

Project: Dublin CC Accessibility Audits

Job No: 23399



Use Type: Public Park

Auditor: J Lowe

Date of Audit: 27/02/2007

Capita Ref: 107

Name: Griffith Park

Address: 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?	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?	No	Surrounding main roads such as Drumcondra Road or Botanic Road.	No directional signage is provided for persons with a visual impairment. Therefore, provide suitable signage offering directions to the park entrances. 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' There are several entrances to the park (five) and signage should be placed to direct persons from the main access areas such as Drumcondra Road or Botanic Road.	4	8,23	2	€2,000
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	Millmount Avenue and Botanic Avenue	There is no designated drop off point provided for this park. Subject to an assessment of need, consider the benefit of providing suitable road markings and signage to designate a drop off point. Consultation with the local roads authority may be required. A dropped kerb will also be required at the drop off point. A drop off point should be considered at the north side and the south side of the park.	2	8,23	2	€2,000

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	Millmount Avenue and Botanic Avenue	There are no wheelchair accessible parking facilities provided. However there is adequate room for one 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. A parking space should be considered at the north side and the south side of the park.	2	8,23	2	€2,000
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)?	Yes						
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)?	No	All five entrances to the park	Existing signage requires the white lettering to be repainted. New signage as close as possible to the entrances indicating the facilities/ assistive equipment etc. available within the park for use by disabled visitors is also recommended given the size of the park.	5	6,7,8,9,11,19	2	€2,500
3.3	Is there level access to park entrances?	Yes						
3.4	Are park entrances wide enough for all users (minimum 800mm)?	No	The east entrance along Botanic Avenue.	Entrance along Botanic Avenue has a permanent barrier stopping persons of an ambulant nature access due to the restrictive turning space. Persons should be redirected to the other entrance further along the same road at the west side of the park.	1	5,23	1	€500
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	North west pathway inside the park.	The pathway at the north west side of the park follows the river edge. There is no boundary between the paths edge and that of the river for a distance of approximately 50 metres. Elsewhere throughout the park the river and path edges are distanced by a grass boundary which provides a suitable visual contrast. The top pathway at the extreme west side where the path meets the river edge, joins from an elevated position. This has a serious implication that someone utilising a wheeled piece of equipment may not stop in time. This has implications for persons or children with and without disabilities and a barrier should be erected or the path repositioned at this specific position. As a minimum, along the rest of the pathway where it meets the river edge , visual contrasting should be implicated.	1	2,15,17	1	€3,000
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	Throughout the entire park.	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. There are several throughout the park none of which had suitable arm rests. Consideration should be given to change some of them to comply.	6	1	2	€3,000
4.5	Does the park allow general movement to all areas; accessible paths, accessible gates, segregation of pedestrians from vehicles?	No	Bridge crossing in the centre area of the park.	The bridge at which pedestrians can cross the river Tolka is constructed out of concrete and has a poor visual contrast with the pathway. Ensure that the walls and edging contrast in colour and luminance with the surroundings.	1	4	1	€500
4.6	Are circulation routes kept free of debris, foliage, overgrown plants/shrubs etc?	No	Noth west entrance to the park at the path split point.	<p>Within the park there is a bollard separating two pedestrian routes. While the bollard is not an obstruction it is not visually contrasting and represents a hazard to persons of a visual limitation. Ensure that the bollard contrasts in colour and luminance with the surroundings.</p> <p>Free standing posts and support columns should incorporate a band, 150mm high, whose bottom edge is 1500mm from the ground level, and contrasts in colour.</p>	1	16,21	2	€100

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	North side of the river Tolka passing through the centre of the park.	There are two sets of steps leading down into the water. Provide contrasting tactile danger warning to the top 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.	2	2,3	1	€2,000
5.2	Are there suitable handrails each side and do they extend 300mm beyond top and bottom of stair?	No	North side of the river Tolka passing through the centre of the park.	<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>A health and safety risk assesment should also be considered.</p>	2	2,3	1	€2,000
5.3	Is lighting adequate and well positioned (if park opens after dark)?	Yes						
5.4	Are treads and risers uniform?	Yes						

5.5	Are stair nosings identifiable?	Yes
5.6	Are landings big enough and provided at intermediate levels in a long flight?	N/A

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?	Yes						
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