

**Audit of Recreational
Access for Disabled
People
1997/98**



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INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of the audit was to identify best practice in order to ensure efficiency in terms of site development and management through comparison to the BT Countryside For All Guidelines and Standards.

The need for this audit resulted from the passing of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

The audit involved 12 site visits where facilities and access were assessed against the guidelines and standards. The report recognises that there are a number of factors which will prevent sites being brought up to standard and identifies the need for "universal design" to ensure cost-effectiveness.

The report makes recommendations as to how the sites visited could be improved and how future improvements or developments could ensure that sites are accessible to the greatest range of visitors possible. Examples of best practice not covered by the guidelines and standards have also been identified.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.0.1 The aim of this audit was to identify best practice in order to ensure efficiency in terms of site development and management. The Agency's recreation duties are prescribed under the Environment Act 1995 and require it, to such extent as it considers desirable, to promote the use of inland and coastal waters and associated land for recreational purposes. In doing so, it is stated that the needs of chronically sick and disabled people must be taken into account.

1.1 *Disability Discrimination Act 1995*

1.1.1 The need for this audit resulted from the passing of the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) in 1995. The DDA establishes a statutory right of access to facilities and services for disabled people which include those for recreation. The provisions of the Act also apply to collaborative site developments.

1.1.2 A disability is defined as 'a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term effect on ability to carry out day to day activities'.¹ This covers all diseases, severe disfigurements and debilitating diseases which last a minimum of 12 months. People who have had a disability within this definition are protected from discrimination even if they have since recovered.

1.1.3 The test of whether an impairment affects normal day to day activities is whether it affects one of the following broad categories of capacity : mobility, manual dexterity, physical co-ordination, continence, ability to lift, carry or otherwise move everyday objects, speech, hearing or eyesight, memory or ability to concentrate, learn or understand and perception of the risk of physical danger.

1.1.4 It is estimated that over 6 million adults have some form and degree of disability.² Many of these people are often handicapped more by obstacles than by their own capabilities.

1.1.5 Discrimination is deemed to have occurred where practices, policies or procedures make it impossible or unreasonably difficult for disabled people to make use of a facility or service provided to other members of the public. Discriminatory treatment is, however, justifiable on the grounds of:

- health and safety;
- the disabled person's inability to understand the rules governing use of the facility;
- specialist provision being at the expense of provision for other members of the public;
- excessive costs being incurred over and above those of provision for other members of the public.

1 Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

2 Glaxo Holdings plc and the National Tourist Boards of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (1994) Tourism for All.

- 1.1.6 These exceptions cannot be used to justify discrimination simply because other people would be inconvenienced.
- 1.1.7 Justification of discrimination is dependent on being reasonable in all circumstances of the case. Cost and practicality appear to be the key deciding factors as to whether consideration has been reasonable, although Regulations may be made under the Act to expand on the circumstances when it is reasonable to use the grounds of justification. (See 1.1.5) No such regulations have been made to date.
- 1.1.8 The DDA does not require new facilities to be provided; it is about making the facilities already provided accessible to disabled people, whether these are paid for or free. This audit is a means of assessing the level of accessibility to recreation sites already provided by the Agency under its Environment Act 1995 duty.

2.0 METHODOLOGY

- 2.0.1 There are 39 Agency owned or funded recreation sites in the NE Region. These are listed in Appendix 1. Of these a sample of 12 were covered by this audit, 4 per area. Each site warranted 0.5 man/day's attention from both a Regional and an Area Officer. The 4 sites in each area were chosen by an Area Officer who was then also involved in the site visits.
- 2.0.2 During the site visits :
- i. Paths and trails were assessed using the BT Countryside For All Accessibility Standards assessment form;
 - ii. Measurements of facilities and interpretative materials were taken;
 - iii. Promotional material relating to the site was gathered.

2.1 *The BT Countryside For All Accessibility Standards*

- 2.1.1 The BT Countryside For All Accessibility Standards ('the Standards') were published in 1997 as a result of the Countryside For All Project funded by British Telecommunications PLC. This project was set up to study, understand and then address the issues preventing countryside access for all. The primary focus of the standards is upon paths and trails and cover issues such as passing places and surfacing. They provide measures of access that indicate whether paths and trails are suitable for all visitors, regardless of any disability.
- 2.1.2 Four sets of standards are identified which relate to four different 'countryside settings'. These are determined by the characteristics of the site as per the table in Appendix 2. The categories are as follows:
- Urban and formal landscapes,
 - Urban fringe and managed landscapes,
 - Rural and working landscapes,
 - Open country semi-wild and wild land.
- 2.1.3 A copy of the standards can be found in Appendix 3. The different standards have been developed in recognition of expectations of different levels of access in different places.

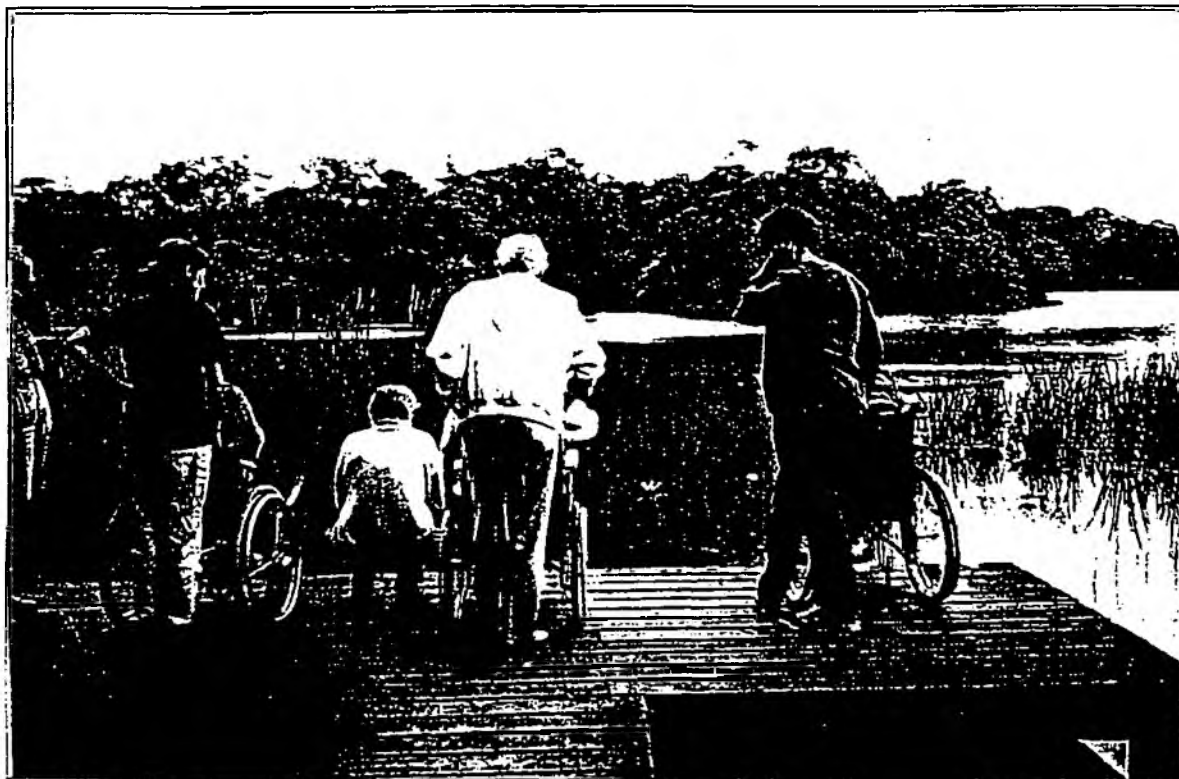
Easy access is usually expected in towns with less easy access being acceptable in the countryside.

- 2.1.4 Most wheelchair users, people with mobility or stamina difficulties, visually-impaired people using long canes or with guide dogs and other users should be able to use the paths to these standards. Other users such as parents with pushchairs will also find them more convenient. There are no halfway measures, either a path/trail reaches the standards or it doesn't. If a path/trail does not come up to standard, it does not mean it will be inaccessible as the measurements do not cover absolutely everything which is likely to affect the full range of disabilities.
- 2.1.5 It is not intended that these standards will lead to every path/trail in the countryside being the same. They do not pre-determine local character through prescriptive materials or designs.

NORTHUMBRIA AREA

3.0 NORTHUMBRIA AREA

Photograph 1 - Bolam Lake



3.1 *Bolam Lake*

3.1.1 Bolam Lake Country Park is a very popular site for quiet amenity use by the population of Northumberland and Tyne and Wear. Until 1997 access was severely restricted and so volunteers from Hexham Spinal Injury Unit were invited to give their opinions on how facilities could be improved. The subsequent improvements were jointly funded by the Agency and Northumberland County Council and included a circular route around the lake, interpretation signs and an information leaflet.

3.1.2 The BT Countryside for All Accessibility form for this site can be found in Appendix 4.

3.1.3 Bolam Lake was classed as a rural/working site as per the table in Appendix 2.

3.1.4 *Circular Route*

3.1.4.1 A circular route from "Boathouse Wood" Car Park around the edge of the lake was covered. Of a total of 1800 metres, there was 180 metres of boardwalk, 1,590 metres of gravel path with some loose stones which were smaller than 10mm and 30m of amenity grassland. The path was laid in two layers, one of pea-sized gravel and one of larger gravel which was then compacted together by a roller.

3.1.4.2 The boardwalk did not have a toeboard on either edge. This was not considered to be needed by volunteers and staff from Hexham Spinal Injury Unit. The gaps between the planks of wood which make up the boardwalk were measured and found to be, on average, 20mm. Ideally the boardwalk would have some edge protection of at least 75mm high and the gaps between the decking would be no greater than 12mm.

3.1.4.3 Prior to the path being laid a conscious decision was made not to cut down any of the trees around the lake because of their local value. At no point, do the branches encroach into the walking tunnel. The vast majority of the path exceeds 1.00metre in width, with a significant length of 1.2metres with only 2 pinch points of note. At the first, a bridge over a ditch, the width was 1.15 metres and the second, caused by the path circumnavigating a tree, the width was 0.9 metre. Other than these there were no other width restrictions.

Photograph 2 - Tree Roots



3.1.4.4 At one point en route, there was a very small section (less than 1.5 metres) where there were protruding tree roots which may constitute a barrier to passage for some visitors. It appeared that the gravel which had previously covered these and formed a level surface, had settled and over time they had become exposed again.

3.1.4.5 At another point of the route, the path edging may present a barrier or tripping hazard to some visitors if trying to leave the path to gain access to one of the resting benches (Photograph 3).

Photograph 3 - Path edging



- 3.1.4.6 There were numerous places en route where there is sufficient space for two wheelchairs to pass, where the path was 2 metres wide, regardless of there being no formal passing places. Passing places are defined as areas on or next to the path which are least 1.5 metres x 2metres.
- 3.1.4.7 Six benches were located around the lake, 1 on the northbank, 1 on the south bank and 3 on the amenity grassland known as Pheasant's field. These were more than 300 metres apart.
- 3.1.4.8 The naturalness of the site creates varying slopes around the lake. The slope was measured in various places, the steepest section was 1:19 although this was less than 10m in length. The original pre-improvement route down to the lake's edge was calculated to be 1:12. The new route zig zags down to the lake side from Boathouse Wood Car Park to ease the gradient. The slope of the zig zag ramps, which have landings in between, were calculated to be 1: 20. The cross slope of the path is less than 1:50 all the way around.
- 3.1.4.9 With the exception of the tree roots and path edging acting as small steps (Photographs 2 & 3) there are no steps in the route of the path at any point.

3.1.5 Other facilities

- 3.1.5.1 A visitor centre is provided adjacent to Boathouse Wood Car Park. Access is via a wooden ramp with a slope of 1:20. There are three car parks, all with allocated spaces for disabled people. Of the three jetties, one is specially customised to the needs of disabled people. The other two are less accessible but not totally inaccessible. Picnic tables are available on the grassland known as Pheasant's Field. Whilst these are not specially designed for disabled people there is plenty of space around them to allow wheelchairs and pushchairs alongside.
- 3.1.5.2 At the time of the site visit new interpretation boards were in the process of being produced. A leaflet is also available titled "Your Guide to Bolam Lake Country Park". This was produced by Northumberland County Council. The details of these have not been included as the focus of the audit is on physical access and participation only.
- 3.1.5.3 Toilet facilities are also provided at the site. These include one toilet which is accessible to disabled people and this is currently being upgraded.
- 3.1.6 Suggested improvements
- 3.1.6.1 Subject to future funding, operational considerations and maintenance programmes, there are five suggested improvements which would make the route even more accessible:
- i. The path edging shown in Photograph 3 should be dropped to a height of no more than 10mm.
 - ii. The gravel surfacing should be topped up to re-cover the tree roots shown in Photograph 2.
 - iii. As and when the decking of the boardwalk needs replacing, the gaps between the boards should be no more than 12mm.
 - iv. Edge protection should be added to the boardwalk. The minimum should be at least 75mm high.
 - v. Resting places should be available every 200-300 metres. These should be level areas on or near to the path which are at least 1.2metres by 1.5 metres with a seat or perch.

3.2 *Kielder Hatchery*

- 3.2.1 The Agency raises salmon parr at its hatchery near Kielder Reservoir. Kielder Forest and Reservoir are major tourist attractions, and the Agency provides guided tours of the hatchery for several hundred visitors year, including school parties. Two tours are run each Wednesday between May and September [with a charge of £1 for adults and 50p for children]. Outside of these sessions, parties are asked to arrange visits by appointment.
- 3.2.2 Visitors are given a presentation by the Hatchery Manager and shown a video, in a public display room, which explains the life history of the salmon and the work the Agency does to enhance the salmon fisheries of the Region. The public are then given a guided tour of the hatchery.
- 3.2.3 Access to the public display room involves a 22 cm step and a 0.78metre doorway. This has not caused any problem previously as most visits are group visits and there is usually someone present who will assist entry. Movement around the public display room is facilitated by it being mostly open space. Information boards around the room offer simple, clear and large-scale written and pictorial information. Portable display boards are kept in the hatchery and are brought out on occasions when people find it difficult to gain access to the public display room.
- 3.2.4 There are two options for entrance/exit to the hatchery, a doorway of 0.82 metre with a step of 14 centimetres and a double door way of 2.24 metres with a short 1:10 ramp. The Hatchery contains a series of tanks in which the eggs and parr are kept. The central aisle between the tanks is 1.6 metres and the aisle between the tanks are 0.86metre. The tanks are 0.86metre high.
- 3.2.5 Toilet facilities are available but are not specially modified to meet the needs of disabled people. The doorways to gain entrance to the toilets are 0.74metre.

3.2.6 *Suggested improvements*

- 3.2.6.1 Subject to future funding and maintenance programmes, there are three suggested improvements which would make the Hatchery even more accessible:
- i. Ramps should be provided up to the existing level of the thresholds of the public display room and Hatchery. These should have a gradient of no steeper than 1:20.
 - ii. Long handled mirrors should be made available who struggle to look over the edge of the tanks in the Hatchery.
 - iii. At least one toilet facility should be brought up to BS 5810.

3.3 *Newcastle Quayside Visitors Pontoon*

Photograph 5 - Newcastle Quayside Visitors Pontoon



- 3.3.1 The banks of the Tyne and Wear estuaries used to be crowded with heavy industry and the water was grossly polluted. In recent years the banks and water have undergone a transformation for the better. Improving water quality, the decline in commercial traffic and an increasing interest in a diverse range of recreational sailing, boating and watersports, together generated the need for a strategy to make optimum use of the estuaries in a sustainable manner which accommodated everyone. To this end, the Environment Agency have been major partners in the Tyne & Wear Water Sports Development Project (TWWSDP) and we have been working with the other partners under the auspices of the project to implement its watersports strategy "Making Waves" since it was published in 1994.
- 3.3.2 The Agency's partners in the TWWSDP include the Tyne and Wear Development Corporation, the Sports Council, five local authorities and two Port authorities. We have consistently worked together with the other partners and User Groups to improve coordination and promotion of activities and events as well as access, facilities and training. By adopting a collaborative approach in the TWWSDP all of the above key issues have been addressed and we are beginning to see all water sports in Tyne and Wear develop in a way which is sustainable for the sport as well as for the environment.

3.3.3 One of the most recent improvements is a visitors pontoon at Newcastle Quayside (Photograph 5) where the large tidal reach previously deterred local boats and visiting yachts from mooring.

3.3.4 This pontoon has a hydraulic 30 metre ramp, down from the fixed walkway on the quayside, which accommodates the rise and fall of the water. On the day and time of the site visit the tide was out and the slope of the ramp was found to be 1:20. This slope will be less when the water level rises with the tide causing the pontoon to rise and the bottom end of the ramp to rise with it.

Photograph 6 - Newcastle Quayside Visitors Pontoon Ramp



3.3.5 At the bottom of the ramp, there is a 2.0 metre metal flap which provides the link to the pontoon. (Photograph 6) When the tide is out, the slope of this flap is 1:7. This is likely to be the steepest the slope will ever be. When the tide rises, the pontoon and the bottom end of the ramp are designed to rise producing less of a slope between them. Therefore the slope of metal flap will decrease. At high tide, the ramp and the metal flap will be practically flush.

3.3.6 The ramp is caged and 1.44 metres wide. Access to the ramp is gained via a 3 metre level walkway which is 1.62 metres wide. There is plenty of room for a wheelchair user to manoeuvre the 90° turn between them. The minimum space required is a space of 1.2 metres by 1.2 metres.

