove the steps in this instance. There are a number of level entrances in close proximity. Provide signage at the stepped entrance directing wheelchair users to the accessible entrances.	1	16	1	€200
3.4	Are park entrances wide enough for all users (minimum 800mm)?	Yes						
3.5	If operated by the public, are park gate handles/controls easy to use and at a suitable height for use by visitors standing or seated?	Yes						

**Section 4: Horizontal Circulation Routes**

REF	QUESTION	Y/N	LOCATION	RECOMMENDATION	QTY	PHOTO REF	PRIORITY	COSTS
4.1	Are circulation routes within the park at least 1800mm wide (or have regular 1800mm wide passing zones)?	Yes						
4.2	Are surfaces even and slip resistant?	No	adjacent to SW entrance from Hampstead Avenue	The surface of the pathways in the park may not be suitable for persons using walking aids or wheelchair users. Resurface the access route surface to provide a slip resistant and reasonably smooth surface.	1	17	2	€1,000
4.3	Is park signage suitably positioned, sized and with necessary colour/tonal contrast between letters and background? Is there alternative pictorial signage indicating key park features/warnings etc?	No	throughout the park	<p>Directional signage is unsuitable for persons with a visual impairment. Therefore, provide suitable signage offering directions throughout the park. Directional signs should be suitably positioned to allow persons approaching from all directions to see them easily. For medium range location and direction signs the text height should be a minimum of 60mm. The background of the general signboard should be white and the text should be black or dark blue.</p> <p>Also, provide a suitable tactile map displayed at a height to assist wheelchair users and persons of short stature in place of the existing map.</p> <p>Please refer to BS 8300 'Table 5 &amp; 6' and also NDA Buildings for Everyone for full details.</p>	2	3,4	1	€3,000

4.4	Is adequate seating with armrests provided in larger parks?	No	throughout park and playground	The existing seating is not suitable for persons with ambulant disabilities. Provide a bench/seating with suitable arm supports throughout the park to assist ambulant disabled persons.	appox 20	7,10	3	€20,000
4.5	Does the park allow general movement to all areas; accessible paths, accessible gates, segregation of pedestrians from vehicles?	No	NE area of the park	Currently there is 3No.small steps behind the building in the NE section of the park. Remove these steps so that the park is fully accessible to wheelchair users.	1	12	2	€2,000
4.6	Are circulation routes kept free of debris, foliage, overgrown plants/shrubs etc?	Yes						

#### Section 5: Vertical Circulation Routes

REF	QUESTION	Y/N	LOCATION	RECOMMENDATION	QTY	PHOTO REF	PRIORITY	COSTS
5.1	Are there visual and tactile warnings (i.e. cord rib) at top and bottom of steps?	No	stepped entrance from Hampsted Avenue	Provide contrasting tactile danger warning to the top and bottom of the external steps to provide suitable guidance and warning to persons with a visual impairment. Refer to Technical Guidance Document M Diagram 2 for details.	1	16	2	€600

5.2	Are there suitable handrails each side and do they extend 300mm beyond top and bottom of stair?	No	stepped entrance from Hampsted Avenue	<p>Provide suitable handrails to the external steps.</p> <p>Handrails should be fitted at a height between 840 - 900mm from the pitch line of the steps. Generally handrails should:</p> <p>Have an oval or circular profile. (Circular handrail diameter between 40 - 50mm, Oval profile should be 50mm wide and 38mm deep, have rounded edges with a radius of at least 15mm),</p> <p>Be of a suitable finish that contrasts in colour and luminance with the surroundings against which it is seen without being highly reflective,</p> <p>Be easy and comfortable to grip without being cold to touch.</p>	1	16	2	€1,000
5.3	Is lighting adequate and well positioned (if park opens after dark)?	N/A						
5.4	Are treads and risers uniform?	Yes						
5.5	Are stair nosings identifiable?	No	stepped entrance from Hampsted Avenue	Nosings to the steps are not readily identifiable and may present a trip hazard to persons with a visual impairment. Apply permanent colour contrasting nosings to the top and bottom external steps in contrast with the remaining steps.	1	16	2	€200
5.6	Are landings big enough and provided at intermediate levels in a long flight?	Yes						

---

**Section 6: Activity Spaces**

REF	QUESTION	Y/N	LOCATION	RECOMMENDATION	QTY	PHOTO REF	PRIORITY	COSTS
6.1	Is there suitable access to all park activity spaces for all visitors i.e. suitable paths to play areas, sports pitches, picnic areas etc?	Yes						
6.2	Are play areas fenced with gates of minimum 800mm wide and appropriately signed?	No		refer to 3.1				
6.3	Do play areas have rubberised safety surfaces (or similar safety surfaces)?	Yes						
6.4	Do play areas have a mixture of equipment to allow opportunities for all abilities and encourage independence?	Yes						
6.5	Is there suitable access to seating within the play area and is it suitable for use by all (i.e. colour/tonal contrast, armrests)?	No		refer to 4.4				
6.6	Is there sufficient space around individual equipment to allow wheelchair access?	Yes						
6.7	Do all steps to equipment incorporate handrails?	Yes						
6.8	Is there good colour/tonal contrast between equipment and background?	Yes						