

Project: Dublin CC Accessibility Audits

Job No: 23399



Use Type: Public Park

Auditor: N Williamson

Date of Audit: 28/03/2007

Capita Ref: 025

Name: North Bull Island

Address: North 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?	No		Approaches to crossovers on the pedestrian pavement do not have suitable tactile warning for persons with a visual impairment. Therefore, provide contrasting tactile blister paving to the following crossovers to provide suitable guidance and warning to persons with a visual impairment: either side of the car park entrance on the Bull Wall, either side of the 2No.crossing points at the Causeway Road at the James Larkin Road End	3	2	2	€6,000

1.7	Is the approach route to the park entrances clearly signed?	No		The signage in the car parks and throughout is unsuitable. Signage is dated and worn and is displayed at a height that is unsuitable for wheelchair users. Provide suitable signage at all entrances, car parks and viewing areas offering the opening and closing times, facilities available to disabled persons, information on wildlife and maps of the area. 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' and NDA buildings for everyone for full details. Also, ensure that all signage is located on the ground level and that a suitable pathway is available up to information boards so that all visitors can read the signage provided.	2	3,844,50	1	€20,000
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?	No	Causeway Road	There are hazardous obstructions on the approach route to and throughout the park. This may present a problem for persons with a visual impairment. Free standing posts and support columns should incorporate a band, 150mm high, whose bottom edge is 1500mm from the ground level, and contrast in colour and luminance.	1	47,48	2	€500
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 parks	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. Consultation with the local roads authority may be required.	2	5,36	2	€3,000

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		There are no wheelchair accessible parking facilities provided. However there is adequate room for some to be provided in the car parks. Provide 2No.accessible spaces in the Bull Wall car park and 2No.accessible spaces on the road adjacent to the visitor centre. 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	5,36	2	€6,000
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?	No	Bull Wall Car Park	The car park surface has variations on the surface profile exceeding 5mm and is unsuitable for wheelchair users. Resurface the car park to provide an even and stable surface.	1	5	2	€25,000
2.4	Is it adequately lit (if park is open after dark)?	No		The facilities are only for use in daylight hours. No recommendation to provide lighting in this instance.				€0

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		refer to 1.7				
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		refer to 1.7				
3.3	Is there level access to park entrances?	Yes						
3.4	Are park entrances wide enough for all users (minimum 800mm)?	N/A						
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)?	No		refer to 4.2				
4.2	Are surfaces even and slip resistant?	No	Visitors Centre	<p>Out with the car parking areas there are no designated pathways. The area is protected and as a result the council are not allowed to build pathways. Therefore, no recommendation is being made to provide pathways through the dunes or along the beach.</p> <p>However, the pathway leading to the Visitors Centre should be widened so that it is 1.8m wide to assist wheelchair users.</p>	1	6,35,41	2	€10,000
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	<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>Please refer to BS 8300 'Table 5 & 6' and also NDA Buildings for Everyone.</p>	1		1	€3,000

4.4	Is adequate seating with armrests provided in larger parks?	No	bathing shelters, bull wall,, picnic areas and covered areas	The existing seating is not suitable for persons with ambulant disabilities. Provide bench/seating with suitable arm supports throughout the park to assist ambulant disabled persons. Also, ensure that picnic tables on Bull Island can be accessed by wheelchair user. Suitable paths should be provided and wheelchair users should be able to approach and use the tables also.	1,13,15,30,45	2	€25,000
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?	No		Ensure that all pathways are kept clear of debris/mud/overgrown grass etc to assist persons with visual and mobility impairments.	1	4	€0

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	Bull Wall	No recommendation is being made to provide tactile paving to the steps along the bull wall that lead into the water. However there are step from the Bull Wall onto the beach. Provide colour contrasting blister tactile paving at the top of the steps from the wall onto the beach.	1	22	2	€500

5.2	Are there suitable handrails each side and do they extend 300mm beyond top and bottom of stair?	No	all steps along Bull Wall	<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>Extend 300mm beyond the top and bottom riser.</p>	9	12,14,18,22,,23, ,25	2	€25,000
5.3	Is lighting adequate and well positioned (if park opens after dark)?	N/A						
5.4	Are treads and risers uniform?	No		<p>The steps along the Bull Wall into the water and onto the beach are in a poor state. The steps are not suitable for persons with visual or mobility impairments. Refurbish the steps along the wall so that they are uniform and even. Also, ensure that all steps are kept clear of algae so that they are non-slip.</p>	9	12,14,18,22,,23, ,25	2	€50,000
5.5	Are stair nosings identifiable?	No	Bull Wall	<p>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 all steps. Ensure top and bottom nosings contrast with the nosings on the remaining steps.</p>	9	12,14,18,22,,23, ,25	2	€4,500
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?	No		No recommendation is being made to provide level access from the bathing shelters into the water. Wheelchair users would require assistance and the amount of work to make the facilities accessible would not be justified. Wheelchair users could access the water from the adjacent beach.				€0
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						