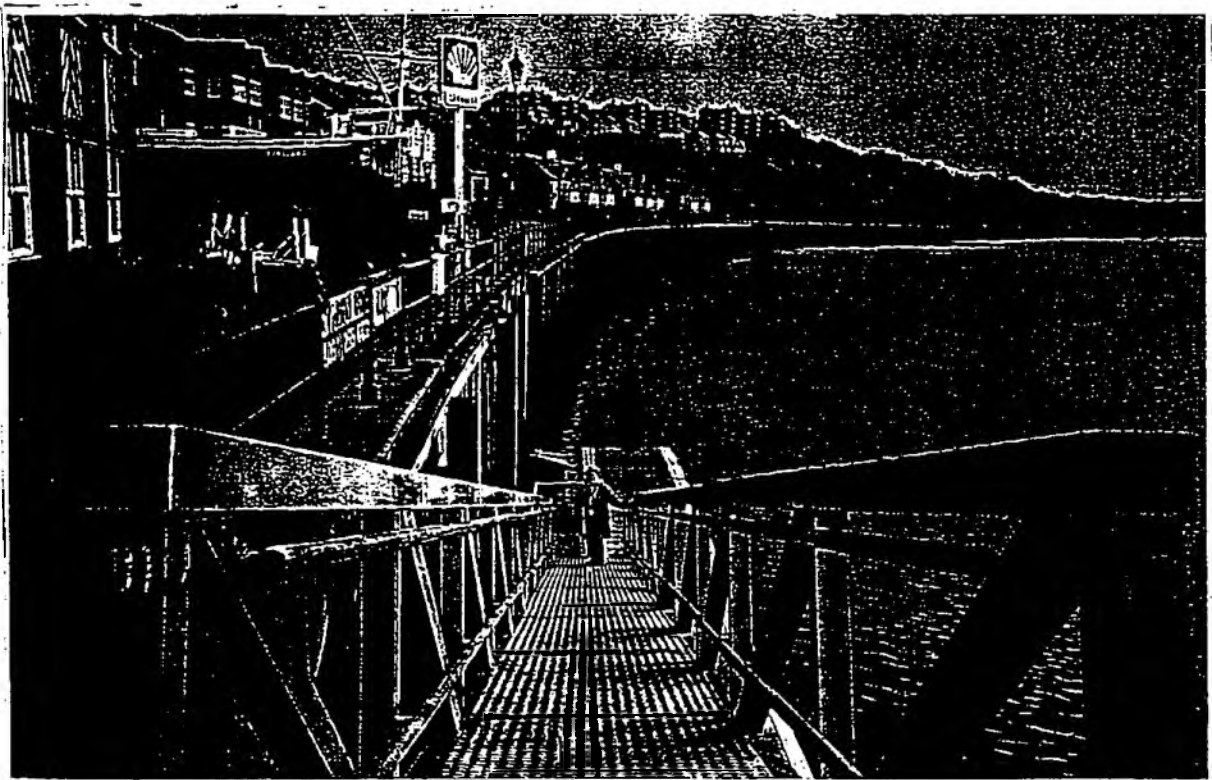
3.3.7 The pontoon itself is approximately 40 metres long and 4 metres wide. Handrails are provided and non-slip paint has been used to create safe surfaces.

3.3.8 *Suggested improvements*

3.3.8.1 There are no existing best practice guidelines for accessible pontoons. This facility is an example of best practice and should be utilised as a future design option, subject to funding and appropriateness.

3.4 *St Peter's Marina Pontoon*

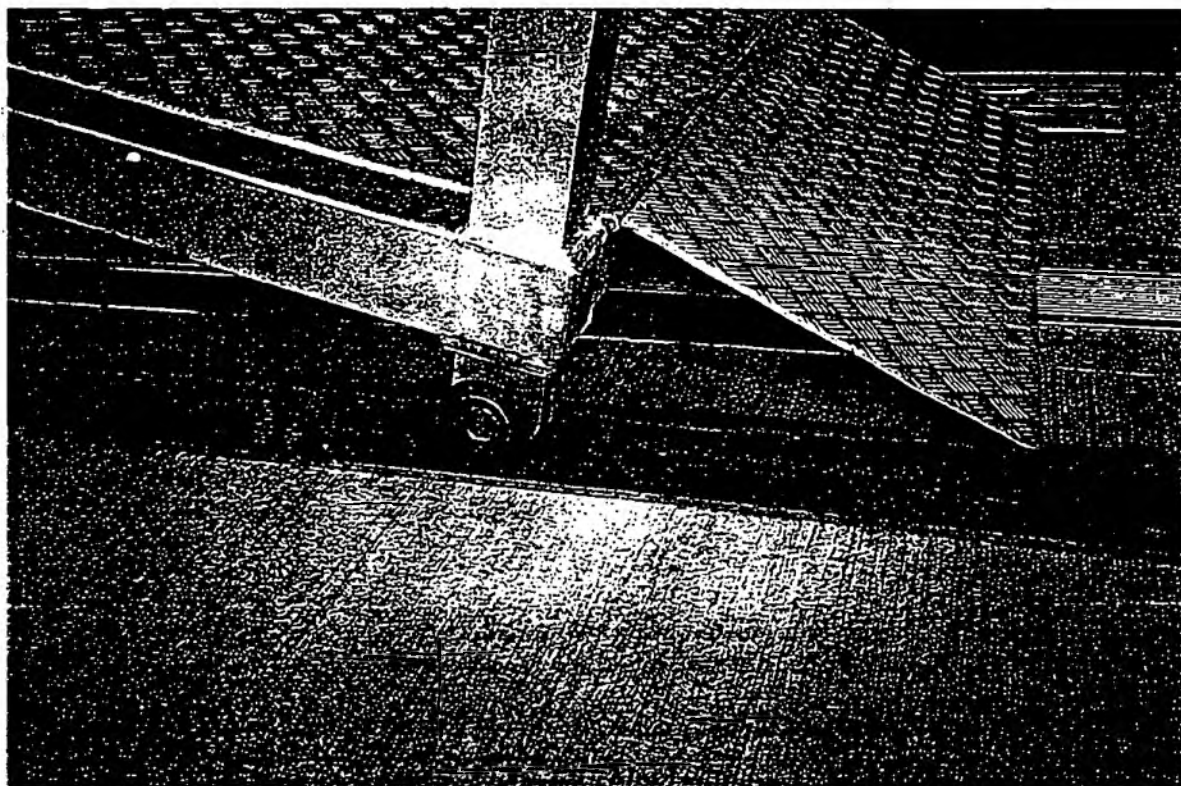
Photograph 7 - St Peter's Marina Pontoon



3.4.1 Another of the most recent improvements as a result of the Tyne and Wear Watersports Project (See 3.3.1) is safer disabled access to the public pontoon outside St Peter's Marina (Photograph 7).

- 3.4.2 This is a tidal pontoon with access via a ramp. The ramp links to the quayside at the top and the pontoon at the bottom by 0.52 metre metal flaps. (See Photograph 8) The quayside flap is flat. At the time of the site visit (half tide) the bottom flap was sloping at 1:5. This will level out as the tide rises. The ramp itself is 20.12 metres long and 1.04 metres wide. At the time of the audit site visit (half tide) the slope of the ramp was 1:25. There is a handrail on either side of the ramp, the top rail is 0.97metre and the midrail is 0.40metre. There are also handrails on the landward side of the pontoon; the top rail of these was 0.97metre and the midrail 0.4metre.

Photograph 8 - Metal Flaps



- 3.4.3 The length of the pontoon itself was 24.20 metres long. For approximately half its length the pontoon is 2.56metres wide and 3.54 metres for the other half. There are no handrails on the water side of the pontoon, this needs to be open to allow mooring.

3.4.4 *Suggested Improvements*

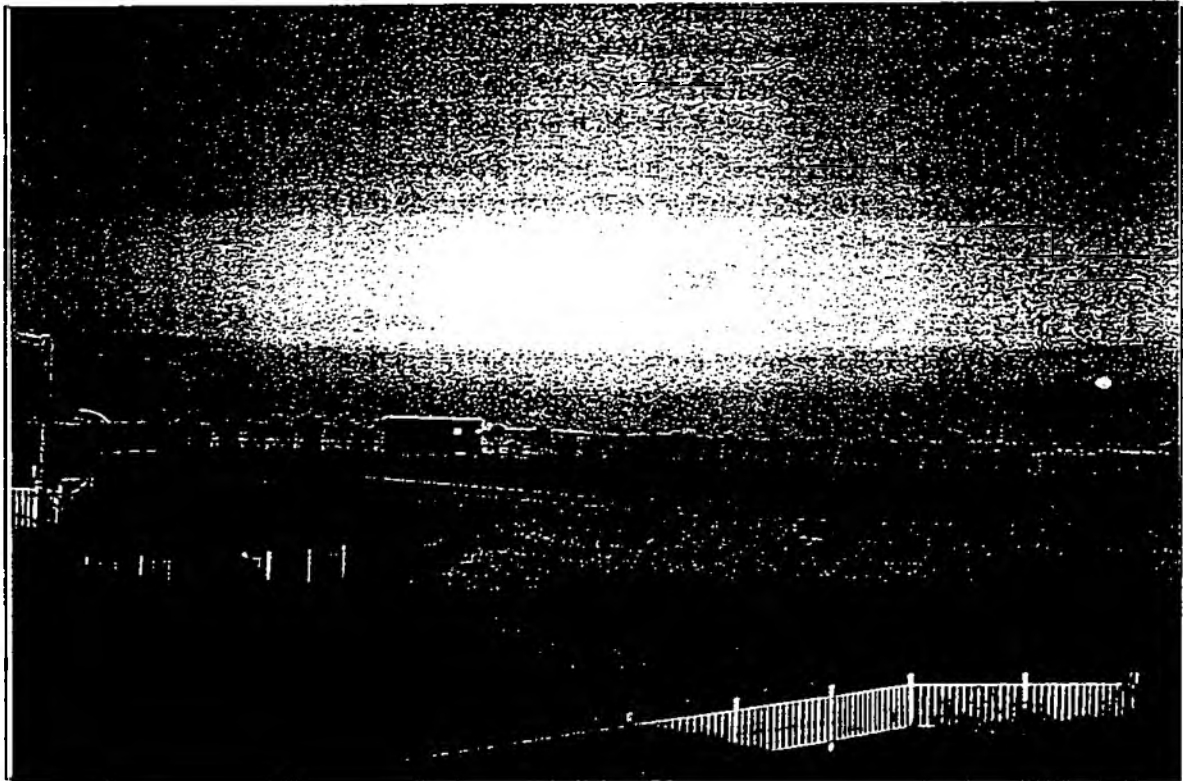
- 3.4.4.1 The only suggested improvement to this facility would perhaps be safety rails at the two short edges of the pontoon. (marked A on Photograph 7) There are no existing best practice guidelines for accessible pontoons. This facility should therefore be considered as an example of best practice and utilised as a future design option, subject to funding and appropriateness.

DALES' AREA

4.0 DALES AREA

4.1 *Barmby Barrage Amenity Site*

Photograph 9 - Barmby Barrage Amenity Site

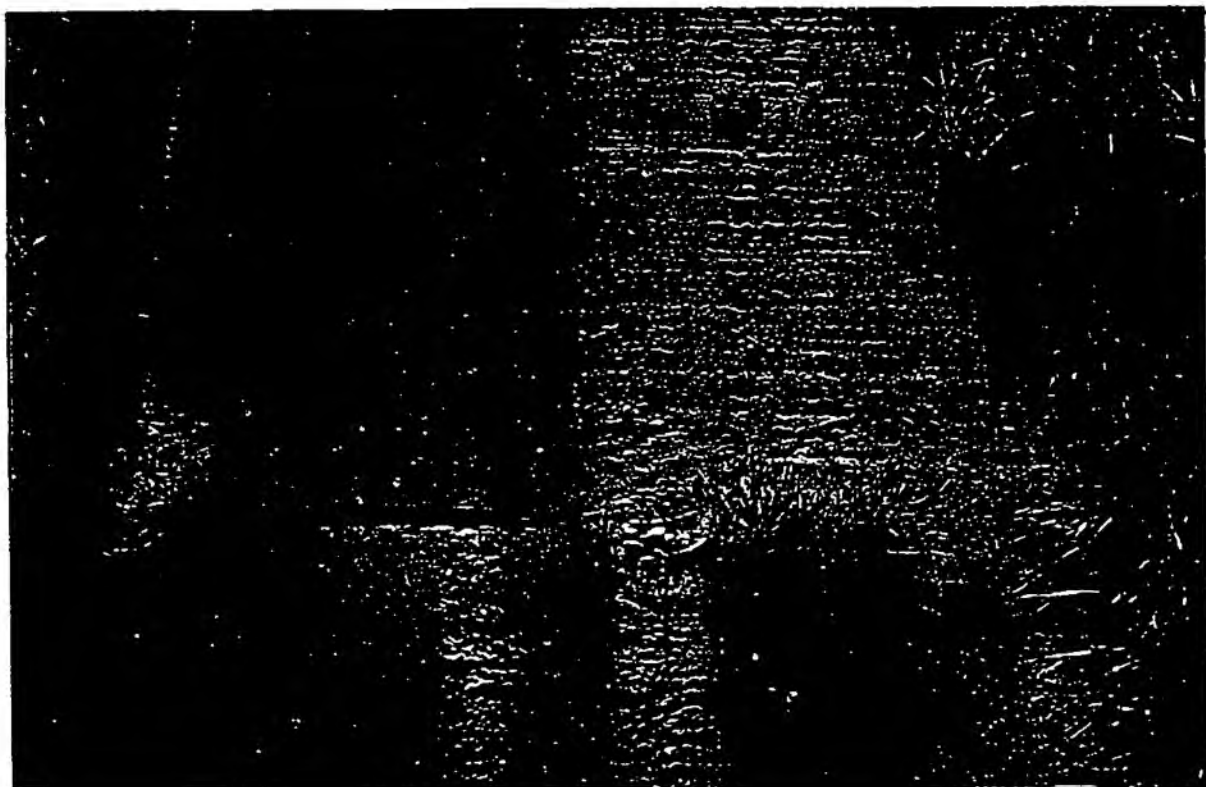


- 4.1.1 Barmby Tidal Barrage was constructed in 1975 by the then Yorkshire Water Authority. It was built to exclude the tide from the lower 23km of the River Derwent. This enabled more water to be extracted from the river for drinking water supplies. The potential for developing the area around the Barrage and surrounding flood bank had long been acknowledged. Work started in 1994 to gradually transform the area to allow all members of the community to enjoy it, including wheelchair users.
- 4.1.2 There are a number of facilities at Barmby which were covered by the audit site visit. These were: a footpath, bird hide, fishing platforms, handrails, litterbins, barbecues, picnic tables, toilets, car park, pontoon. The fishing platforms were stabilised during 1995 to prevent them sinking into the river and enhancement works were undertaken to improve the platforms generally.
- 4.1.3 The BT Countryside for All Accessibility form for this site can be found in Appendix 5. This site was classed as an urban fringe/managed landscape site as per the table in Appendix 2.

4.1.4 Footpath

- 4.1.4.1 The footpath (measured from the car park and separately to ending at bird hide and riverside) is 320metres in length, has a sealed surface and is at least 1200mm wide along it entire length.
- 4.1.4.2 There are no width restrictions which cause the path to be restricted to less than 1 metre. There is one gate next to the control room on the barrier which is 1130mm wide. The fishing platforms, when not in use could constitute passing places. Passing places are defined as areas on or next to a path which are least 1.5 metres x 2.0 metres. As such, 180 metres of path, therefore, have passing places less than 50 metres apart. With the exception of the picnic benches and benches inside the birdhide there are no other seats or perches on the site.
- 4.1.4.3 The path is, at no point, steeper than 1:20 nor has a cross slope steeper than 1:50. At no point is the walking tunnel encroached upon by overhanging branches.
- 4.1.4.4 There is one small step on the site which is encountered whilst crossing the top of the barrage. This is less than 5mm in height.
- 4.1.4.5 Ten surface breaks were found which measured more than 12millimetres (Photograph 10) and there are 11 drainage holes across the top of the barrage. These may cause difficulties for wheelchair users and people using canes or sticks.

Photograph 10 - Surface breaks



4.1.5 Bird Hide

- 4.1.5.1 The birdhide is accessed via a ramp up from the path to the threshold of the birdhide which has a slope of 1:14 over approximately 0.5 metre. The doorway is 0.82 metre wide which should allow adequate space for wheelchair users. The door opens outwards which ensures more room inside the hide for all users and there is a 25 millimetre weather board. This weatherboard may cause difficulties for some users. There is no level platform outside the door. Such platforms allow wheelchair users to swing open the door and act as passing places for people leaving and arriving at the hide.
- 4.1.5.2 There are two sections of viewing window. One has been specially designed with wheelchair users in mind. It is 1.74 metres long and is clear of any seating. The minimum which is required is 0.9 metres width per person. The knee space provided to ensure the user can get close to the viewing slot is 1 metre deep by 0.93 metres high. The minimum required is 0.6 metres wide by 0.68 metres high. The viewing flaps are approximately 0.8 metres long. The maximum should be no more than 1 metre. This allows people with limited mobility to open and close them from one static position.
- 4.1.5.3 The bottom edge of the window is 0.93 metres from the floor. A shelf is provided at this level and is 0.38 metres wide (front to back). Ideally the bottom edge of the window should be no more than 0.92 metres. The minimum shelf required is one which is 0.25 metres, ideally at a height of 0.75 metres. This is important for prolonged viewing and holding binoculars steady. The locking hinge for the viewing flap is 1.38 metres from the floor. The other viewing slot is provided with a simple backless bench. Ideally some seating should be provided with back rests to give leverage and support to elderly and less mobile users.

4.1.6 Fishing Platforms

- 4.1.6.1 There are 3 hard and firm surfaced fishing platforms (Photograph 11) which all measure 5.62 metres in length x 3.6m wide. These provide room for three anglers on the basis that the minimum space required for angling should be 1.5 metres by 1.5 metres. The casting space behind the platform is unimpeded by any overhanging vegetation.
- 4.1.6.2 There are no seats or benches. Ideally these should be provided. They may be useful for friends or relatives or anglers who didn't bring a chair with them. Raised surfaces for fishing tackle may also be useful for some anglers to prevent the need for frequent bending or crouching. Where provided this should be between 0.45 and 0.55 metres high.
- 4.1.6.3 The rail around the edge is 0.47 metres high. This is above the guideline specification of safety edging of 0.15 metres high.
- 4.1.6.4 There are no arm or rod rests provided. Ideally there should be a mixture of these. Where provided these should be inclined at 30°. Arm rests should be 0.8-0.85 metres high for seated anglers and 1.05-1.17 metres high for standing anglers.

