

Project: Dublin CC Accessibility Audits

Job No: 23399



Use Type: Public Park

Auditor: B Taggart

Date of Audit: 15/03/2007

Capita Ref: 045

Name: St Patricks 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?	No	Patrick St & Bride St Approaches	There is no signage on approach to the park. Suggest suitable signage is installed on the main approaches from Patrick Street & Bride Street to advise visitors of the parks position and its accessibility.	2		2	€2,000

<b>1.8</b>	Is the approach route to the park suitably lit (if park operates after dark)?	Yes						
<b>1.9</b>	Is the approach route to the park entrances free of hazards such as bollards, litter bins etc?	Yes						
<b>1.10</b>	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	Entrances at Patrick St & Bride St.	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 high level signage to designate a drop off point at the two main entrances from Patrick St & Bride St. Consultation with the local roads authority may be required as these are busy roads. 2 No. dropped kerbs will also be required at the drop off point.	2	15	1	€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	Patrick St & Bride St entrances	<p>There are no parking facilities provided within the park for members of the public. However, due to the heavy use of this park it may be beneficial to provide accessible on-street parking close to the main park entrances on Patrick St &amp; Bride St to allow wheelchair users to access the park. Accessible parking spaces should 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.</p> <p>Consultation with the roads department will be required as these are very busy roads and parking may not be possible.</p>	4	15	1	€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?	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)? 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?	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	Bride Street entrance	There are 3 principal entrances to the park, 2 entrances from Bride St and 1 entrance from Patrick St. There is no signage to redirect visitors to the ramped access at Bride Street, therefore provide high level signage at the Bull Alley/Bride Street entrance to advise visitors of the alternative ramped access close by.	1	1	1	€1,000
3.3	Is there level access to park entrances?	No		One entrance (corner of Bull Alley & Bride Street) involves navigating a flight of steps. There is however 2 alternative level access points on Bride Street and Patrick Street. No action.				
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						

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**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?	Yes						

4.5	Does the park allow general movement to all areas; accessible paths, accessible gates, segregation of pedestrians from vehicles?	No	Centre of park	<p>The main park feature is the circular water feature situated in the centre of the park. This feature is only accessible via 2 steps (from 4 directions). This prevents wheelchair users from accessing this water feature area.</p> <p>Provide ramped access to this area or regrade ground levels to provide level access to this area. Careful consideration should be given to providing this access as the park is of significant historical value to the city. It may be advisable to provide a ramp at each pathway leading to the fountain to maintain the symmetrical balance of the landscape.</p> <p>In addition the entrance ramp from Bride Street requires handrails both sides. This ramp is also considered too steep, however it may be difficult to reduce the gradient without impacting greatly on the aesthetics/layout of the park. It should also be noted that there are alternative level access points nearby.</p>	1	12,13	1	€20,000
4.6	Are circulation routes kept free of debris, foliage, overgrown plants/shrubs etc?	Yes						

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**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	2 stepped entrances from Bride Street	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 NDA Building for Everyone guidance for full details.	2	3,4,10	1	€3,000

5.2	Are there suitable handrails each side and do they extend 300mm beyond top and bottom of stair?	No	2 entrances on Bride Street.	Provide suitable handrails to the external steps of 2 park entrances on Bride St.  Handrails should be fitted at a height between 840 - 900mm from the pitch line of the steps. 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 highly reflective.	2	3,4,10	1	€10,000
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	Bride Street entrance (southern entrance)	Nosings to the steps of the Bride Street entrance are not readily identifiable and may present a trip hazard to persons with a visual impairment. Apply permanent colour or tonally contrasting nosings to all steps. Ensure top and bottom nosings contrast with the nosings on the remaining steps.	1	10	1	€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?	No	West section of the park	Provide appropriate fencing to small childrens play area to adequately define this area	1	14	2	€1,000
6.3	Do play areas have rubberised safety surfaces (or similar safety surfaces)?	No	Play area to the west of the park	Provide suitable rubberised safety surface to small play area. This is important especially for children with disabilities who may have reduced mobility or difficulties with orientation etc.	1	14	1	€15,000
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	Play area	Provide a seat with suitable arm rests within the play area.	1	14	2	€1,000
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?	No	Play area	The play area equipment does not contrast against the background and should be re-painted a contrasting colour or tone.	1	14	2	€1,000