

Project: Dublin CC Accessibility Audits

Job No: 23399



Use Type: Public Park

Auditor: B Taggart

Date of Audit: 26/03/2007

Capita Ref: 050

Name: Sandymount Strand

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?	No	Strand Road	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:  Junction of Stand Rd/St John's Road Junction of Strand Rd/Gilford Avenue	2		2	€3,000

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	Strand Road	There is no designated drop off point provided for this park. There is no possibility of providing a drop-off zone on Strand Rd as it is a busy road, however there are 2 car parks on the strand which will provide adequate space for dropping off visitors. Provide suitable road markings and high level signage to the north & south car parks to identify these drop-off zones.	2	9	1	€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	Strand Road car parks	There are 2 car parks on the strand (north & south). Both car parks have 1 accessible space which requires to be increased to 2 accessible spaces per car park. New accessible spaces to be 4.8m x 2.4m with 1.2m transfer zones to side and rear and include high level signage.	2	9	1	€3,000

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)?	No	Strans Road Car Parks	The accessible parking bay(s) within each car park are not of the recommended dimensions. The small ramp leading to the walkway also reduces the size of the bay. Therefore, remark the accessible parking bay(s) to 4.8m x 2.4m with a 1.2m transfer zone to the sides and rear and relocate the small ramp towards the walkway. Provide high level signage to highlight the accessible bays on approach.	2	9	1	€5,000
2.3	Is the accessible car parking surface smooth, even and free from loose stones?	Yes						
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)?	No		Refer to 2.1				

### 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	4 main entrances to the Strand	There is currently no signage at the strand entrances. Provide suitable signage at the entrances to the length of the strand. 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.	4	5,9,13	2	€2,000

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 3.1

3.3 Is there level access to park entrances? Yes

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	The length of the Strand	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. Provide 10 seats situated the length of the Strand.	10	8	2	€5,000
4.5	Does the park allow general movement to all areas; accessible paths, accessible gates, segregation of pedestrians from vehicles?	No	Centre section of the Strand	<p>There is an existing ramped route to the beach which required the following to ensure it can be used by people with a disability:</p> <p>Handrails to be replaced because sections are missing and the remaining sections are in a state of disrepair.</p> <p>Provide a 100mm upstand to the edge of the ramp surface to ensure the safety of wheelchair users.</p> <p>Provide highlevel signage on approach to advertise the availability of the ramp.</p> <p>The ramp is also steeper than is normally required for wheelchair access (approx. 1:10), however there is little scope to reduce the gradient and the ramp can be accessed at present without too much difficulty. No action.</p>	1	10,11	2	€8,000
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	4 sets of steps from the Strand to the beach	Provide contrasting tactile danger warning to the top of the external steps leading to the beach areas to provide suitable guidance and warning to persons with a visual impairment. Refer to Technical Guidance Document M Diagram 2 for details.	4	7,12	2	€2,000
5.2	Are there suitable handrails each side and do they extend 300mm beyond top and bottom of stair?	No	4 locations along the Strand	<p>Provide suitable handrails to the external steps which extend beyond the top &amp; bottom of steps. Note: Handrails were old and in a state of disrepair - suggest that these be replaced if possible.</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>	4	8,12	1	€8,000
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?	No	Stairs from the Strand to the beach	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.	4	7,12	3	€4,000
				Note: the stairs will regularly be covered in sand blown from the beach which would reduce the impact of the new nosings, therefore this is given a lower priority due to its location.				
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	Far North & South access to the Strand	<p>there is no wheelchair access direct to the beach area at the north and south of the strand (ramped access is provided at the centre of the Strand). Provide timber slatted pathway at the far north &amp; south entrances which will allow wheelchair users and those with limited mobility an opportunity to access the beach (approx. 40m of surface required at each location).</p> <p>Ensure high level signage is provided to advertise that there is an accessible route to the beach area.</p> <p>There is also a portable toilet facility close to the Strand (centre section) which is not suitable for wheelchair users. Replace with a portable toilet facility which meets the requirements of wheelchair users. Also provide suitable signage to ensure visitors are aware of its availability on approach.</p>	2	6,13	1	€20,000
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

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6.6 Is there sufficient space around individual equipment to allow wheelchair access? N/A

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6.7 Do all steps to equipment incorporate handrails? N/A

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6.8 Is there good colour/tonal contrast between equipment and background? N/A