Photograph 11 - Fishing platform



4.1.7 Handrails

4.1.7.1 A wooden handrail is provided on the path sections on the opposite side of the barrier to the car park. It should be ensured that these are non-abrasive and non-splintering. Handrails can act as a safety barrier; an aid to balance and as a means of propulsion for wheelchair users. The height of the highest rail is 1.25 metres with another rail at 0.81 metre. Ideally these should be at 1 metre and 0.75 metres high respectively. A bottom rail with a gap below no bigger than 7.5 centimetres will give added security to wheelchair users and may act as a tapping rail by visually impaired people. The corners of the handrails are square. Ideally these should be rounded off.

4.1.8 Litterbins.

4.1.8.1 Litterbins are provided around the site. The opening of these is at 0.90 metre from the ground. This allows use by wheelchair users. The maximum height that the opening should be from the ground is 0.91 metre.

4.1.9 Barbecues

4.1.9.1 Barbecues are provided in the picnic areas provided by the car park and beyond the end of the riverside path. They are situated on a grass surface and are surrounded by clear spaces. The cooking surface is at a height of 0.62metre and these are surrounded on three sides by 0.75metre high brick walls. These will be accessible to most users. The BT Countryside For All guidance suggest a cooking surface between 0.43 metres and 0.8 metres from the ground.

4.1.10 Picnic Tables

- 4.1.10.1 There are 4 picnic tables. The tabletops are 0.8metre from the floor with a 0.5metre step over bench. 2 are adapted for wheelchair users. These have a 1.01metres wide side with knee room of 38cm. The benches are well spaced and are moveable. The height of picnic tables should be a minimum 0.75 metre to allow wheelchair arm rests to slide underneath. Guidelines on benches suggest that benches should be 42 - 52 centimetres high. A clear width of 0.9 metres per wheelchair user should be provided with a depth of 0.6 metres of knee space. Many ambulant disabled people cannot sit at a table unless they can slide along the seat. Ideally designs with climb over seats should be avoided.

4.1.11 Toilets

- 4.1.11.1 Specially adapted toilet facilities are provided. A 0.92metre wide door with the door handle on the left opens outward to allow access. There is a short 1:25 short concrete ramp up to the door. The door handle is 0.95metre high from the ground. Inside, the room is 2.07 metres x 2.72 metres. The height of the toilet is 45 centimetres and it's 33 centimetres long including the back support, with a 0.72 metre high drop down handrail. There is a vertical 0.55 metre long handrail, 10 centimetres to the side of the drop down handrail. The sink is 0.72 centimetres high with a 0.55metre long handrail at its side. This is the preferred layout as set out in BS 5810.

4.1.12 Car park

- 4.1.12.1 There are 18 bays in the car park. Of these, three are designated for disabled people and are clearly marked with the international symbol of accessibility. The number of accessible parking spaces that should be provided is 1 for every 1 - 25 spaces.
- 4.1.12.2 The bays are 4.9 metres long and 2.8 metres wide. The minimum requirement for an accessible bay to suit a wheelchair is 4.8 metres by 3.6 metres. If space is limited a shared 1.2 metres strip could be provided between two standard bays of 4.8 metres by 2.4 metres.

4.1.13 Pontoon

- 4.1.13.1 A path leads to the pontoon from the car park. This is made of concrete slabs and is 0.6 metres wide. There is one gate along the way. This has an opening width of 1.28 metres.
- 4.1.13.2 Access to the pontoon itself is via a series of 24 uneven steps, of which are 14 are edged in white paint, 10 are not. These were quite slippery on the date of the audit site visit. The steps are bordered on one side by a handrail which is 1.02 metres high. At the bottom of the steps, the path is 0.97 metre wide and there is a final 15 centimetres step onto the last flagstone. There is a 14 centimetre step onto the

ramp which leads down onto the pontoon. This ramp is 1 metre wide and has a slope of 1:20. The handrails on the ramp have rails at 1.15 metres and 0.70 metre and they have rounded edges. At the bottom of the ramp there is a 0.60 metre "fixed" flap. This creates a 17 centimetre step onto the pontoon decking which is of metal grating.

- 4.1.13.4 There are no guidelines which relate specifically to accessible pontoons. Ideally the path leading to the pontoon would be at least 1.2 metres and the steps would be replaced by a non-slip ramp.

4.1.14 *Other Facilities*

There is an interpretation board in the car park and a leaflet available giving information about the site. The details of these haven't been included as the focus of the audit is upon physical access and participation.

4.1.15 *Suggested Improvements*

- 4.1.15.1 Subject to future funding and maintenance programmes, there are some suggested improvements which would make the site even more accessible:

- i. The surface breaks in the path could be filled.
- ii. The weather board could be removed from the birdhide threshold.
- iii. An option of seating complete with a backrest could be provided in the birdhide.
- iv. 25 centimetre wide shelves could be provided at a height of 0.75 metres under the viewing slots.
- v. Seats/benches and raised surfaces for fishing tackles could be provided on each fishing platform.
- vi. Arm/rod-rests could be provided on each fishing platform.
- vii. The ends of the handrails could be rounded off.
- viii. The path to the pontoon could be widened to at least 1.2 metres.
- ix. The steps down to the pontoon could be replaced with a non-slip 1:20 zig-zagged ramp.

4.2 Selby Waterfront

4.2.1 Selby District Council initiated this project in 1994/95. The project involved the creation of a footpath along the length of the site which is suitable for wheelchair access and has permanent willow structures along it. The project involved the community through a 2 day school event which included willow weaving. Seating has been provided on top of the floodbank to allow visitors to view the river. The BT Countryside for All Accessibility form for this site can be found in Appendix 6. The site is classed as an urban, formal landscape as per the table in Appendix 2.

4.2.2 There are two types of path surfacing on the site: 180 metres of grass and 280 metres of gravel mixture. The gravel mixture is quite compacted and is made up of various sizes of gravel, with some pieces bigger than 10mm. Ideally there should be very little or no loose material on the surface. Even very small loose particles can make a path slippery for people with poor balance and mobility. Loose particles should not exceed 5 millimetres in size. The gravel section of the path is all 1.2 metres or wider and the grass section is less than 1 metre.

4.2.3 There are no width restrictions, barriers, ramps or landings, small steps, surface breaks or formal passing places on the site. Passing places are defined as areas on or next to the path which are at least 1.5 metres x 2 metres.

Photograph 12 - Selby Waterfront



- 4.2.4 Two benches are provided on the 180 metre grass section of the path. These are set on concrete slabs and are 45 metres apart. The height of the seat is 40 centimetres and the benches are 2.45 metres long. The guidance for seats suggests that seats should be 45 - 52 centimetres high. Heel space is not restricted and back and arm rests are provided. Heel space of at least 10 centimetres allows people to stand up more easily because it places the feet below the body's centre of gravity. Seats with backrests provide additional comfort and assistance to disabled and elderly people who may have difficulties standing or sitting.
- 4.2.5 Ideally surfaced resting places at least 0.9 metre square should be provided next to seats so that wheelchair users can sit next to their friends and family.
- 4.2.6 445 metres of the path is no steeper than 1:20, the remaining 15 metres has a slope of 1:12.5. The cross slope is no steeper than 1:50 at any point. At no point, is the walking tunnel encroached upon by overhanging branches.

4.2.7 *Suggested improvements*

- 4.2.7.1 Subject to future funding and maintenance programmes, there are some suggested improvements which would make the site even more accessible:
- i. The path could be resurfaced with compacted surfacing which has no particles bigger than 5 millimetres.
 - ii. Passing places could be provided every 50 metres.
 - iii. Resting places could be provided along the riverside path every 100 metres.
 - iv. New benches with a seat height between 45 and 52 centimetres could be provided accompanied by 0.9 metre square resting places for wheelchair users or pushchairs at each end.

4.3 *Wheldrake Ings*

- 4.3.1 Wheldrake Ings forms a part of the Lower Derwent Valley which is exceptionally important for wildlife and nature conservation. The site can be visited at any time of the year and is managed by English Nature.
- 4.3.2 The BT Countryside for All Accessibility form for this site can be found in Appendix 7. This site is classed as a rural/working landscape.

Photograph 13 - Wheldrake Ings



- 4.3.3 The length of path from the car park to the furthest birdhide "Swantail Hide" was paced and estimated to be 1620metres.
- 4.3.4 The car park, was largely puddled on the day of the site visit following the recent seasonal flooding of the site. Entrance to the site is gained by going over a wooden decked bridge and via either a kissing gate or a conventional five-bar gate. The five bar gate is 3.75metres wide and 1.10 metres high with the fastener at 1.00 metres.
- 4.3.5 The dimensions of the kissing gate include gate width of 0.94 metres with a manoeuvring space inside of 1.25 metres in length.
- 4.3.6 There are three substantial types of surfacing found at the site: wooden decking, mud/grass, and hardcore.
- 4.3.7 At the car park edge of this bridge a hardcore ramp links the ground level of the car park to the edge of the bridge decking. This hardcore forms a sealed surface. This hardcore ramp is approximately 3 metres in length. The bridge is constructed of 2 sloping edges and a level middle section. Each of the slopes of the bridge are approximately 6 metres in length and the flat middle section is approximately 21 metres in length. Along one edge of the decking slopes of the bridge, non-slip surfacing patches have been heat sealed onto the wood. These are 65 centimetres long and 25 centimetres wide and there is one on each slat of the slopes. The gaps between the planks which form the decking vary, at worst up to 30 millimetres. Ideally these should not exceed 12 millimetres.

- 4.3.8 After the bridge the surface is mud/grass for approximately 1110 metres [paced]. Vehicular access is provided along the mud/grass track to allow operational works to be undertaken. The track is severely rutted and puddled. The path then meets a boardwalk for 480 metres. On the day of the site visit much of the boardwalk was covered by 'flood debris' (Photograph 14). This meant that in places it was slippery.

Photograph 14 - Flood Debris on the boardwalk



- 4.3.9 The width of the bridge and mud/grass track are of sufficient width to allow necessary vehicular access. The mud track itself is 5 metres wide. The boardwalk is 1.15 metres wide for the most part with a 5 centimetres toeboard on both sides. Ideally the boardwalk would be 1.2 metres wide with a toeboard of 75 millimetres.
- 4.3.10 There are three footbridges along the boardwalk. These are part of the boardwalk. These reduce the width of the boardwalk to 1.08metres wide but only for around 3 metres. There are handrails on either side of the footbridges. These have three bars, the top one at 1.33 metres, the mid one at 0.92 metre and the bottom one at 0.54 metre. Handrails can act as safety barriers, aids to balance and as a means of propulsion for wheelchair users. Ideally the top rail should be at a height of 1 metre with a secondary rail at 0.75 metres. A bottom rail with a gap below of no greater than 75 millimetres will give added security to wheelchair users and may be used as a tapping rail by visually impaired people.

- 4.3.11 On the day of the visit, the path was blocked by a number of barriers. This is likely to be largely due to the seasonal flooding which had only recently subsided. These barriers included young fallen trees (Photograph 15). There were also wooden battens lying on the boardwalk - these may have fallen from the rush screening, some of which had collapsed.
- 4.3.12 The boardwalk was found to be "pushed up" in two places (Photograph 16). It is assumed that this had occurred as a result of the flooding. In the worst instance the height difference between the "pushed up" boardwalk was found to be 10 centimetres.

Photograph 15 - Fallen tree

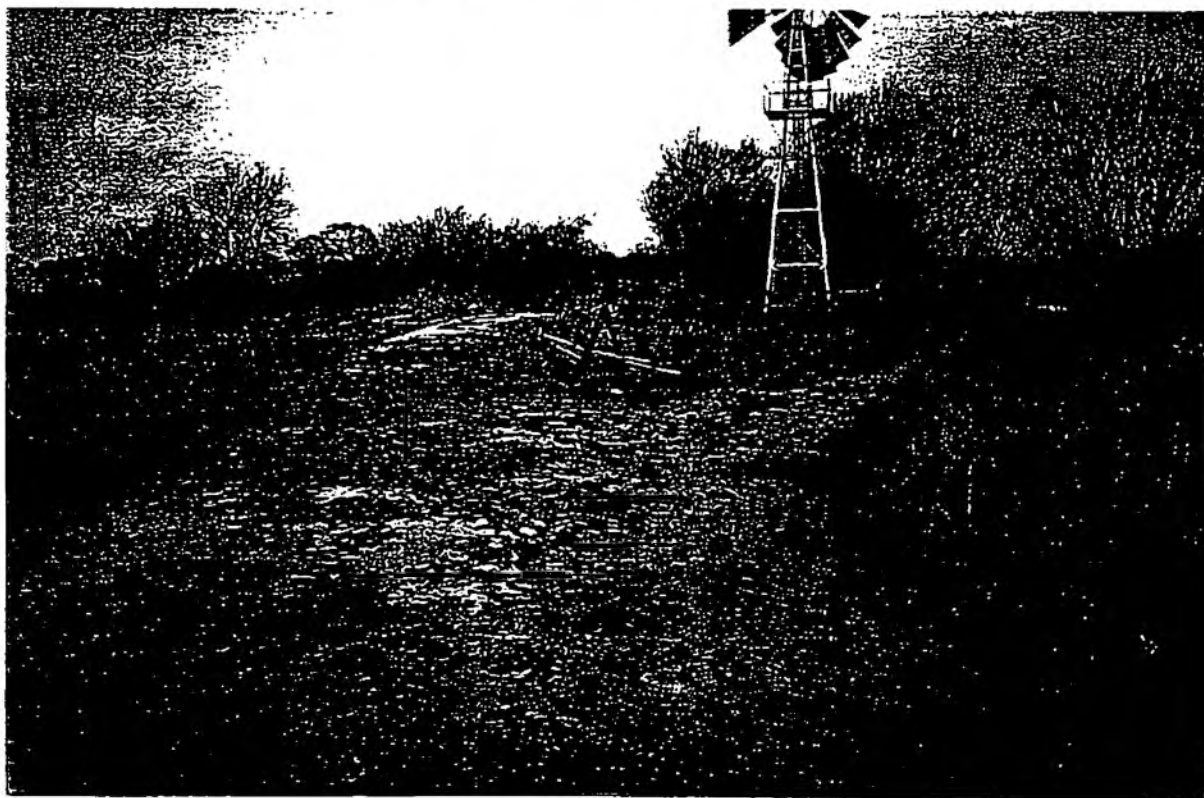


- 4.3.13 There are 11 passing places built into the boardwalk. The length and width of eight of these were measured. They were all between 1.12 metres and 1.23 metres wide by 3.47 metres and 3.60 metres long with a 54 millimetre toeboard on three sides. Ideally passing places should be 1.5 metres by 2 metres with a 75 millimetre toeboard. The first passing place is approximately 26 metres from the start of the boardwalk. Thereafter, they are all in the region of 30 - 35 metres apart.
- 4.3.14 There are 6 resting "perches" on the site (Photograph 17). Four of these are grouped in two sets of two. The first resting "perch" is half way down the mud track. From there the resting places are fairly close to each other, with a maximum of around 25 metres between them.

Photograph 16 - "Pushed- up Boardwalk"



Photograph 17 - Resting Perches



- 4.3.15 The route is fairly level all along, with the exception of the one wheelchair ramp on the site. This is 30 metres long, with a gradient of 1:20. The top handrail is at 102 centimetre and the mid one at 76 centimetre. Ideally the top rail should be at a height of 1 metre with a secondary rail at 0.75 metre. A bottom rail with a gap below of no greater than 75 millimetres will give added security to wheelchair users and may be used as a tapping rail by visually impaired people.
- 4.3.16 The cross slope of the route didn't exceed 1:50 at any point.
- 4.3.17 The only steps on the site are at the entrances to the bird hides. The steps outside the "disabled access" birdhide were measured. There are seven steps at a height of 22 cm, each of which is coated with non slip surfacing. The accompanying handrail has one bar at a height of 1.07metres. Again, ideally the top rail should be at a height of 1 metre with a secondary rail at 0.75 metres.
- 4.3.18 The gaps between the decking of the boardwalk are uneven, the majority being between 22 millimetres and 34 millimetres. In addition, a hole was found which was found to measure 10 centimetres. Ideally the gaps should be no more than 12 millimetres.
- 4.3.19 The walking tunnel is clear for the majority of the route with only occasional overhanging branches and the fallen tree blocking the way.
- 4.3.20 There are five bird hides on the site: Swantail Hide, Riverside Hide, Tower Hide, Pool Hide and Swallow Hide. Of these, Swantail and Pool hides are particularly accessible, the others having steps up to their doors.
- 4.3.21 Swantail hide is accessed via a ramp or steps, through a 0.98metre wide door which has no threshold and which should allow adequate space for wheelchair users. There is a level platform outside the door which measure 1.43 metres by 1.25 metres. Such platforms allow wheelchair users to swing open the door and act as passing places for people leaving and arriving at the hide.
- 4.3.22 There are 11 viewing flaps inside, 3 with moveable benches, 1 with a fixed triple-length bench and five viewing slots designed for wheelchair users. These latter viewing slots are 1.74 metres wide and 0.8 metre from the ground with 0.83 metre of knee room and an 18 centimetre shelf. The minimum which is required is 0.9 metres width per person with a 25 centimetres shelf at a height of 0.75 metre. The minimum knee room required is 0.6 metres wide by 0.68 metres high.

- 4.3.23 Pool hide is level with the boardwalk and is accessed through a 1.02 metre wide door. Again there is no threshold. There is a level platform outside the door measuring 1.03 metres by 1.30 metres. Inside there are 10 viewing slots; 5 with fixed bench access, 2 with moveable benches, 2 with built in knee room and one with no built in knee room. The built in knee room is 2.90 metres long but is divided into two by a support beam creating a "table leg" in the middle and 1.09 metres wide. The shelf is 0.82 metres from the floor and 0.24 metres wide. This creates a viewing slot of 0.62 metres.

