

Project: Dublin CC Accessibility Audits

Job No: 23399



Use Type: Public Park

Auditor: G Speirs

Date of Audit: 22/03/2007

Capita Ref: 087

Name: Grand Canal Spur

Address: South Central

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 item 1.7.				€0
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?	No		The Grand Canal Spur has many different access routes. Some of these access routes are steep or stepped due to the natural topography of the site. This means that not all areas of the site could be accessed by wheelchair users depending where they approach from. This does not detract from the nature of the park and therefore does not pose a particular barrier to access. There are numerous suitable access points along the route. Therefore no action is required in this instance.		1,4,6	1	€0
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?	No	The park is not well signed on approach. Recommend that signage be provided on all major approach routes. A budgetary cost is included.	1,4,6	1	€500
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?	No	The entrance to the park is obstructed by bollards - photo 1. Recommend bollards have colour or tonal contrast applied to highlight their location and assist those with a visual impairment. The entrance to the park is obstructed by barred gates - photo 6. Recommend gates are removed or altered to allow for access by wheelchair users and / or persons who may require assistance. Min 800mm width is required.	1,6	1	€5,000
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	It is not considered likely that visitors will arrive at the site via car as there are no facilities or amenities present. The area is used predominantly by local people arriving as pedestrians and as such is suitably accessible. No requirements being made for a drop-off zone of accessible car parking.	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	1	€0

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		Refer to item 3.2.				€0
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		The park is not well signed at entrance areas. Recommend that signage be provided at all entrances to indicate its name and purpose etc (if applicable). A budgetary cost is included.		1,4,6	1	€500
3.3	Is there level access to park entrances?	No		Refer to item 1.3.				€0
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?	N/A						

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?	Yes						

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?	No	There is insufficient seating within the park. Recommend that seating be provided with arm rests and back support. A budgetary cost is given for approximately 10 No. benches / seating.	10 No.	3,5,7	2	€2,000	
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		The external stairs have no means of assisting persons with a visual impairment on approach - photo 4. Recommend incorporating a section of tactile corduroy paving to the top and bottom of the external stairs as per NDA Buildings for Everyone Guidance.	1	4	1	€500

5.2	Are there suitable handrails each side and do they extend 300mm beyond top and bottom of stair?	No	<p>There are external stairs where no handrails have been fitted photo 4. It is recommended that handrails are provided at external stairs where no handrails are provided or where the existing handrails are unsuitable for use by persons with limited dexterity.</p> <p>Handrails should be fitted at a height between 900 – 1000mm from the surface of the stairs. Generally handrails should: 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 overly obtrusive to the eye. Handrails should extend 300mm beyond the top and bottom step where practical to do so.</p>	4	1	€1,000
5.3	Is lighting adequate and well positioned (if park opens after dark)?	No	Refer to item 1.8.			€0
5.4	Are treads and risers uniform?	Yes				
5.5	Are stair nosings identifiable?	No	<p>There are external steps where the nosings are not readily identifiable and may present a trip hazard to persons with a visual impairment. Provide colour contrasting nosings to the external steps to contrast in colour and luminance with the existing treads and risers. There can be paint applied.</p>	4	1	€50
5.6	Are landings big enough and provided at intermediate levels in a long flight?	Yes				

