

Disability Task & Finish Group Recommendations

Update – September 2020

Michael Sims

Licensing Manager

| Recommendation | S, M or L term implementation | Notes / comments | Progress | Next steps |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------|--|---|
| Ensuring that all SBC regulated taxis have ramps with raised edges. | S | | Vehicle checks were originally scheduled for April 2020. These were delayed due to COVID-19, and rescheduled for September 2020. | This work is currently paused due to COVID-19 restrictions, and ongoing resourcing issues. |
| Undertaking mandatory checks to ensure that taxi drivers were using wheelchair anchoring facilities. | S | | Vehicle checks were originally scheduled for April 2020. These were delayed due to COVID-19, and rescheduled for September 2020. | This work is currently paused due to COVID-19 restrictions, and ongoing resourcing issues. |
| Displaying notices in taxis as to the rights of disabled service users not to be charged differently. | S | | Advisory posters and cards developed and printed and these will circulate in due course as well as being put on the SBC website. | All taxis have been provided with advice cards on carrying disabled persons with wheelchairs as well as persons with assistance dogs. Information/ advice cards and posters have been circulated to all SBC premises, hospitals, doctors surgeries and posted on SBC website. |

Kam Hothi

Team Leader – Parking, Highways & Network Management

| Recommendation | S, M or L term implementation | Notes / comments | Progress | Next steps |
|--|-------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Investigating opportunities for establishing further disabled parking bays across the borough, in consultation with disabled residents, and with a particular focus on improving access to shops and local services. | M | Officers will review disabled parking borough-wide and conduct a statutory consultation on more disabled parking around shopping areas. | We have reviewed the whole of the High Street / High Street West, and implemented additional disabled parking, including larger accessible bays outside Landmark Place. The following shopping locations have been identified for additional disabled bays: Farnham Road, Upton Lea Parade. | Implement any additional disabled bays where parking restrictions are not in place. |
| Reviewing recently installed crossing points to consider where double-yellow lines might be effective. | M | Officers will identify locations borough-wide and implement changes. | All new junction improvements / modifications delivered in the last 18 months have been considered in relation to obstructions, prior to implementation. | Process is in place to ensure any new locations are consulted with the parking team. |
| Including information on the importance of keeping pathways clear in the aforementioned campaign, as well as the impact obstruction can have upon disabled residents. | S | Officers will work with Comms team to increase awareness via various channels. | | Policy Insight Team will prepare a press release with the comms teams to raise awareness. Kam to provide photos. |

Laurence Moore

Planning Manager

| Recommendation | S, M or L term implementation | Notes / comments | Progress | Next steps |
|---|-------------------------------|---|--|---------------------------------|
| Ensuring disabled residents are consulted in the planning stages for the new town centre, to make Slough an exemplary area for those with disabilities. | Ongoing | When plans are submitted for the new town centre, the Council will be proactive in its discussions with developers to ensure accessibility for those with disabilities. | No planning applications have been submitted to date. As and when planning applications are made, residents will be consulted on the plans. When the planning application is determined, the provisions of the Equality Act 2010 will be taken into consideration. | Awaiting planning applications. |

Savio DeCruz

Service Lead – Major Infrastructure Projects

| Recommendation | S, M or L term implementation | Notes / comments | Progress | Next steps |
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| Submitting freedom of information requests to establish the level of complaints bus companies are receiving from disabled customers in Slough. | S | Bus operators are not public authorities and are therefore not subject to the FOI Act; Information will instead be sought on an ad-hoc basis in the short term, and subsequently through a formal procedure within a new multi-operator bus forum, to get a more consistent view on how bus operators deal with complaints from disabled customers | Officers are in the process of contacting bus operators with a request for information, and also in setting up a new multi-operator bus forum (planned for earlier in the year but delayed by COVID-19) | Contact bus operators and await information Set up multi-operator bus forum and build in procedure for assessing complaints |
| Commissioning a survey of disabled bus users, with the results to be reported back to the Health Scrutiny Panel. | M | This will be done through a formal procedure within a new multi-operator bus forum | Officers are in the process of setting up a new multi-operator bus forum (planned for earlier in the year but delayed by COVID-19) | Set up multi-operator bus forum and build in procedure for disabled bus user survey |
| As the council regenerates Slough, ensuring that all new or re-designed pathways are DDA compliant. | Ongoing | All schemes and projects have a process for reviewing the accessibility issues and therefore will be addressed through this checklist and audit . | The current transport schemes are already encompassing DDA issues into the detailed design. This has been an on-going piece of work and officers have agreed to asses any that are brought to the council's attention that may lead to accessibility issues. | Ongoing work |

Questions?