4.3.24 Suggested Improvements

- 4.3.24.1 Subject to future funding and maintenance programmes, there are some suggested improvements which would make the site even more accessible:
- i. The gaps between the boardwalk and bridge decking could be reduced to 12mm.
 - ii. It would be impractical to replace the whole boardwalk, however, the toeboard on the boardwalk could be increased to 75 millimetres. The holes and the "pushed up" section could be repaired.
 - iii. The flood debris, including the fallen tree and collapsed screening, could be regularly cleared.
 - iv. The height of the handrails could be altered to make the top one at 1 metre, the mid rail at 0.75 metre and the bottom rail at a height of no greater than 75 millimetre.

4.4. River Skerne River Restoration Project

- 4.4.1 The River Skerne is a tributary of the River Tees in County Durham. As part of the "River Restoration Project" created by the Environment Agency, Darlington Borough Council and Northumbrian Water and supported by the Countryside Commission. The Project has re-engineered the river to create rivers, pools, meanders and oxbows from existing straight channels thus promoting wildlife habitat and restoring the appeal of traditional river landscapes. Creating new riverside access was considered to be a vital component of the Project
- 4.4.2 The site was reviewed from its start point on Riverside Way to the end of the installed path, 1 kilometre away on the edge of the Durham Wildlife Trust Wetlands. The site is adjacent to a residential area and hence is classed as being in an urban fringe/ managed landscape setting. The BT Countryside for All Accessibility form for this site can be found in Appendix 8.

- 4.4.3 The recreational aspect of the site focuses upon a surfaced route running along the south bank of the river. The route is accessed via a short ramp of 3.35 metres in length (Photograph 18) and 4.70 metres wide which creates a level between the pavement and the level of the site. This ramp creates a slope of 1:20 with a cross slope of 1:25. The route is surfaced with concrete with the exception of a short gravelled section which measures 15.60 metres in length. The gravel pieces surfacing this section vary in size with some larger than 10mm. Ideally there should be little or no loose material on the surface. Even very small loose particles can make a surface very slippery for people with poor balance and mobility. Loose particles should not exceed 5 millimetres in size.
- 4.4.4 There are no surface breaks and no small steps. At either end of the one existing footbridge on the site, there are temporary concrete "plugs" which are somewhat uneven in comparison to the rest of the route. These concrete "plugs" are 6.20 metres in length.
- 4.4.5 On the day of the site visit there were 3 short sections of path where the surfacing was covered by a layer of mud. It was explained that these were caused by a drainage problem following the river topping its banks and their existence was being addressed.
- 4.4.6 The whole route is 1.80metres wide. This will be accessible to most users. There are no permanent restrictions or barriers which impede this width and there are no overhanging branches impeding the walking tunnel. The footbridge is 1.35 metres in length and has a 90 millimetre tapping rails along both edges. The minimum requirement for a tapping rail is 75 millimetres. It is also bordered by handrails on each side, the top rail of which is at a height of 1.00 metre and the mid rail is at 0.50metre. Ideally this midrail should be at a height of 0.75 metre.

Photograph 18 - Pavement Ramp



4.4.7 There are 7 off route passing places (Photograph 19) The distance between these varies between a minimum of 68 metres and a maximum of 120 metres. They measure 1.60 metres wide by 5.84 metres in length. The minimum requirement for passing places is 1.5 metres by 2 metres at 100 metres intervals. There are no formal resting places as such as there are no benches.

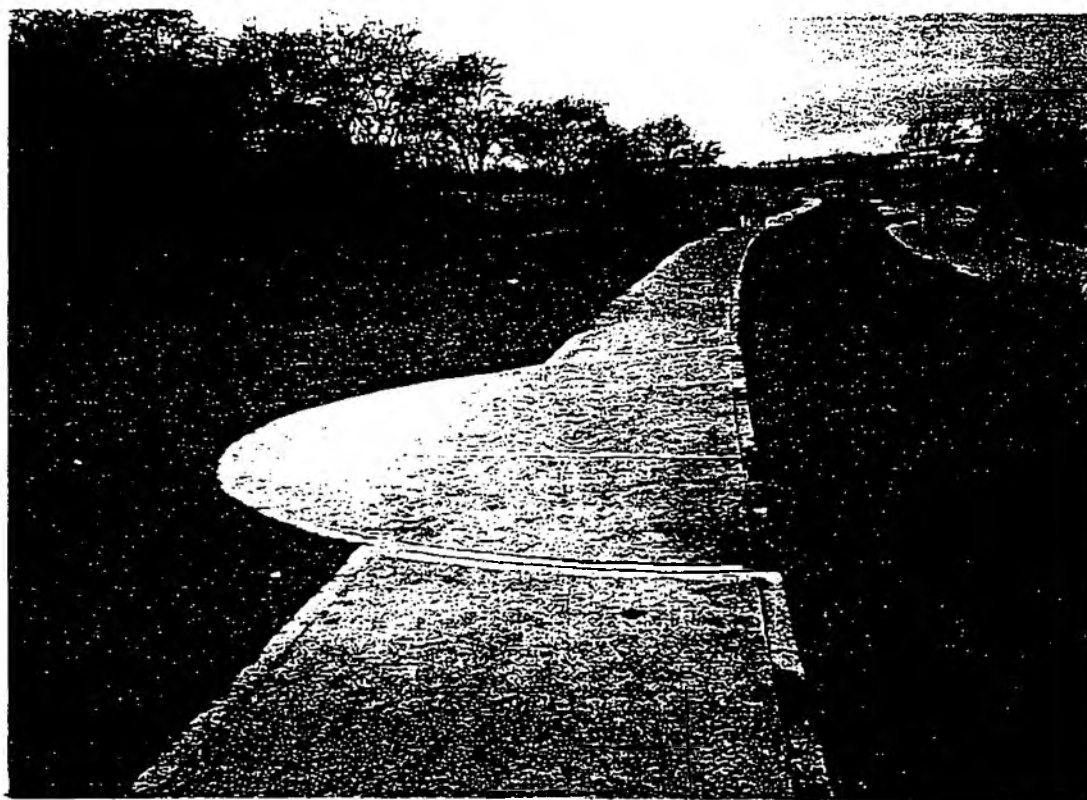
4.4.8 At no point on the site does the gradient of the route exceed 1:20 nor does the cross-slope exceed 1:50.

4.4.9 *Suggested improvements*

4.4.9.1 Subject to future funding and maintenance programmes, there are some suggested improvements which would make the site even more accessible:

- i. The gravel surface could be resurfaced.
- ii. The concrete plugs could be replaced.
- iii. The mid -handrail on the footbridge could be altered so that it is at a level of 0.75 metres.
- iv. Resting places could be provided. Ideally these should be at 200 metre or less intervals with a mixture of seating designs.
- v. Replace pavement ramp with one with a cross-slope not exceeding 1:50.

Photograph 19 - Passing places

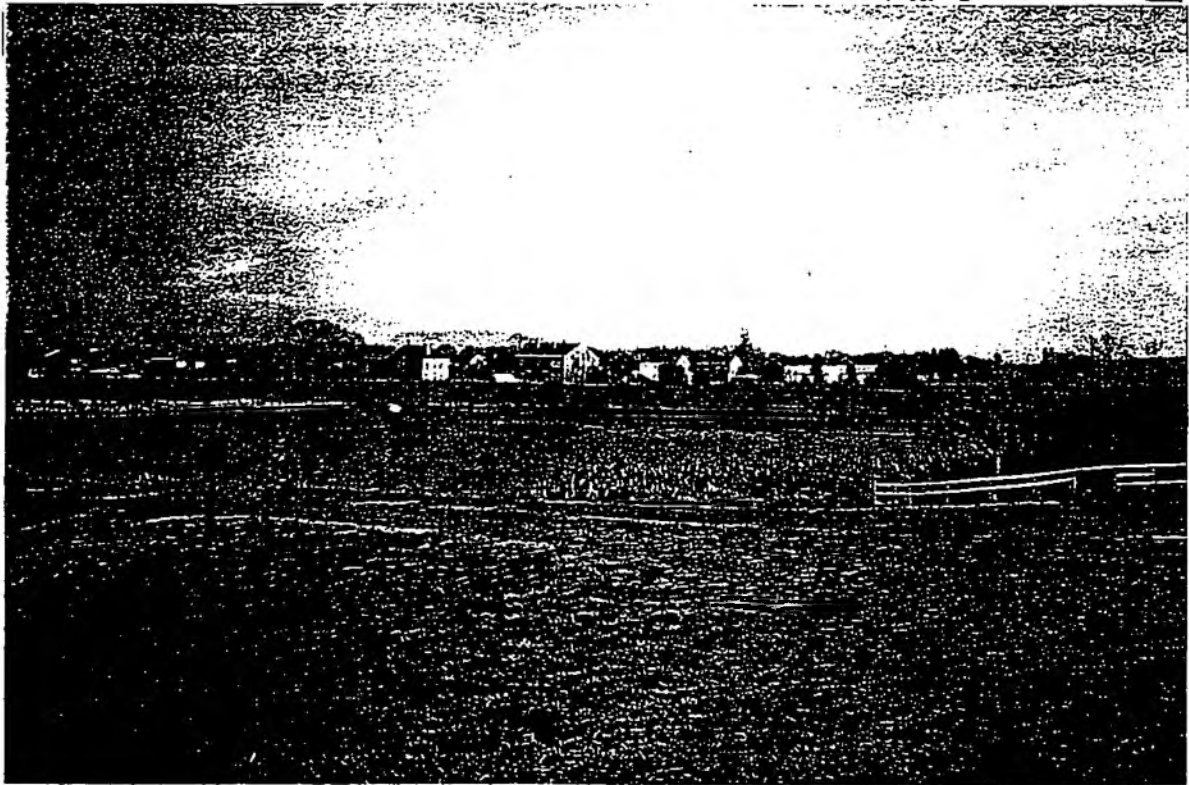


RIDINGS AREA

5.0 RIDINGS AREA

5.1 *Lowther Washland*

Photograph 20 - Lowther Washland

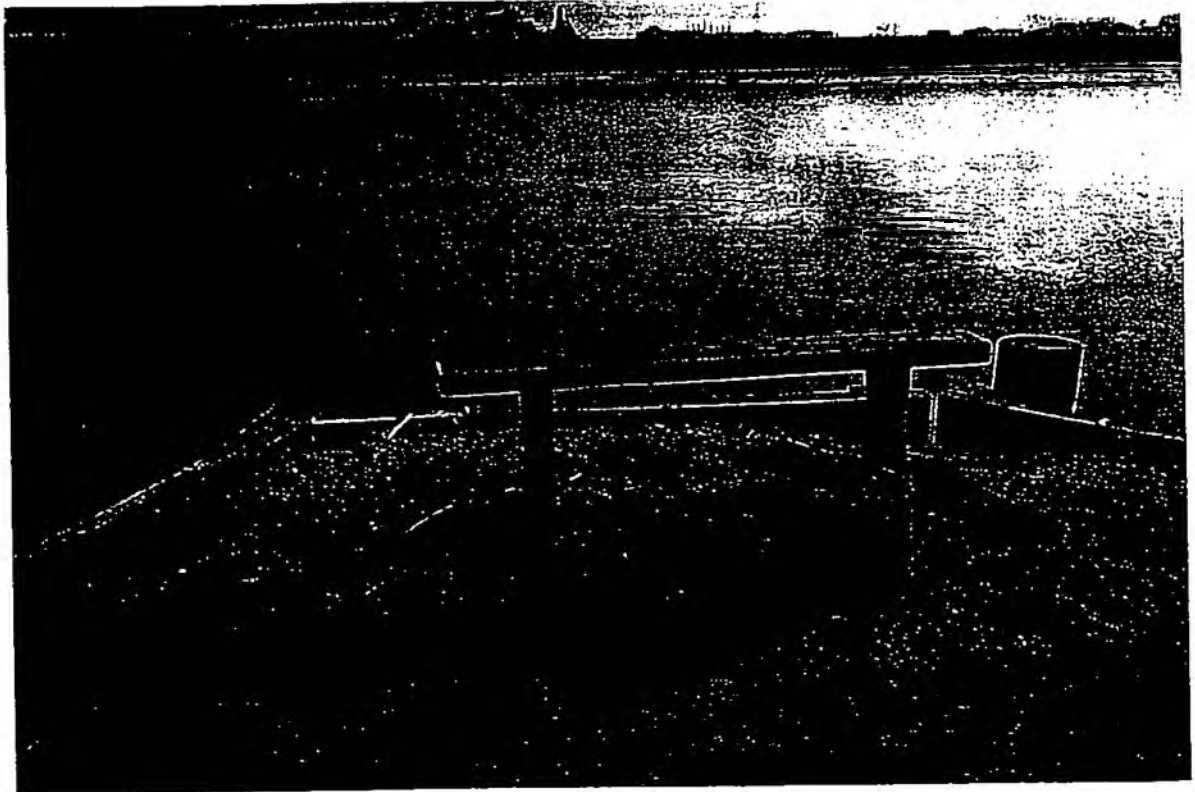


- 5.1.1 Lowther Washland is an Agency owned wetland property adjacent to the River Aire. Its environmental acceptability and accessibility have been developed in collaboration with the South Leeds Groundwork Trust. Improvements have included footpath development, the installation of kissing gates and a stile which facilitates access for dog walkers with their dogs. At the same time, the Groundwork Trust are replacing a dilapidated concrete and barbed wire fence along the front boundary of the site by planting a traditional hawthorn hedgerow which was in its early stages of establishment on the date of the site visit. The site is classed as being in an urban fringe/managed landscape setting as per the table in Appendix 2. The BT Countryside for All Accessibility form for this site can be found in Appendix 9.
- 5.1.2 A 1140 metre circular route starting and ending at the entrance gate was focussed upon for the purposes of the audit as this was the main focus of the improvement work. An interpretation board has also been provided and is situated near the gate. This was not measured as part of the audit as the focus of the audit is on physical access and participation.
- 5.1.3 The five bar gate is kept locked as the site is leased to a grazier and therefore it would not be practical to risk it being left open. Entrance to the site is mainly via the stile or kissing gate. The kissing gates were constructed to the design specification provided in the Facility Design Manual produced by the then National Rivers Authority. The length of the recess

when the gate is open was measured to be 0.88 metres with a gate width of 1.28 metres. One of the main considerations on the site has been to prevent the graziers horses from escaping. The width of access points have been designed to allow access to as wide a group of people as possible within this constraint.

- 5.1.4 The route is unsurfaced. On the day of the audit, the surface was hard and firm due to a substantial frost. To be accessible, path surfaces must be compact and firm. The surface is fairly level with no significant sections with a gradient steeper than 1:20 and although slightly rutted in places with occasional pieces of hardcore sticking up the cross slope does not exceed 1:50 to any significant level. Its width is variable, at its widest it is 3.20 metres (to allow vehicular access for operational work) and at its thinnest 1.10 metres. There are no surface breaks and the walking tunnel is clear.
- 5.1.5 When the site was designed it was intended that disabled people would be able to reach the first resting place (180 metres from the entrance) (Photograph 21). This was possible without the need to undertake major works, which would be needed to allow full access to the entire circular route. An attempt has been made in the past to install a boardwalk but due to the operational purpose of the site, being as it is a compartmentalised washland which is designed to flood progressively, this proved unsuccessful and the boardwalk was floated from its position. The washland capacity of the site is the foremost consideration which has necessarily had to be borne in mind. Any alterations which would require "filling in", such as the construction of a ramp up to floodbank height, would have to be accompanied by compensatory excavating to ensure the washland capacity of the site is not diminished.

Photograph 21 - Resting Place



- 5.1.6 There is a second access point to the site which constitutes an alternative exit/entrance and does not impede access along the circular route. The design provides easy access for dog walkers with their dogs. There are four 20 centimetre steps down to this stile which are edged using railway sleepers. Ideally steps should have a maximum riser height of 15 to 16.5 centimetres.
- 5.1.7 There are 13 other steps on the site which again measure 20mm and are constructed from railway sleepers which provide access to the top of the floodbank. These do not affect access to the first resting place mentioned above.
- 5.1.8 This first resting place is one of two. The second is slightly off the route on a grass area. These are approximately 155 metres apart. The first of these could also act as a passing place. It is 3.68 metres in length and approximately 2 metres wide. The minimum requirement for a passing place is an area 1.5 metre by 2.0 metres.
- 5.1.9 The bench is 1.04 metres from the front edge of the platform and is 1.80 metres long and 0.50 metres high with at least 0.90 metres clearance at each side and unrestricted heel space. The guideline requirement for seats is a height of 45 -52 centimetres. Heel space of at least 10 centimetres should be provided to help people stand up more easily.

5.1.10 Suggested improvements

- 5.1.10.1 Subject to future funding and maintenance programmes, there is one suggested improvements which would make the site even more accessible and would be considered reasonable:
 - i. Subject to operational considerations, resurfacing the entrance to the first resting place could be re-investigated.

5.2 Engine Fields Pond

- 5.2.1 Working with the Friends of Dog Mill Ponds, the then National Rivers Authority contributed to the continuation of restoration work on two abandoned mill ponds and the surrounding grounds. This has provided a valuable local amenity feature and park. It is situated adjacent to a residential area and hence is classed as an urban fringe and managed landscape as per the table in Appendix 2.
- 5.2.2 The BT Countryside for All Accessibility form for this site can be found in Appendix 10.
- 5.2.3 A circular walk runs from the car park around the first pond and back again. It is approximately 240 metres in length. The route is surfaced with two substances. The majority is a mixture of gravels which have been compacted with the rest being crushed sandstone with some loose pieces which are bigger than 10mm.

