

Project: Dublin CC Accessibility Audits

Job No: 23399



Use Type: Public Park

Auditor: B Taggart

Date of Audit: 15/03/2007

Capita Ref: 036

Name: Christchurch Park

Address: South East

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?	Yes						
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?	Yes						
1.7	Is the approach route to the park entrances clearly signed?	Yes						
1.8	Is the approach route to the park suitably lit (if park operates after dark)?	Yes						

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	Approaches	Christchurch park is in effect the gardens of Christchurch Cathedral. There is no designated drop off point provided for this park. Due to the proximity of the park (within a very busy road network) and its small size, it may not be possible to provide a drop-off zone close to the park entrance. Discussions should take place between park management (Christchurch Cathedral management) and the roads department to ascertain if this is possible.			4	€0

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	Approaches	Christchurch park is in effect the gardens of Christchurch Cathedral. There is no designated accessible parking provided for this park. Due to the proximity of the park (within a very busy road network) and its small size, it may not be possible to provide parking close to the park entrance. Discussions should take place between park management (Christchurch Cathedral management) and the roads department to ascertain if this is possible.			4	€0
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)? N/A

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?	Yes						
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)?	Yes						
3.3	Is there level access to park entrances?	No	Entrances	There are 2 entrances to the park. The entrance to the west is stepped and the entrance to the east is level. Signage should be provided at the west entrance to advise visitors coming from that direction that there is a level accessible entrance nearby to the east.	1	1,2	2	€300
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)?	No	Entrances	There is a degree of traditional stone set paving which may present a trip hazard to visitors with reduced mobility. It is not reasonable to remove this surface as it is of considerable historical importance to the site. Signage recommended in 3.3 will direct people with mobility restrictions to the eastern entrance which has a level surface. No action		2,3,5		€0
4.2	Are surfaces even and slip resistant?	No		Refer to 4.1				
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?	Yes						
4.4	Is adequate seating with armrests provided in larger parks?	N/A						
4.5	Does the park allow general movement to all areas; accessible paths, accessible gates, segregation of pedestrians from vehicles?	Yes						

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	Internal circulation	<p>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.</p> <p>Particular consideration should be given to the significant historical importance of the surface (stone sets) and it may not be possible to provide a contrasting surface. Therefore a lower priority is given.</p> <p>A more accessible entrance is available close by which will ensure that all visitors can access the park.</p>	1	3,4	3	€2,000

5.2	Are there suitable handrails each side and do they extend 300mm beyond top and bottom of stair?	No	Circulation routes	<p>Provide suitable handrails each side of the external steps (currently located on one side of stair only).</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), 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>Design of any new handrails should be in keeping with the historical importance of the site.</p>	1	3,4	1	€3,000
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	Circulation routes	<p>Nosings to the steps are not readily identifiable and may present a trip hazard to persons with a visual impairment. Apply permanent colour/tonal contrasting nosings to all steps. Ensure top and bottom nosings contrast with the nosings on the remaining steps.</p> <p>Particular consideration should be given to the significant historical importance of the stair surfaces and it may not be possible to provide contrasting nosings. Therefore a lower priority is given.</p>	1	3,4	3	€1,000

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?	N/A						
6.3	Do play areas have rubberised safety surfaces (or similar safety surfaces)?	N/A						
6.4	Do play areas have a mixture of equipment to allow opportunities for all abilities and encourage independence?	N/A						
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)?	N/A						
6.6	Is there sufficient space around individual equipment to allow wheelchair access?	N/A						
6.7	Do all steps to equipment incorporate handrails?	N/A						
6.8	Is there good colour/tonal contrast between equipment and background?	N/A						