Photograph 22 - Engine Fields Ponds



- 5.2.4 Ideally, there should be very little or no loose material on the surface. Even very small loose particles can make a path very slippery for people with poor balance and mobility. Loose particles should not exceed 5 millimetres in size.
- 5.2.5 The width of the path does vary slightly in width at points around the route. However, it was found to be no thinner than 1.22 metres at any point. There are no width restriction as such although at some points grass has grown over the path edging.
- 5.2.6 There are no formal passing places. These are defined as areas on or next to the path which are at least 1.5 metres by 2.0 metres. Ideally, in this countryside setting, they should be available at 50 -100 metre intervals.
- 5.2.7 There are four resting places, each less than 50 metres apart. One bench is provided at each of these locations. These are of two types. Two of the benches are of the "park bench" style and the other two are of the basic style with no back or arm rests.
- 5.2.8 The first bench along the route is of the "park bench" back rest style and is 1.80 metres long with a seat height of 0.43 metres from the ground. Seats with back rests provide additional comfort and assistance to disabled and elderly people who may have difficulties standing or sitting. It has 0.54 metres clearance on one side and 0.47 metres clearance on the other. It has no arm rests. The farthest bench from the start of the walk is of the same style but was in worse condition than the first. There was 0.30 metres clearance on one side of the bench and 0.50 metres clearance on the other side. Both these benches have a small step up to the platform on which they are set of 5 centimetres and 11 centimetres respectively. Ideally these would not be present.

- 5.2.9 Ideally benches of this type should be 45 - 52 centimetres high with at least 0.90 metre square clearance at each end so that wheelchair users/ pushchairs or prams can sit next to their family and friends. Heel space of at least 10 centimetres should be provided under seats. This will help people to stand up more easily because it places the feet below the body's centre of gravity.
- 5.2.10 The second and third benches along the route are of the more informal style with no back rest. The second was measured to be 1.50 metres long. The seat height varied from 0.40 metres at one end to 0.60 metres at the other end as it was situated on a slope. The third bench along was of the same style as the second but was set on level ground with its seat height consistently at 0.50 metres.
- 5.2.11 Unimpeded heel space is provided on each bench. All were off the main route to allow free passage.
- 5.2.12 There are some small steps along the route. However, an alternative unstepped track is available.
- 5.2.13 The route is fairly even in terms of its gradient. At no point was it found to exceed 1:20 or its cross slope to exceed 1:50. No surface breaks were found and the walking tunnel was clear.
- 5.2.14 There are two pond dipping platforms on the site both of similar design (Photograph 23). These were approximately 3 metres in length and 0.75 metres wide with open edges and a small step of 5 millimetres from the path level. Ideally there should be some edge protection of at least 75 millimetres along the water side of these, as a minimum. A handrail would be preferable.
- 5.2.15 There is also an interpretation board at the edge of the car park. This was not measured as part of the audit as the focus of the audit is on access and participation as opposed to education.

5.2.16 Suggested Improvements

Subject to future funding and maintenance programmes, there is one suggested improvement which would make the site even more accessible and would be considered reasonable:

- i. The path edges could be cleared of grass.
- ii. The path could be resurfaced to ensure no loose stones greater than 5 millimetres.
- iii. Passing places could be built in to the route.
- iv. Edge protection could be provided along water sides of pond dipping platforms.

Photograph 23 - Pond Dipping Platform



5.3 *Trans-Pennine Trail - Harlington*

- 5.3.1 The Trans-Pennine Trail (TPT) is a multi-user long distance leisure route for walkers, cyclists and, where possible horse riders and people with disabilities. The trail connects coast with coast across the Pennines, between Liverpool and King George Dock in Hull. It follows disused railways, riverside paths, canal towpaths and existing rights of way as far as is possible. The trail will become part of the European Long Distance Path number E8. In collaboration with Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council part of the route has been provided along the River Dearne near Harlington. It is classed as a rural and working landscape. The BT Countryside for All Accessibility form for this site can be found in Appendix 11.
- 5.3.2 The path is braided to protect the structural integrity of the floodbank. Horses follow the route on the landward side of the floodbank whilst cyclists and other users are allowed to go along the top. The path is surfaced to prevent water running downwards into the floodbank. It is important therefore that the surfacing is not churned up as this will compromise the flood protection currently offered.
- 5.3.3 The trail section looked at is constructed upon Agency owned land and runs from the entrance gates (Photograph 24) to the point at which it joins Denaby Ings Nature Reserve. These gates have special hinges to ensure they always swing closed. The gate opening mechanisms were found to be slightly stiff on the day of the site visit which may make it difficult for older people or those with a muscular disability. There are two gates, one of approximately 1.4 metres wide and one which is 4 metres wide to allow vehicular access for operational purposes. The smaller of the two gates have a handloop on the top bar to allow horse riders to open them without dismounting.

Photograph 24 - Trans-Pennine Trail



5.3.4 The path surface can be split into two categories, there is approximately 454 metres of hard and firm surface with few loose stones and none bigger than 10mm and 186 metres of muddy track. The track is wider than 1.2 metres for all its length; at its widest it is 5.80 metres. There are no width restrictions nor barriers blocking the path. These factors make the track accessible to a wide range of users.

5.3.5 There are no formal passing places nor resting places, although the trail is wide enough in parts to allow passing. Three slopes were found on the site, one from the gate up to the top of the floodbank and one either side of the spillway which allows water to top the floodbank onto the adjacent washland in flood conditions. At no point did these slopes exceed 1:20. The route was fairly level and did not exceed a cross slope of 1:50. There were no small steps, no surface breaks and the walking tunnel was unimpeded.

5.3.6 *Suggested Improvements*

Subject to future funding and maintenance programmes, there is one suggested improvements which would make the site even more accessible and would be considered reasonable:

- i. It was suggested that a symbol to represent accessibility for disabled people could be included on the way markers which already exist on the site.
- ii. The muddy section of the trail could be resurfaced.

5.4 *Five Weirs Walk*

- 5.4.1 The Agency has worked in partnership with the Five Weirs Walk Trust, Sheffield Development Corporation and the private sector (Forgemasters) to open up riverside access. An urban theme route has been created which is suitable for both walkers and cyclists and runs adjacent to the River Don between Meadowhall and Weirhead, Brightside. (Photograph 25) The route provides a landscaped facility through an area of formerly industrialised dereliction and as such is classed as an urban and formal landscape as per the table in Appendix 2. The BT Accessibility Form for this site can be found in Appendix 12.

Photograph 25 - Five Weirs Walk



- 5.4.2 The section which was reviewed runs from Weedon Road to Carbrook and is approximately 420 metres in length and in excess of 2 metres wide. Access is via a 1.14 metre wide gate. There is also a double gate adjacent to the first which it is assumed allows access for maintenance vehicles.
- 5.4.3 The route is surfaced with two-coloured tarmac, the cycleway being distinguished from the route for other users. On the day of the audit there was some tree debris on the path. This may impede passage for some. This was assumed to be general seasonal debris. (Photograph 27) Drainage holes are built into the route to prevent standing water on the route. Whilst the path is slightly sloped to allow water to run off to these drainage holes the cross slope does not exceed 1:50. The section is virtually flat with no slopes exceeding 1:20.

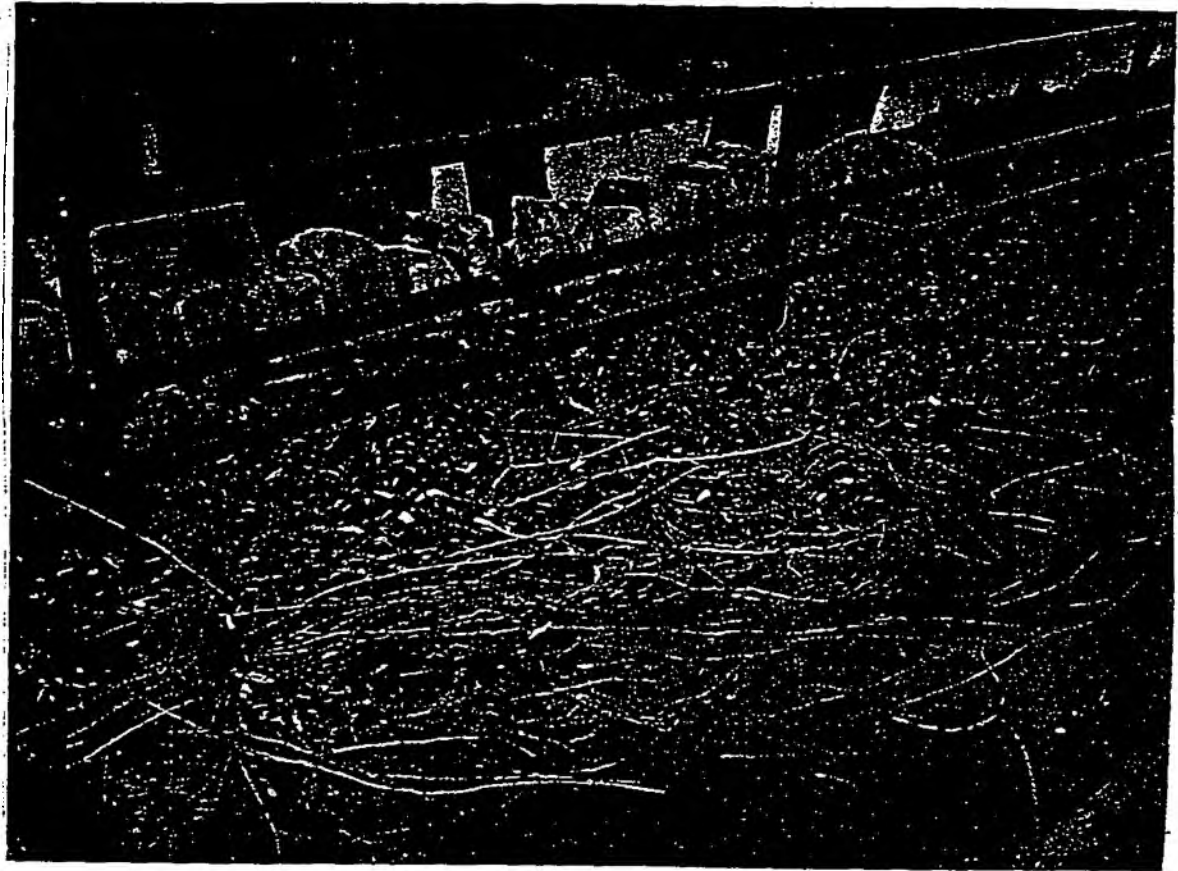
- 5.4.4 There are no width restrictions or barriers blocking the path and the walking tunnel is clear. There are no formal passing places although the route is wide enough to allow passing anyway. There are four benches on the section, 1 at either end and 2 approximately 45 metres from the Carbrook end. (Photograph 26) The benches are of the "park bench" style with back rests. These are 1.85 metres wide with a seat height of 0.45 metres. There is no restriction on heel space and there is a clear space around both benches.

Photograph 26 - Seating



- 5.4.5 There are no small steps on the route nor any surface breaks as such. However, the resting place with 2 benches (Photograph 26) is cobbled with uneven sized cobbles and gaps between them. This may present problems for some users, especially those with pushchairs/prams, using canes or wheelchairs.
- 5.4.6 Street lamps have been installed along the section but from anecdotal evidence have not worked for some time. Litterbins were also originally provided but these were vandalised.
- 5.4.7 Car parking was raised as a concern. Whilst the route is very accessible for a wide range of users. Those who are less ambulant may find access to the route difficult as it involves crossing a busy road with no pedestrian crossing.

Photograph 27 - Tree debris



5.4.8 *Suggested Improvements*

5.4.8.1 Subject to future funding and maintenance programmes, there is one suggested improvements which would make the site even more accessible and would be considered reasonable:

- i. The tree debris could be cleared regularly.

DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.0 DISCUSSION & RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Universal Design

- 6.1.1 Where facilities are designed with an assumption based on able-bodied people, it is not only people with disabilities which are excluded from accessing the countryside. The elderly, pregnant women and mothers with prams, pushchairs or small children are also likely to experience difficulties.
- 6.1.2 Universal design solutions which integrate the needs of the widest group of visitors is the way forward. They represent efficiency in managing recreation visitors as they eliminate the need for provision of separate, additional facilities.
- 6.1.3 The sites featured in the audit are not all owned by the Agency. The Agency therefore has no remit to require their upgrading as suggested in the previous section. The suggestions do however, illustrate the sometimes small improvements needed which can make the site more accessible to a wider group of visitors.
- 6.1.4 The number and varied nature of site developments for recreation that the Agency has either funded or undertaken do not allow any standard formulae to be developed. Indeed, this would not be desirable as each site should reflect its local character as far as is possible. As such no attempt has been made to compare the audited sites in any way. None of the sites for which a BT Countryside For All Accessibility assessment forms was completed (Appendices 5 -10) fully meet the standards. These should not be considered failures. All of the sites visited were developed before the guidelines and their design is based on consultation and the best information available at the time.
- 6.1.5 There are three considerations which were discussed in relation to each site visited. These were cost and funding, operational considerations and maintenance opportunities. It is estimated that the total regional cost of bringing the sites up to standard, based on the suggested improvements contained within each site write-up, would be around £21k broken down as follows:

Site	Cost of Improvement	Total Cost of original site development	Site	Cost of Improvement	Total Cost of original site development
Bolam Lake	£2k	£15k	Wheldrake Ings	£3.5k	£50k
Kielder Hatchery	£2k		Skerne Riverside	£1.5k	£350k
Newcastle Quayside Pontoon	0	£120k	Lowther Washland	£1k	£12k
St Peter's Marina	£500	£40k	Engine Fields Ponds	£1k	£30k
Barmby Barrage	£3.5k	£25k	Trans Pennine Trail	£1k	£50k
Selby Waterfront	£3.5k	£10.2million	Five weirs walk	£500pa	£150k

6.1.6 The table above also shows that the cost of ensuring a site is accessible is modest in relation to the total cost of the site development.

6.1.7 However, there are operational considerations such as regular vandalism, lease holders requirements, land owner/managers' wishes and washland capacity which justify not fully meeting the standards. Where possible, any improvements should be built into any pre-planned rolling maintenance programmes and timed and funded accordingly.

6.1.8 Recommendation

- ♦ **The Agency should employ and promote cost-effective universal design principles when developing or maintaining recreation sites.**

6.1.9 Throughout the review of the sites chosen for the audit, a number of individual factors which influence accessibility were consistently examined. These were:

6.2 *Surfacing*

6.2.1 A number of different types of surfacing material are used throughout the region. These include compacted gravel mixtures, board walks, concrete, crushed sandstone and tarmac. There are also examples of unsurfaced paths where the route crosses grassland or mud track.

6.2.2 To be considered accessible path surfaces must be compact and firm, stable and non-slip in both dry and wet conditions. There should be very little or no loose material on the surface. Even very small particles can make a path very slippery for people with poor balance and mobility. Loose particles should not exceed 5 millimetres in size. Standing water can also be a hazard for some users.

6.2.3 The BT Countryside For All guidelines advocate concrete, bitumen macadam, stone, timber, brick/paving and mown grass as suitable surfacing materials. Unsuitable surfacing materials include sand, loose gravel, woodchips and cobbles. These should be used, as appropriate in line with the countryside setting and to reflect local character.

6.2.4 Recommendation

- ♦ **All new and/or upgraded paths should be surfaced with a suitable material and regularly maintained to ensure that they are clear of debris, standing water, surface breaks, loose stones or other temporary hazards.**

6.3 *Path Width*

6.3.1 The width of paths in the countryside will depend on a number of factors such as who is expected to use it and how busy it is expected to be. The path widths reviewed during the site visits ranged from 0.9 metre to 5.8 metres.

- 6.3.2 Ideally, to allow for free movement of two-way traffic by all pedestrians, including wheelchair users and those with double pushchairs, the minimum path width should be 2 metres. To allow two people to walk along side by side and support each other if necessary, countryside paths should have a minimum of 1.2 metres useable surface width.
- 6.3.3 Path edging is not essential but a clear visual distinction between the path and adjoining ground is helpful. People with visual impairments need to be able to feel the difference underfoot between the path surface and the ground next to it.
- 6.3.4 The BT Countryside for All Standards advocate that in urban and formal landscapes and urban fringe and managed landscapes the minimum path width should be 1.2 metres and in rural and working landscapes, 1 metre will be sufficient. In open country, semi wild or wild land, people will expect to make their own way, not have this environment changed to provide access.
- 6.3.5 **Recommendation:**
- ♦ All new or upgraded paths should be a minimum of 1.2 metres wide in urban, formal, urban fringe and managed landscapes and a minimum of 1 metre wide in rural and working landscapes.

6.4 *Width Restrictions*

- 6.4.1 The BT Countryside for all Standards advocate that the width of a path may be reduced to 81.5 centimetres for a maximum of 30 centimetres, for example at a gateway and still be considered accessible in all countryside settings. A reduction to 1 metre for no more than 1.6 metres would still be considered accessible in urban and formal or urban fringe and managed landscapes. In rural and working landscapes the path width may be reduced to 91.5 centimetres for no more than 1.6 metres.
- 6.4.2 A number of width restrictions were identified during the site visits. These included a tree, bridge and a doorway. However, only the doorway was less than 81.5 centimetres.
- 6.4.3 **Recommendation:**
- ♦ Width restrictions should be kept to a minimum on new routes and removed from existing routes/facilities. Where width restrictions are unavoidable, the path width should not be less than 81.5 centimetres for a maximum of 30 centimetres as far as is practicable.

6.5 *Barriers*

- 6.5.1 There should be no steps, stiles, fences, hedges or walls restricting access without alternative provision as far as is practicable. Examples of barriers which were identified whilst visiting the audit sites include tree roots, path edging, surface breaks, a fallen tree, door steps and wooden battens.

6.5.2 Very small single steps or surface breaks can form barriers or make it difficult for wheelchair users and may form a tripping hazard. They are often not seen or expected. A textural change on the path at the top and bottom of steps or ramps can provide a warning to people who are partially sighted. Small level changes of no more than 5 millimetres are acceptable.

6.5.3 Any steps which are provided should be a minimum of 1.2 metres wide. A clear, level area 1.5 metres long by 1.2 metres wide should be provided at the top and bottom of stepped sections to allow people to pass easily. A level area should also be provided for every 2 metres height rise. Steps should be no higher than 16.5 centimetres and no more than 30 centimetres in length. Any flight of steps should be made up of equal sized steps. Steps with protruding nosing and open treads should be avoided as toes and leg braces can be caught on them. Treads should be constructed with a non-slip, slightly textured surface, which remains slip resistant when wet or muddy.

6.5.4 Recommendation:

- ♦ There should be no single steps, stiles, fences, hedges or walls restricting access on any route without alternative provision as far as is practicable. Ramps and landings should be provided in preference to flights of steps as far as practicable.

6.6 *Passing Places*

6.6.1 Where the path width is less than 1.5 metres, passing places every 50 to 150 metres will allow two wheelchair users to pass each other. These should be 1.5 metres by 2 metres long. This will allow enough space for two wheelchair users plus helpers to pass each other.

6.6.2 Two of the sites visited were found to have formal built in passing places. A passing place is defined as an area on or next to the path measuring 1.5 metres by 2 metres. Those found on the sites visited were found to vary in size from between 1.12 to 1.6 metres by 3.47 to 5.84 metres. They also varied in distance apart from 30 metres to 120 metres. Ideally, they should be 50 metres apart on urban and formal sites, 100 metres apart on urban-fringe and managed sites and 150 metres apart on rural or working sites.

6.6.3 Recommendation:

- ♦ Passing places measuring 1.5 metres by 2 metres should be provided on all sites every 50 metres apart on urban and formal sites, 100 metres apart on urban fringe and managed sites and 150 metres apart on rural or working sites.

6.7 *Resting Places*

6.7.1 Many disabled people who cannot walk long distances need places to rest. Rest areas should cater for all users and include at least one seat or perch. Off-path space, of at least 90 centimetres square, should be provided so that wheelchair users can sit next to their family and friends.

- 6.7.2 The distance between resting places should be 100 to 300 metres, depending on the countryside setting of the site. The surface should be firm, stable and flush with the pathway.
- 6.7.3 Wherever possible, resting places should be placed where there is something to look at, where there is some shelter and in sight of each other so that people have something to aim at. Seats or perches should be set back from the main route by at least 60 centimetres to allow the free passage of other users.
- 6.7.4 Ideally a tactile cue on the path surface before a seat should be provided, to alert visually impaired people.
- 6.7.5 A mixture of seating should be provided and heel space of at least 10 centimetres should be provided under seats. This will help people to stand up more easily because it places the feet below the body's centre of gravity.
- 6.7.6 Various seats and perches were found during the site visits. These varied in design and in distance between them, at 25 metres to 300 metres apart.
- 6.7.7 The BT Countryside for All Standards recommend that resting areas should be provided every 100 metres on urban and formal sites, 200 metres on urban fringe and managed sites and 300 metres apart on rural and working sites.
- 6.7.8 **Recommendation:**
- ♦ Resting places complete with seat or perch should be provided every 100 metres on urban and formal sites, 200 metres apart on urban fringe and managed sites and 300 metres apart on rural and working sites.

6.8.1 *Gradient*

- 6.8.2 The steepness of the path is important for many people, especially some wheelchair users who find steep ramps a barrier. Gradients less steep than 1:20 are not ramps. Gradients steeper than 1:20 are ramps. Ramps need flat landings at least 1.2 metres wide by 1.5 metres long for wheelchair users, ambulant disabled people and people with limited stamina. Landings should be provided on slopes with a gradient steeper than 1:20. The steeper the gradient the less the distance between the landings should be.
- 6.8.3 To enable most people to use ramps easily it is recommended that they should be no longer than 15 metres between landings or rest areas. All ramps should have non-slip surfaces and abrupt changes of gradient should be avoided.
- 6.8.4 The maximum cross-slope should be no steeper than 1:50. Cross slopes which are steeper than this especially when combined with a linear path slope can present difficulties of balance for wheelchair users and some ambulant people.

6.8.5 The majority of sites visited had access routes with a gradient not exceeding 1:20 and a cross slope not exceeding 1:50. There were a few minor exceptions to this. At Kielder the ramp up to the double door is 1:10, the 2 metre metal flap on Castle Quays pontoon was 1:7 on the day of the visit, the 0.52 metre metal flap on St Peter's Marina pontoon was 1:5, 15 metres of the route at Selby waterfront was 1:12.5 and the pavement ramp at Skerne had a cross slope of 1:25.

6.8.6 **Recommendation:**

- ♦ **Ramps and landings should be provided on slopes in excess of 1:20. Cross-slopes should be no steeper than 1:50.**

6.9 ***Walking tunnels***

6.9.1 Many visually impaired people and others who have to concentrate on where they walk may face a safety risk from overhanging obstacles such as tree branches. To be considered accessible the space directly above a path needs to extend to at least 2.1 metres in height and have a clear width of 1.2 metres.

6.9.2 People with visual impairments often use long canes as mobility aids. The cane is swung from side to side, touching points outside shoulder width. Long canes can only detect objects lower than 67.5 centimetres and within the swing of the cane.

6.9.3 The walking tunnel on the majority of sites visited was found to be unimpeded, although on one, occasional overhanging branches were found.

6.9.4 **Recommendation**

- ♦ **Regular maintenance should be undertaken to ensure that walking tunnels remain clear of overhanging branches.**

6.10 ***Specialist Facility Design***

6.10.1 There are four main sources of information pertaining to best design practice for recreation facilities:

- i. The NRA Facility Design Manual which is a compilation of existing, modified and new designs for many recreation facilities under the headings of surfaces, structures, furniture and specialist items.
- ii. The BT Countryside for All Accessibility Standards, published in 1997 result from the BT Countryside for All Project (BTCAP). The primary focus of the standards is upon paths and trails and cover issues such as passing places and surfacing. Guidance is also provided networking, information, transport, interpretation, events management and technical specifications for footpath furniture, features and facilities.

- iii. A Countryside Commission advisory booklet on 'Informal Countryside Recreation for Disabled People' (ICRDP). This booklet aims to provide advice and ideas that will help disabled people to enjoy the countryside.
- iv. "Tourism For All: Providing Accessible Visitor Attractions" (PAVA) published in Association with Glaxo Holdings plc and the National tourist Boards of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

6.10.2 The guidance in these has been summarised in the table shown in Appendix 13.

6.10.3 Recommendation

- ♦ **The BT Countryside For All Standards and Guidance should be given preference and incorporated into all future site management and development plans and collaborative projects.**

6.11 *Examples of Good Practice*

6.11.1 There are no existing guidelines with respect to pontoon design for wheelchair users. As such the designs reviewed at Castle Quays and St Peter's Marina in Northumbria Area should be used as a basis for future designs.

6.11.2 The Wheldrake Ings and River Skerne sites in Dales' Area demonstrate good practice in terms of building passing places into board walks and trails respectively.

6.11.3 The Trans-Pennine Trail at Harlington in the Ridings Area should also be considered as an example of good practice in terms of trails on and adjacent to flood banks. As far as the structural integrity of flood defences allow, braided trails should be promoted.

6.11.4 Recommendation

- ♦ **The examples of good practice identified through this audit should be considered when delivering similar facilities.**

6.12 *Remaining Agency Recreation Sites*

6.12.1 This audit focussed upon a sample of 12 sites. By reviewing its recreation provision with the aim of assessing universal accessibility, the Agency is addressing its responsibility under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995. The mechanism for undertaking such assessments has been field tested through this audit and should be used for the remainder sites.

6.12.2 Recommendation

- ◆ **The remaining 27 sites shown in Appendix 1 should be reviewed by Area staff using the BT Countryside for All Accessibility Form and Guidelines within three years.**

ACTION TABLE

ACTION TABLE

ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	TO BE IMPLEMENTED BY:	ACTIONED BY:
1. Cost-effectiveness of universal design principles.	The Agency should employ and promote cost-effective universal design principles when developing or maintaining recreation sites.	FER Managers	Ongoing
2. Inconsistency in standard of surfacing.	all new and/or upgraded paths should be surfaced with a suitable material and regularly maintained to ensure they are clear of debris, standing water, surface breaks, loose stones or other temporary hazards.	FER Managers	Ongoing
3. Some paths/path sections not wide enough to use universal use.	New or upgraded paths should be a minimum of 1.2 metres wide in urban, formal, urban fringe and managed landscapes and a minimum of 1 metre wide in rural and working landscapes.	FER Managers	Ongoing
4. Presence of width restrictions.	Width restrictions should be kept to a minimum on new routes and removed from existing routes/facilities. Where width restrictions are unavoidable, the path width should not be less than 81.5 centimetres for a maximum of 30 centimetres as far as is practicable.	FER Managers	Ongoing
5. Presence of barriers.	There should be no single steps, stiles, fences, hedges or walls restricting access on any route without alternative provision. Ramps and landings should be provided in preference to flights of steps.	FER Managers	Ongoing
6. Absence of passing places from some routes.	Passing places measuring 1.5 metres by 2 metres should be provided on all sites every 50-150 metres depending on the countryside setting.	FER Managers	Ongoing

7. Inconsistency in provision and spacing of resting places.	Resting places complete with seat or perch should be provided every 100 metres on urban and formal sites, 200 metres on urban fringe and managed sites and 300 metres apart on rural and working sites.	FER Managers	Ongoing
8. Presence of gradients exceeding 1:20 and cross slopes of steeper than 1:50 on some sites.	Ramps and landings should be provided on slopes in excess of 1:20. Cross-slopes should be no steeper than 1:50.	FER Managers	Ongoing
9. Presence of occasional overhanging branches on one site.	Regular maintenance should be undertaken to ensure that walking tunnels remain clear of overhanging branches.	FER Managers	Ongoing
10. Lack of good practice guidance as to universal access and facilities.	The BT Countryside For All Standards and Guidance should be given preference and incorporated into all future site management and development plans and collaborative projects.	FER Managers	Ongoing
11. Lack of good practice guidance for some specialist facilities.	The examples of good practice identified through this audit should be considered when delivering similar facilities.	FER Managers	Ongoing
12. Not all Agency owned/part funded sites were reviewed.	The remaining 27 sites shown in Appendix 1 should be reviewed using the BT Countryside For All Accessibility Form and Guidelines within 3 years.	FER Managers	2000/1

APPENDIX 1

REGIONAL RECREATION SITE LIST

Northumbria	Dales	Ridings	Ridings cont.
1. Eastgate Fishery (access to water)	1. Wheldrake Ings (trail/bird hides)	1. Lowther Washland (paths/access to water)	18. Engine Fields Ponds (access to water)
2. Kielder Hatchery (visitor facilities)	2. Barmby Barrage Amenity Site (fishing platforms/ car park/ birdhide/paths/ picnic area)	2. Trans Pennine Trail at Mexborough (trail)	19. Beverley Barmston Drain (ramp)
3. Bowlam Lake (trail)	3. Selby Waterfront (trail)	3. TransPennine Trail at Denaby (trail)	20. Deame Way at Adwick (trail)
4. St Peter's Marina	4. River Skell at Ripon (trail)	4. The Earth Centre (walkways)	21. Broomfleet Pond fishery (access to water)
5. Marine Activity Centre	5. Tees Barrage (trails/access to water)	5. Niagara Weir (path)	22. TransPennine Trail - Carlton bridge to Temple Hirst (trail)
6. Killingworth Lake (Changing facilities)	6. River Skerne (trail)	6. Spurn Heritage Coast (car park/ footpath and interpretation)	23. Woodhouse Washlands (access to water/ paths)
7. River Wear Waterski Zone (access to water)	7. Stainsby Beck (trail)	7. Sprotborough Flash Nature Reserve (pond-dipping facility)	24. Fosse Ponds (access to water)
8. Bellingham Floodbank (trail)		8. Kirklees Riverside (footpath and amenity works)	
		9. Five Weirs walk (trail)	
		10. Kilnhurst Ings "River Park" (paths/car park/fishing/ access to water)	
		11. Weetwood School Pond (boardwalk)	
		12. Beacon ponds (Interpretative materials)	
		13. Blue bank pools (access to water)	
		14. Upper Calder display (interpretative board)	
		15. Barmby Dun Borrow Pits (access to water)	
		16. Calderdale Riverside Walks (paths)	
		17. Meanwood Valley Urban Farm (Visitor centre)	

APPENDIX 2

**BT COUNTRYSIDE FOR ALL
COUNTRYSIDE SETTINGS**

Table 2. Countryside settings

Countryside setting	Urban and formal landscapes	Urban fringe and managed landscapes	Rural and working landscapes	Open country, semi-wild and wild land
Management	The opportunities are structured and controlled. There are many facilities, services and programmes.	The opportunities are controlled, though often very informally. There are some facilities, services and programmes.	There will be fewer managed opportunities and few facilities and services. Some programmes may be available.	There will be very few managed opportunities and facilities, services or programmes.
Challenge and risk taking	No risks or challenges exist unless they are created and used by people	Very few risks or challenges unless they are created and used by people.	Few risks or challenges but people may need some basic skills in self-management in the outdoors.	Many risks and challenges available and people will need outdoor skills.
Naturalness	Mostly man-made environment. Many exotic and well-kept landscapes though they can appear natural.	Modified natural environment though often with resource management to improve natural environments.	Mixture of modified and natural environments often mixed with countryside production activities. (For example, farming and forestry.)	Natural environments with little evidence of humans affecting them.
Feeling Involved with other users	High possibility of meeting and getting involved with other people on the site and in activities.	Possibility of meeting and seeing evidence of other people and of getting involved with them.	Possibility of meeting and seeing other people and evidence of them.	Low possibility of meeting other people, and little evidence of them.
Independence and self-reliance	All visitors can go alone or in groups. There are support services frequently available.	All visitors can go alone or in groups. There are support services occasionally available.	Most visitors can go alone. Some may need help. There are few support services available immediately.	Only some visitors can go alone. Many will expect to go with friends. Support services are very rarely near at hand.

APPENDIX 3

**BT COUNTRYSIDE FOR ALL
ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS**

Table 1. BT Countryside for All Accessibility Standards

	Path surfaces (see note 1)	Path widths (see note 2)	Width restrictions allowed (see note 3)	Barriers (see note 4)	Maximum distances between passing places (see note 5)	Maximum distances between rest areas (see note 6)	Maximum steepness of ramps (see note 7)	Maximum height rise between landings on ramps steeper than 1:20 (see note 8)	Maximum slope across a path (see note 9)	Maximum step levels (see note 10)	Surface breaks (grills, board-walks) (see note 11)	Clear walking tunnels (see note 12)
Urban and formal landscapes For example, countryside areas with a lot of man-made features	Hard, firm and smooth surface with very few loose stones and none bigger than 5mm.	1200 millimetres (mm)	At least 815mm for no more than 300mm along path 1,000mm for no more than 1,600 along path	There should be no steps, stiles, and no fences, hedges or walls to restrict access	50 metres (m)	100m	1:12 (for example for every 12 metres you travel you can rise one metre)	750mm (for example landings should be every 9m along ramps of 1:12)	1:50	5mm		1200mm wide x 2100mm high
Urban fringe and managed landscapes For example, countryside areas near towns or managed recreation sites	Hard and firm, surface with very few loose stones and none bigger than 10mm.	1200mm	At least 815mm for no more than 300mm along path 1,000mm for no more than 1,600 along path		100m	200m	1:12	830mm	1:45	10mm	The largest break in the surface of the path should be no more than 12mm measured along the line of the path	1200mm wide x 2100mm high
Rural and working landscapes For example, farmland and woodland with public rights of way	Hard and firm with some loose stones and chippings not covering the whole surface. The stones should be no bigger than 10mm	1000mm	At least 815mm for no more than 300mm along path 915mm for no more than 1,600 along path		150m	300m	1:10	950mm	1:35	15mm		1000mm wide x 2100mm high
Open country, semi-wild and wild land For example, moorlands and out-of-the-way countryside	People expect to make their own way, not have this environment changed to provide access. If paths and trails are provided in this setting, they should meet the standard for the rural and working landscape setting (as shown in the column above).											

APPENDIX 4

**BT COUNTRYSIDE FOR ALL
ACCESSIBILITY FORM
BOLAM LAKE**

BT Countryside for All Accessibility assessment form



BT Countryside for All

Name of trail	BOLAM LAKE			
Section of trail to be assessed	From BOATHOUSE WOOD CAR PARK	To BOATHOUSE WOOD CAR PARK (CIRCULAR)		
Overall length	1800METRES			
Countryside setting (see appendix 2 to decide the one setting that applies)	Urban and formal landscapes	Urban fringe and managed landscapes	Rural and working landscapes ✓	Open country and semi-wild and wild land
Your name	HAYLEY LOWES			
Date of assessment	25-11-97			
Weather conditions	AUTUMN - CLOUDY & BREEZY			

Enter measurements in the empty boxes. An entry in the shaded box means your path or trail does not meet any of the standards.

1 Length of path or trail with surface as described	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/ working	Rural/ working
Sealed surface, for example, tarmac, concrete, smooth slabs or a boardwalk	180m	✓	✓	✓
Hard, firm and smooth surface with very few loose stones and none bigger than 5mm		✓	✓	✓
Hard and firm surface, with very few loose stones and none bigger than 10mm		X	✓	✓
Hard and firm, with some loose stones and chippings not covering the whole surface and stones no bigger than 10mm	1,590m	X	X	✓
Path not hard and firm, or covered with large loose material bigger than 10mm		X	X	X

2 Path width (length of path or trail with full surface width)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with width at least 1200mm	—	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with width between 1000mm and 1200mm	ALL EXCEPT ANCHPOINTS	X	X	✓
Length of path with width less than 1000mm	—	X	X	X

3 Width restrictions (gates, barriers and so on) BRIDGE - 1150mm TREE - 900mm	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of sections of path or trail which are 815mm wide for more than 300mm along the length of the path or trail, or are less than 815mm wide	—	X	X	X
Number of sections of path or trail which are less than 1000mm wide but more than 915mm wide for more than 1600mm along a length of path or trail	—	X	X	✓
Number of sections of path or trail which are less than 915mm wide for more than 1600mm along a length of path or trail	—	X	X	X

4 Barriers — TREE ROOTS	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of barriers (stiles, steps, fences and so on) blocking the path	—	X	X	X

5 Distance between passing places (areas on or next to the path which are at least 1500mm x 2000mm)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with passing places less than 50 metres apart	—	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 50 metres but less than 100 metres apart	—	X	✓	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 100 metres but less than 150 metres apart	—	X	X	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 150 metres apart	—	X	X	X

NO FORMAL PASSING PLACES

6 Distance between resting places (level areas on or near to the path which are at least 1200mm x 1500mm with a seat or perch)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with resting places less than 100 metres apart		✓	✓	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 100 metres but less than 200 metres apart		X	✓	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 200 metres but less than 300 metres apart		X	X	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 300 metres apart	ALL	X	X	X

7 Steepness of path or trail	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path no steeper than 1:20 (for every 20 metres you walk along you will rise by one metre)	circa 99%	✓	✓	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12	circa 1%	✓	✓	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:12 but less steep than 1:10		X	X	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:10		X	X	X

8 Height rise on ramps between landings measuring at least 1200mm x 1500mm	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 750mm but less than 830mm between landings	—	X	✓	✓
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 830mm but less than 950mm between landings	—	X	X	✓
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 950mm between landings	—	X	X	X

9 Cross slope of path or trail	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with a cross slope no steeper than 1:50	ALL	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:50 but less steep than 1:45		X	✓	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:45 but less steep than 1:35		X	X	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:35		X	X	X

10 Small steps	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of small steps higher than 5mm	—	X	✓	✓
Number of small steps higher than 10mm	—	X	X	✓
Number of small steps higher than 15mm	—	X	X	X

11 Surface breaks (grills, gaps in boards, and so on)	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of breaks in the surface of the path more than 12mm wide measured along the line of the path	ALL GAPS BETWEEN BOARDS OF THE BOARDWALK	X	X	X

12 Clear walking tunnel	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path clear of overhanging branches and so on for a width of 1200mm and a height of 2100mm	ALL	✓	✓	✓
Length of path clear of overhanging branches and so on for a width of 1000mm and a height of 2100mm		X	X	✓
Length of path with overhanging branches and so on within a width of 1000mm and a height of 2100mm		X	X	X

APPENDIX 5

**BT COUNTRYSIDE FOR ALL
ACCESSIBILITY FORM
BARMBY BARRAGE**

BT Countryside for All Accessibility assessment form



BT Countryside for All

Name of trail	BARMBY BARRAGE			
Section of trail to be assessed	From CAR PARK	To BIRD-HIDE & RIVERSIDE END-POINT		
Overall length	320 METRES			
Countryside setting (see appendix 2 to decide the one setting that applies)	Urban and formal landscapes	Urban fringe and managed landscapes ✓	Rural and working landscapes	Open country and semi-wild and wild land
Your name	HAYLEY LOWES			
Date of assessment	9-12-97			
Weather conditions	CLEAR, DAMP GROUND BUT DRY WEATHER			

Enter measurements in the empty boxes. An entry in the shaded box means your path or trail does not meet any of the standards.

1 Length of path or trail with surface as described	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/ working	Rural/ working
Sealed surface, for example, tarmac, concrete, smooth slabs or a boardwalk	320m	✓	✓	✓
Hard, firm and smooth surface with very few loose stones and none bigger than 5mm		✓	✓	✓
Hard and firm surface, with very few loose stones and none bigger than 10mm		X	✓	✓
Hard and firm, with some loose stones and chippings not covering the whole surface and stones no bigger than 10mm		X	X	✓
Path not hard and firm, or covered with large loose material bigger than 10mm		X	X	X

2 Path width (length of path or trail with full surface width)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with width at least 1200mm	ALL	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with width between 1000mm and 1200mm		X	X	✓
Length of path with width less than 1000mm		X	X	X

3 Width restrictions (gates, barriers and so on)	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of sections of path or trail which are 815mm wide for more than 300mm along the length of the path or trail, or are less than 815mm wide	—	X	X	X
Number of sections of path or trail which are less than 1000mm wide but more than 915mm wide for more than 1600mm along a length of path or trail	—	X	X	✓
Number of sections of path or trail which are less than 915mm wide for more than 1600mm along a length of path or trail	—	X	X	X

4 Barriers	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of barriers (stiles, steps, fences and so on) blocking the path	GATE 1.13m	X	X	X

5 Distance between passing places (areas on or next to the path which are at least 1500mm x 2000mm)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with passing places less than 50 metres apart	180 METRES	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 50 metres but less than 100 metres apart		X	✓	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 100 metres but less than 150 metres apart		X	X	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 150 metres apart		X	X	X

6 Distance between resting places (level areas on near to the path which are at least 1200mm x 1500mm with a seat or perch)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with resting places less than 100 metres apart	—	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 100 metres but less than 200 metres apart	—	X	✓	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 200 metres but less than 300 metres apart	—	X	X	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 300 metres apart	—	X	X	X

7 Steepness of path or trail	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path no steeper than 1:20 (for every 20 metres you walk along you will rise by one metre)		✓	✓	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12	ALL	✓	✓	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:12 but less steep than 1:10		X	X	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:10		X	X	X

8 Height rise on ramps between landings measuring at least 1200mm x 1500mm	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 750mm but less than 830mm between landings	—	X	✓	✓
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 830mm but less than 950mm between landings	—	X	X	✓
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 950mm between landings	—	X	X	X

9 Cross slope of path or trail	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with a cross slope no steeper than 1:50	—	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:50 but less steep than 1:45	—	X	✓	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:45 but less steep than 1:35	—	X	X	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:35	—	X	X	X

10 Small steps	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of small steps higher than 5mm	1	X	✓	✓
Number of small steps higher than 10mm		X	X	✓
Number of small steps higher than 15mm		X	X	X

11 Surface breaks (grills, gaps in boards, and so on)	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of breaks in the surface of the path more than 12mm wide measured along the line of the path	10	X	X	X

12 Clear walking tunnel	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path clear of overhanging branches and so on for a width of 1200mm and a height of 2100mm	ALL	✓	✓	✓
Length of path clear of overhanging branches and so on for a width of 1000mm and a height of 2100mm	—	X	X	✓
Length of path with overhanging branches and so on within a width of 1000mm and a height of 2100mm	—	X	X	X

APPENDIX 6

**BT COUNTRYSIDE FOR ALL
ACCESSIBILITY FORM
SELBY WATERFRONT**

BT Countryside for All Accessibility assessment form



BT Countryside for All

Name of trail	SELBY WATERFRONT			
Section of trail to be assessed	From DOWNSTREAM END OF SITE	To UPSTREAM END OF SITE		
Overall length	460METRES			
Countryside setting (see appendix 2 to decide the one setting that applies)	Urban and formal landscapes ✓	Urban fringe and managed landscapes	Rural and working landscapes	Open country and semi-wild and wild land
Your name	HAYLEY LOWES			
Date of assessment	9-12-97			
Weather conditions	RAINING			

Enter measurements in the empty boxes. An entry in the shaded box means your path or trail does not meet any of the standards.

1 Length of path or trail with surface as described	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/ working	Rural/ working
Sealed surface, for example, tarmac, concrete, smooth slabs or a boardwalk		✓	✓	✓
Hard, firm and smooth surface with very few loose stones and none bigger than 5mm		✓	✓	✓
Hard and firm surface, with very few loose stones and none bigger than 10mm		X	✓	✓
Hard and firm, with some loose stones and chippings not covering the whole surface and stones no bigger than 10mm		X	X	✓
Path not hard and firm, or covered with large loose material bigger than 10mm	280m	X	X	X

2 Path width (length of path or trail with full surface width)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with width at least 1200mm	280m	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with width between 1000mm and 1200mm		X	X	✓
Length of path with width less than 1000mm	180m	X	X	X

3 Width restrictions (gates, barriers and so on)	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of sections of path or trail which are 815mm wide for more than 300mm along the length of the path or trail, or are less than 815mm wide	—	X	X	X
Number of sections of path or trail which are less than 1000mm wide but more than 915mm wide for more than 1600mm along a length of path or trail	—	X	X	✓
Number of sections of path or trail which are less than 915mm wide for more than 1600mm along a length of path or trail	—	X	X	X

4 Barriers	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of barriers (stiles, steps, fences and so on) blocking the path	—	X	X	X

5 Distance between passing places (areas on or next to the path which are at least 1500mm x 2000mm)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with passing places less than 50 metres apart	—	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 50 metres but less than 100 metres apart	—	X	✓	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 100 metres but less than 150 metres apart	—	X	X	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 150 metres apart	—	X	X	X

6 Distance between resting places (level areas on near to the path which are at least 1200mm x 1500mm with a seat or perch)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with resting places less than 100 metres apart	175m	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 100 metres but less than 200 metres apart		X	✓	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 200 metres but less than 300 metres apart		X	X	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 300 metres apart		X	X	X

7 Steepness of path or trail	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path no steeper than 1:20 (for every 20 metres you walk along you will rise by one metre)		✓	✓	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12	15m	✓	✓	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:12 but less steep than 1:10		X	X	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:10		X	X	X

8 Height rise on ramps between landings measuring at least 1200mm x 1500mm	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 750mm but less than 830mm between landings	—	X	✓	✓
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 830mm but less than 950mm between landings	—	X	X	✓
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 950mm between landings	—	X	X	X

9 Cross slope of path or trail	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with a cross slope no steeper than 1:50	ALL	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:50 but less steep than 1:45		X	✓	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:45 but less steep than 1:35		X	X	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:35		X	X	X

10 Small steps	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of small steps higher than 5mm	-	X	✓	✓
Number of small steps higher than 10mm	-	X	X	✓
Number of small steps higher than 15mm	-	X	X	X

11 Surface breaks (grills, gaps in boards, and so on)	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of breaks in the surface of the path more than 12mm wide measured along the line of the path	-	X	X	X

12 Clear walking tunnel	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path clear of overhanging branches and so on for a width of 1200mm and a height of 2100mm	-	✓	✓	✓
Length of path clear of overhanging branches and so on for a width of 1000mm and a height of 2100mm	-	X	X	✓
Length of path with overhanging branches and so on within a width of 1000mm and a height of 2100mm	-	X	X	X

APPENDIX 7

**BT COUNTRYSIDE FOR ALL
ACCESSIBILITY FORM
WHELDRAKE INGS**

BT Countryside for All Accessibility assessment form



Name of trail	WHELDRAKE INGS			
Section of trail to be assessed	From CAR PARK	To SWANTAIL HIDE		
Overall length	1620 METRES			
Countryside setting (see appendix 2 to decide the one setting that applies)	Urban and formal landscapes	Urban fringe and managed landscapes	Rural and working landscapes ✓	Open country and semi-wild and wild land
Your name	HAYLEY LOWES			
Date of assessment	30-1-98			
Weather conditions	DRY & BRIGHT - SITE RECENTLY BEEN SUBJECT TO SEASONAL FLOODING			

Enter measurements in the empty boxes. An entry in the shaded box means your path or trail does not meet any of the standards.

1 Length of path or trail with surface as described	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Sealed surface, for example, tarmac, concrete, smooth slabs or a boardwalk	510m	✓	✓	✓
Hard, firm and smooth surface with very few loose stones and none bigger than 5mm		✓	✓	✓
Hard and firm surface, with very few loose stones and none bigger than 10mm		X	✓	✓
Hard and firm, with some loose stones and chippings not covering the whole surface and stones no bigger than 10mm		X	X	✓
Path not hard and firm, or covered with large loose material bigger than 10mm - MUD/GRASS	1110m	X	X	X

2 Path width (length of path or trail with full surface width)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with width at least 1200mm	1140m	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with width between 1000mm and 1200mm	480m	X	X	✓
Length of path with width less than 1000mm		X	X	X

3 Width restrictions (gates, barriers and so on)	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of sections of path or trail which are 815mm wide for more than 300mm along the length of the path or trail, or are less than 815mm wide	—	X	X	X
Number of sections of path or trail which are less than 1000mm wide but more than 915mm wide for more than 1600mm along a length of path or trail	—	X	X	✓
Number of sections of path or trail which are less than 915mm wide for more than 1600mm along a length of path or trail	—	X	X	X

4 Barriers	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of barriers (stiles, steps, fences and so on) blocking the path	5	X	X	X

5 Distance between passing places (areas on or next to the path which are at least 1500mm x 2000mm)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with passing places less than 50 metres apart	11m	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 50 metres but less than 100 metres apart		X	✓	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 100 metres but less than 150 metres apart		X	X	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 150 metres apart		X	X	X

6 Distance between resting places – (level areas on near to the path which are at least 1200mm x 1500mm with a seat or perch)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with resting places less than 100 metres apart	75m	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 100 metres but less than 200 metres apart		X	✓	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 200 metres but less than 300 metres apart		X	X	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 300 metres apart	500m	X	X	X

7 Steepness of path or trail	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path no steeper than 1:20 (for every 20 metres you walk along you will rise by one metre)	—	✓	✓	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12	—	✓	✓	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:12 but less steep than 1:10	—	X	X	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:10	—	X	X	X

8 Height rise on ramps between landings measuring at least 1200mm x 1500mm	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 750mm but less than 830mm between landings	—	X	✓	✓
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 830mm but less than 950mm between landings	—	X	X	✓
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 950mm between landings	—	X	X	X

9 Cross slope of path or trail	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with a cross slope no steeper than 1:50	—	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:50 but less steep than 1:45	—	X	✓	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:45 but less steep than 1:35	—	X	X	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:35	—	X	X	X

10 Small steps	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of small steps higher than 5mm	—	X	✓	✓
Number of small steps higher than 10mm	—	X	X	✓
Number of small steps higher than 15mm	—	X	X	X

11 Surface breaks (grills, gaps in boards, and so on)	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of breaks in the surface of the path more than 12mm wide measured along the line of the path	ALL GAPS BETWEEN BOARDS OF BOARDWALK	X	X	X

12 Clear walking tunnel	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path clear of overhanging branches and so on for a width of 1200mm and a height of 2100mm	99%	✓	✓	✓
Length of path clear of overhanging branches and so on for a width of 1000mm and a height of 2100mm		X	X	✓
Length of path with overhanging branches and so on within a width of 1000mm and a height of 2100mm		X	X	X

APPENDIX 8

**BT COUNTRYSIDE FOR ALL
ACCESSIBILITY FORM
SKERNE RIVERSIDE**

BT Countryside for All Accessibility assessment form



BT Countryside for All

Name of trail	RIVER SKERNE			
Section of trail to be assessed	From RIVERSIDE WAY		To EDGE OF DURHAM WILDLIFE TRUST WETLAND	
Overall length	1 km			
Countryside setting (see appendix 2 to decide the one setting that applies)	Urban and formal landscapes	Urban fringe and managed landscapes ✓	Rural and working landscapes	Open country and semi-wild and wild land
Your name	HAYLEY LOWES			
Date of assessment	4-2-98			
Weather conditions	DRY			

Enter measurements in the empty boxes. An entry in the shaded box means your path or trail does not meet any of the standards.

1 Length of path or trail with surface as described	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Sealed surface, for example, tarmac, concrete, smooth slabs or a boardwalk	984.4m	✓	✓	✓
Hard, firm and smooth surface with very few loose stones and none bigger than 5mm		✓	✓	✓
Hard and firm surface, with very few loose stones and none bigger than 10mm		X	✓	✓
Hard and firm, with some loose stones and chippings not covering the whole surface and stones no bigger than 10mm		X	X	✓
Path not hard and firm, or covered with large loose material bigger than 10mm	15.6m	X	X	X

2 Path width (length of path or trail with full surface width)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with width at least 1200mm	ALL	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with width between 1000mm and 1200mm		X	X	✓
Length of path with width less than 1000mm		X	X	X

3 Width restrictions (gates, barriers and so on)	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of sections of path or trail which are 815mm wide for more than 300mm along the length of the path or trail, or are less than 815mm wide	-	X	X	X
Number of sections of path or trail which are less than 1000mm wide but more than 915mm wide for more than 1600mm along a length of path or trail	-	X	X	✓
Number of sections of path or trail which are less than 915mm wide for more than 1600mm along a length of path or trail	-	X	X	X

4 Barriers	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of barriers (stiles, steps, fences and so on) blocking the path	-	X	X	X

5 Distance between passing places (areas on or next to the path which are at least 1500mm x 2000mm)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with passing places less than 50 metres apart		✓	✓	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 50 metres but less than 100 metres apart	238m	X	✓	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 100 metres but less than 150 metres apart	335m	X	X	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 150 metres apart		X	X	X

6 Distance between resting places (level areas on near to the path which are at least 1200mm x 1500mm with a seat or perch)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with resting places less than 100 metres apart	—	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 100 metres but less than 200 metres apart	—	X	✓	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 200 metres but less than 300 metres apart	—	X	X	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 300 metres apart	—	X	X	X

7 Steepness of path or trail	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path no steeper than 1:20 (for every 20 metres you walk along you will rise by one metre)	—	✓	✓	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12	—	✓	✓	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:12 but less steep than 1:10	—	X	X	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:10	—	X	X	X

8 Height rise on ramps between landings measuring at least 1200mm x 1500mm	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 750mm but less than 830mm between landings	—	X	✓	✓
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 830mm but less than 950mm between landings	—	X	X	✓
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 950mm between landings	—	X	X	X

9 Cross slope of path or trail	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with a cross slope no steeper than 1:50		✓	✓	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:50 but less steep than 1:45		X	✓	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:45 but less steep than 1:35		X	X	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:35	3.35m	X	X	X

10 Small steps	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of small steps higher than 5mm	—	X	✓	✓
Number of small steps higher than 10mm	—	X	X	✓
Number of small steps higher than 15mm	—	X	X	X

11 Surface breaks (grills, gaps in boards, and so on)	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of breaks in the surface of the path more than 12mm wide measured along the line of the path	—	X	X	X

12 Clear walking tunnel	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path clear of overhanging branches and so on for a width of 1200mm and a height of 2100mm	ALL	✓	✓	✓
Length of path clear of overhanging branches and so on for a width of 1000mm and a height of 2100mm		X	X	✓
Length of path with overhanging branches and so on within a width of 1000mm and a height of 2100mm		X	X	X

APPENDIX 9

**BT COUNTRYSIDE FOR ALL
ACCESSIBILITY FORM
LOWTHER WASHLAND**

BT Countryside for All Accessibility assessment form



BT Countryside for All

Name of trail	LOWTHER WASHLAND			
Section of trail to be assessed	From ENTRANCE GATE	To CIRCULAR		
Overall length	1140 METRES			
Countryside setting (see appendix 2 to decide the one setting that applies)	Urban and formal landscapes	Urban fringe and managed landscapes ✓	Rural and working landscapes	Open country and semi-wild and wild land
Your name	HAYLEY LOWES			
Date of assessment	28-1-98			
Weather conditions	SUBSTANTIAL FROST			

Enter measurements in the empty boxes. An entry in the shaded box means your path or trail does not meet any of the standards.

1 Length of path or trail with surface as described	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Sealed surface, for example, tarmac, concrete, smooth slabs or a boardwalk		✓	✓	✓
Hard, firm and smooth surface with very few loose stones and none bigger than 5mm		✓	✓	✓
Hard and firm surface, with very few loose stones and none bigger than 10mm		X	✓	✓
Hard and firm, with some loose stones and chippings not covering the whole surface and stones no bigger than 10mm		X	X	✓
Path not hard and firm, or covered with large loose material bigger than 10mm	ALL	X	X	X

2 Path width (length of path or trail with full surface width)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with width at least 1200mm	400m	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with width between 1000mm and 1200mm	740m	X	X	✓
Length of path with width less than 1000mm		X	X	X

3 Width restrictions (gates, barriers and so on)	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of sections of path or trail which are 815mm wide for more than 300mm along the length of the path or trail, or are less than 815mm wide	—	X	X	X
Number of sections of path or trail which are less than 1000mm wide but more than 915mm wide for more than 1600mm along a length of path or trail	—	X	X	✓
Number of sections of path or trail which are less than 915mm wide for more than 1600mm along a length of path or trail	—	X	X	X

4 Barriers	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of barriers (stiles, steps, fences and so on) blocking the path		X	X	X

5 Distance between passing places (areas on or next to the path which are at least 1500mm x 2000mm)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with passing places less than 50 metres apart	NO FORMAL PASSING PLACES	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 50 metres but less than 100 metres apart		X	✓	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 100 metres but less than 150 metres apart		X	X	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 150 metres apart		X	X	X

6 Distance between resting places (level areas on near to the path which are at least 1200mm x 1500mm with a seat or perch)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/ working	Rural/ working
Length of path with resting places less than 100 metres apart		✓	✓	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 100 metres but less than 200 metres apart	297m	X	✓	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 200 metres but less than 300 metres apart		X	X	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 300 metres apart		X	X	X

7 Steepness of path or trail	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/ working	Rural/ working
Length of path no steeper than 1:20 (for every 20 metres you walk along you will rise by one metre)	ALL	✓	✓	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12		✓	✓	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:12 but less steep than 1:10		X	X	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:10		X	X	X

8 Height rise on ramps between landings measuring at least 1200mm x 1500mm	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/ working	Rural/ working
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 750mm but less than 830mm between landings	—	X	✓	✓
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 830mm but less than 950mm between landings	—	X	X	✓
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 950mm between landings	—	X	X	X

9 Cross slope of path or trail	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/ working	Rural/ working
Length of path with a cross slope no steeper than 1:50	ALL	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:50 but less steep than 1:45		X	✓	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:45 but less steep than 1:35		X	X	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:35		X	X	X

10 Small steps	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/ working	Rural/ working
Number of small steps higher than 5mm		X	✓	✓
Number of small steps higher than 10mm		X	X	✓
Number of small steps higher than 15mm	17	X	X	X

11 Surface breaks (grills, gaps in boards, and so on)	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/ working	Rural/ working
Number of breaks in the surface of the path more than 12mm wide measured along the line of the path	—	X	X	X

12 Clear walking tunnel	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/ working	Rural/ working
Length of path clear of overhanging branches and so on for a width of 1200mm and a height of 2100mm	ALL	✓	✓	✓
Length of path clear of overhanging branches and so on for a width of 1000mm and a height of 2100mm	—	X	X	✓
Length of path with overhanging branches and so on within a width of 1000mm and a height of 2100mm	—	X	X	X

APPENDIX 10

**BT COUNTRYSIDE FOR ALL
ACCESSIBILITY FORM
ENGINE FIELDS PONDS**

BT Countryside for All Accessibility assessment form



BT Countryside for All

Name of trail	ENGINE FIELDS POND			
Section of trail to be assessed	From CAR PARK	To CIRCULAR (FIRST POND)		
Overall length	240 METRES			
Countryside setting (see appendix 2 to decide the one setting that applies)	Urban and formal landscapes	Urban fringe and managed landscapes ✓	Rural and working landscapes	Open country and semi-wild and wild land
Your name	HAYLEY LOWES			
Date of assessment	28-1-98			
Weather conditions	DRY & BRIGHT			

Enter measurements in the empty boxes. An entry in the shaded box means your path or trail does not meet any of the standards.

1 Length of path or trail with surface as described	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/ working	Rural/ working
Sealed surface, for example, tarmac, concrete, smooth slabs or a boardwalk		✓	✓	✓
Hard, firm and smooth surface with very few loose stones and none bigger than 5mm	200m	✓	✓	✓
Hard and firm surface, with very few loose stones and none bigger than 10mm		X	✓	✓
Hard and firm, with some loose stones and chippings not covering the whole surface and stones no bigger than 10mm		X	X	✓
Path not hard and firm, or covered with large loose material bigger than 10mm	40m	X	X	X

2 Path width (length of path or trail with full surface width)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with width at least 1200mm	ALL	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with width between 1000mm and 1200mm		X	X	✓
Length of path with width less than 1000mm		X	X	X

3 Width restrictions (gates, barriers and so on)	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of sections of path or trail which are 815mm wide for more than 300mm along the length of the path or trail, or are less than 815mm wide	—	X	X	X
Number of sections of path or trail which are less than 1000mm wide but more than 915mm wide for more than 1600mm along a length of path or trail	—	X	X	✓
Number of sections of path or trail which are less than 915mm wide for more than 1600mm along a length of path or trail	—	X	X	X

4 Barriers	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of barriers (stiles, steps, fences and so on) blocking the path		X	X	X

5 Distance between passing places (areas on or next to the path which are at least 1500mm x 2000mm)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with passing places less than 50 metres apart	NO FORMAL PASSING PLACES	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 50 metres but less than 100 metres apart		X	✓	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 100 metres but less than 150 metres apart		X	X	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 150 metres apart		X	X	X

6 Distance between resting places (level areas on near to the path which are at least 1200mm x 1500mm with a seat or perch)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with resting places less than 100 metres apart	80m	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 100 metres but less than 200 metres apart		X	✓	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 200 metres but less than 300 metres apart		X	X	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 300 metres apart		X	X	X

7 Steepness of path or trail	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path no steeper than 1:20 (for every 20 metres you walk along you will rise by one metre)	ALL	✓	✓	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12		✓	✓	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:12 but less steep than 1:10		X	X	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:10		X	X	X

8 Height rise on ramps between landings measuring at least 1200mm x 1500mm	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 750mm but less than 830mm between landings	—	X	✓	✓
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 830mm but less than 950mm between landings	—	X	X	✓
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 950mm between landings	—	X	X	X

9 Cross slope of path or trail	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with a cross slope no steeper than 1:50	ALL	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:50 but less steep than 1:45		X	✓	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:45 but less steep than 1:35		X	X	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:35		X	X	X

10 Small steps * ALTERNATIVE AVAILABLE	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of small steps higher than 5mm		X	✓	✓
Number of small steps higher than 10mm		X	X	✓
Number of small steps higher than 15mm		X	X	X

11 Surface breaks (grills, gaps in boards, and so on)	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of breaks in the surface of the path more than 12mm wide measured along the line of the path	—	X	X	X

12 Clear walking tunnel	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path clear of overhanging branches and so on for a width of 1200mm and a height of 2100mm	ALL	✓	✓	✓
Length of path clear of overhanging branches and so on for a width of 1000mm and a height of 2100mm		X	X	✓
Length of path with overhanging branches and so on within a width of 1000mm and a height of 2100mm		X	X	X

APPENDIX 11

**BT COUNTRYSIDE FOR ALL
ACCESSIBILITY FORM
TRANS PENNINE TRAIL**

BT Countryside for All Accessibility assessment form



BT Countryside for All

Name of trail	TRANS-PENNINE TRAIL - HARLINGTON			
Section of trail to be assessed	From ENTRANCE GATES	To DENABY INGS NATURE RESERVE		
Overall length	640M			
Countryside setting (see appendix 2 to decide the one setting that applies)	Urban and formal landscapes	Urban fringe and managed landscapes	Rural and working landscapes ✓	Open country and semi-wild and wild land
Your name	HAYLEY LOWES			
Date of assessment	26-1-98			
Weather conditions	DRY			

Enter measurements in the empty boxes. An entry in the shaded box means your path or trail does not meet any of the standards.

1 Length of path or trail with surface as described	Length	Urban/formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/working
Sealed surface, for example, tarmac, concrete, smooth slabs or a boardwalk		✓	✓	✓
Hard, firm and smooth surface with very few loose stones and none bigger than 5mm		✓	✓	✓
Hard and firm surface, with very few loose stones and none bigger than 10mm	454M	X	✓	✓
Hard and firm, with some loose stones and chippings not covering the whole surface and stones no bigger than 10mm		X	X	✓
Path not hard and firm, or covered with large loose material bigger than 10mm - MUD TRACK	186M	X	X	X

2 Path width (length of path or trail with full surface width)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/ working	Rural/ working
Length of path with width at least 1200mm	ALL	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with width between 1000mm and 1200mm		X	X	✓
Length of path with width less than 1000mm		X	X	X

3 Width restrictions (gates, barriers and so on)	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/ working	Rural/ working
Number of sections of path or trail which are 815mm wide for more than 300mm along the length of the path or trail, or are less than 815mm wide	—	X	X	X
Number of sections of path or trail which are less than 1000mm wide but more than 915mm wide for more than 1600mm along a length of path or trail	—	X	X	✓
Number of sections of path or trail which are less than 915mm wide for more than 1600mm along a length of path or trail	—	X	X	X

4 Barriers	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/ working	Rural/ working
Number of barriers (stiles, steps, fences and so on) blocking the path	—	X	X	X

5 Distance between passing places (areas on or next to the path which are at least 1500mm x 2000mm)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/ working	Rural/ working
Length of path with passing places less than 50 metres apart	NO FORMAL PASSING PLACES	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 50 metres but less than 100 metres apart		X	✓	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 100 metres but less than 150 metres apart		X	X	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 150 metres apart		X	X	X

6 Distance between resting places (level areas on near to the path which are at least 1200mm x 1500mm with a seat or perch)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with resting places less than 100 metres apart	—	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 100 metres but less than 200 metres apart	—	X	✓	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 200 metres but less than 300 metres apart	—	X	X	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 300 metres apart	—	X	X	X

7 Steepness of path or trail	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path no steeper than 1:20 (for every 20 metres you walk along you will rise by one metre)	ALL	✓	✓	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12		✓	✓	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:12 but less steep than 1:10		X	X	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:10		X	X	X

8 Height rise on ramps between landings measuring at least 1200mm x 1500mm	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 750mm but less than 830mm between landings	—	X	✓	✓
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 830mm but less than 950mm between landings	—	X	X	✓
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 950mm between landings	—	X	X	X

9 Cross slope of path or trail	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with a cross slope no steeper than 1:50	ALL	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:50 but less steep than 1:45		X	✓	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:45 but less steep than 1:35		X	X	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:35		X	X	X

10 Small steps	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of small steps higher than 5mm	—	X	✓	✓
Number of small steps higher than 10mm	—	X	X	✓
Number of small steps higher than 15mm	—	X	X	X

11 Surface breaks (grills, gaps in boards, and so on)	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of breaks in the surface of the path more than 12mm wide measured along the line of the path	—	X	X	X

12 Clear walking tunnel	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path clear of overhanging branches and so on for a width of 1200mm and a height of 2100mm	ALL	✓	✓	✓
Length of path clear of overhanging branches and so on for a width of 1000mm and a height of 2100mm		X	X	✓
Length of path with overhanging branches and so on within a width of 1000mm and a height of 2100mm		X	X	X

APPENDIX 12

**BT COUNTRYSIDE FOR ALL
ACCESSIBILITY FORM
FIVE WEIRS WALK**

BT Countryside for All Accessibility assessment form



BT Countryside for All

Name of trail	FIVE WEIRS WALK			
Section of trail to be assessed	From WEEDON ROAD	To CARBROOK		
Overall length	420 METRES			
Countryside setting (see appendix 2 to decide the one setting that applies)	Urban and formal landscapes ✓	Urban fringe and managed landscapes	Rural and working landscapes	Open country and semi-wild and wild land
Your name	HAYLEY LOWES			
Date of assessment	26-1-98			
Weather conditions	DRY			

Enter measurements in the empty boxes. An entry in the shaded box means your path or trail does not meet any of the standards.

1 Length of path or trail with surface as described	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Sealed surface, for example, tarmac, concrete, smooth slabs or a boardwalk	420M	✓	✓	✓
Hard, firm and smooth surface with very few loose stones and none bigger than 5mm		✓	✓	✓
Hard and firm surface, with very few loose stones and none bigger than 10mm		X	✓	✓
Hard and firm, with some loose stones and chippings not covering the whole surface and stones no bigger than 10mm		X	X	✓
Path not hard and firm, or covered with large loose material bigger than 10mm		X	X	X

2 Path width (length of path or trail with full surface width)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with width at least 1200mm	ALL	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with width between 1000mm and 1200mm		X	X	✓
Length of path with width less than 1000mm		X	X	X

3 Width restrictions (gates, barriers and so on)	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of sections of path or trail which are 815mm wide for more than 300mm along the length of the path or trail, or are less than 815mm wide	—	X	X	X
Number of sections of path or trail which are less than 1000mm wide but more than 915mm wide for more than 1600mm along a length of path or trail	—	X	X	✓
Number of sections of path or trail which are less than 915mm wide for more than 1600mm along a length of path or trail	—	X	X	X

4 Barriers	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of barriers (stiles, steps, fences and so on) blocking the path	—	X	X	X

5 Distance between passing places (areas on or next to the path which are at least 1500mm x 2000mm)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with passing places less than 50 metres apart	—	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 50 metres but less than 100 metres apart	—	X	✓	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 100 metres but less than 150 metres apart	—	X	X	✓
Length of path with passing places more than 150 metres apart	—	X	X	X

6 Distance between resting places (level areas on near to the path which are at least 1200mm x 1500mm with a seat or perch)	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with resting places less than 100 metres apart		✓	✓	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 100 metres but less than 200 metres apart		X	✓	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 200 metres but less than 300 metres apart	420m	X	X	✓
Length of path with resting places more than 300 metres apart		X	X	X

7 Steepness of path or trail	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path no steeper than 1:20 (for every 20 metres you walk along you will rise by one metre)	—	✓	✓	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12	—	✓	✓	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:12 but less steep than 1:10	—	X	X	✓
Length of path steeper than 1:10	—	X	X	X

8 Height rise on ramps between landings measuring at least 1200mm x 1500mm	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 750mm but less than 830mm between landings	—	X	✓	✓
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 830mm but less than 950mm between landings	—	X	X	✓
Number of path sections steeper than 1:20 but less steep than 1:12 with a height rise of more than 950mm between landings	—	X	X	X

9 Cross slope of path or trail	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path with a cross slope no steeper than 1:50	ALL	✓	✓	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:50 but less steep than 1:45		X	✓	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:45 but less steep than 1:35		X	X	✓
Length of path with a cross slope steeper than 1:35		X	X	X

10 Small steps	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of small steps higher than 5mm	—	X	✓	✓
Number of small steps higher than 10mm	—	X	X	✓
Number of small steps higher than 15mm	—	X	X	X

11 Surface breaks (grills, gaps in boards, and so on)	Number	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Number of breaks in the surface of the path more than 12mm wide measured along the line of the path	—	X	X	X

12 Clear walking tunnel	Length	Urban/ formal	Urban fringe/	Rural/ working
Length of path clear of overhanging branches and so on for a width of 1200mm and a height of 2100mm	ALL	✓	✓	✓
Length of path clear of overhanging branches and so on for a width of 1000mm and a height of 2100mm		X	X	✓
Length of path with overhanging branches and so on within a width of 1000mm and a height of 2100mm		X	X	X

APPENDIX 13

**FACILITY DESIGN
REFERENCE TABLE**

Facility	Source	Facility	Source	Facility	Source	Facility	Source	Facility	Source
Car Parks	FDM ICRDP BTCAP PAVA	Bridges	FDM ICRDP BTCAP	Turning Circles	BTCAP PAVA	Boardwalks	FDM ICRDP BTCAP	Interpretation	ICRDP BTCAP PAVA
Kerbs	FDM ICRDP	Gates & Stiles	FDM ICRDP BTCAP PAVA	Walking tunnels	BTCAP	Fishing Platforms	FDM ICRDP BTCAP	Viewing Platforms	BTCAP
Footpaths	FDM ICRDP BTCAP PAVA	Handrails	FDM ICRDP BTCAP PAVA	Steps & Ramps (including landings)	FDM ICRDP BTCAP PAVA	Boating & Mooring Facilities	FDM	Barbecues	BTCAP
Self Guided Trails	ICRDP	Seating (including picnic tables)	FDM ICRDP BTCAP PAVA	Bird Hides	FDM ICRDP BTCAP	Canoe Launching Ramps	FDM	Doors & interiors (e.g for visitor centres)	PAVA
Cycleways	FDM	Litter bins	FDM BTCAP	Toilet Facilities	FDM ICRDP BTCAP PAVA	Artificial beaches	FDM		
Bridleways	FDM	Signs & Waymarkers	FDM ICRDP BTCAP PAVA	Fitness Equipment	FDM	Planting	ICRDP		

Key of Abbreviations:

FDM
ICRDP
BTCAP
PAVA

NRA Facility Design Manual

Countryside Commission Informal Countryside Recreation for Disabled People

BT Countryside For All Guidelines

Providing Accessible Visitor Attractions (Glaxo Holdings plc and the National Tourist Boards of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland)