



Accessibility Audit

Venue: Pleasley Pit Country Park and Skegby Trail



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INTRODUCTION

Pleasley Pit Country Park is home to a newly dedicated nature reserve located behind the site of the former Pleasley Pit.

A multi-user trail is located on the site which is enjoyed by walkers, cyclists and horse riders alike.

There are multiple routes which lead onto the country park and nature reserve but the main one (and one audited below) runs from the car park beneath the Pit site and follows a loop around the reservoir, as shown in blue on the map below.

The site also includes ponds, shallow pools, reedbeds, grasslands and some small areas of plantation woodland.

A regular programme of guided walks looking at wildlife in the park is organised by the [Pleasley Pit Nature Study Group](#) and there is a cafe run by volunteers which is open every day.

Much of the country park is on level ground with surfaced tracks for easier access. The park also connects with [The Phoenix Greenways](#) – a series of linked paths and trails enabling visitors to explore the landscape.



CLIENT BRIEF AND SCOPE OF AUDIT

This audit was commissioned by Paul Finn of the Derbyshire County Council Countryside Service

The purpose of the audit is to identify the current level of accessibility at Pleasley Pit Country Park for visitors with access needs.

At each stage of the 'customer journey' the audit will evaluate the information, facilities and customer services available for visitors with hearing impairment, vision impairment, mobility impairment, autism, learning difficulties and dementia and make recommendations for 'quick wins' as well as medium- and longer-term accessibility improvements.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Pleasley Pit Country Trail is a very popular location with the majority of the site having great potential for accessibility, but there are currently a number of barriers that make this site a challenge for people with access needs.

Pre-visit information on the venue for visitors with access needs is relatively sparse on the Derbyshire County Council website.

According to Euan's Guide (The TripAdvisor for disabled people), 94% of disabled people will try to find information about the accessibility of a venue before they visit and, if they are unable to find it, 53% will assume that a venue is not accessible for them. The value of pre-visit information therefore cannot be underestimated and is an area where can achieve some easy 'quick wins'.

One of our key recommendations, therefore, is the creation of a new Access For All section on the Pleasley Pit Country Trail landing page of the D.C.C. website containing comprehensive information on the accessibility of each venue and facility on the site. This information should be split into sections with information relevant for visitors with different needs e.g. visitors with hearing impairment, visitors with vision impairment, visitors with mobility impairment, visitors with autism, visitors with dementia and so on. The inclusion of a section on 'general accessibility information' containing information which is relevant for all disabled visitors would also be helpful. This will enable visitors to find the information they are looking for quickly and easily.

The creation of an Access For All video for the site would also be extremely beneficial, again providing information for visitors with access needs which will enable them to plan and prepare for their visit.

In addition, we recommend the creation of an Access For All leaflet for Pleasley Pit Country Trail The leaflet would contain summary information for all visitors with access needs across the site and would signpost them to other sources of help and support such as the Access For All section of the website.

Throughout our report we have identified a myriad of 'quick wins' which can be achieved quickly and at low cost. These include:

- [Create an Access for All tab on the Pleasley Pit section of the DCC website](#)
- [Promote your accessibility on local websites and consider partnering with other local accessible businesses](#)
- [Promote the country park with pictures and videos, including pictures of people with disabilities](#)
- [Promote quiet spaces within the country park](#)

- Create a sensory story
- Improve directional signage (and include visual cues where appropriate) and maps at all entry points and junctions and indicate which routes are accessible
- Create QR code and/or a physical box for accessibility feedback
- Invite local disabled groups to come and use the country park and give feedback
- Mark out some accessible parking bays in the Pit Lane car park
- Clean and maintain the existing signs and notice boards at the entrance and throughout the country park
- Work on a collaborating relationship with The Pleasley Pit Preservation Trust. There is huge potential to create an improved visitor offer, by working together
- Highlight and promote the use of trampers and scooters as ideal all terrain wheelchairs for this site
- Attend a local free Dementia Friends session
- Create a memory box
- Provide information on the notice board and the bird hide door to promote how to access the bird hide (e.g. membership and contact details etc.)
- Install QR codes on benches with a view to explain appropriate audio stories and descriptions, which people can access using their smart phones

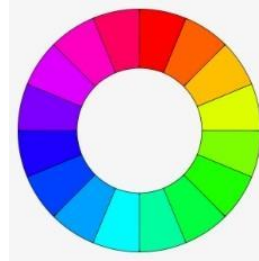
We also identified a number of longer-term improvements which will require additional investment. These include:

- Remove A Frame and create a level access opening from Pit Lane DCC car park of at least a metre wide
- Remove all A Frames and replace with accessible 'gates' such as the Leeds Quadruple Chicane barrier
- Create wheelchair accessible paths throughout the site (level access, non-steep incline and at least 1 metre wide) – These are; from the initial DCC car park through to the first entry point on the concrete trail. It is also needed on parts 1 and 3 as indicated on the maps below, which go around the reservoir and are currently inaccessible due to the mud and pit clay
- Create a new path design up the steep slope that has resting platforms and a meandering design to lessen the gradient
- Consider installing a Changing Places toilet (outside the fenced area of the Pit Museum and cafe building, to allow easy access)
- Install more seating (including those with backs and armrests) and include accessible seating/picnic benches with shelters throughout. Ensure that the seating is situated on a platform which has a wheelchair accessible path

- Create a tactile map with organised routes including path gradient, length, time taken to do that route and what points of interest are along the way
- For tours of the country park, a tour guide hearing loop should be considered
- Install one or two sound boxes/benches (primarily facing the view of the Pit site and the other in front of the reservoir)
- Create a wheelchair accessible path that leads down to the water's edge
- Consider having trampers to hire (collaborate with the Pleasley Pit Preservation Trust)
- Improve interpretation around the country park e.g. tactile sculpture trails

DISCLAIMER

This report has been prepared by reference to a view of current best practice that is subject to change. As the Equality Act 2010 is not compliance based, adherence to the advice contained in this report cannot ensure compliance with the Equality Act or immunity from the award of damages under the act. For information regarding any issues arising from the interpretation of the Equality Act, it is strongly recommended that you seek appropriate legal advice.



ACCESSIBILITY AUDIT INTRODUCTION


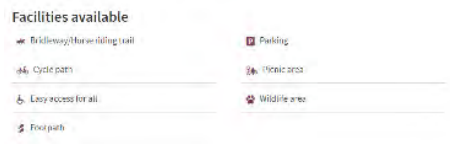
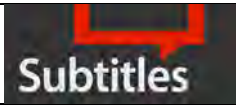


There are 13.9 million disabled people in the U.K. with a combined spending power of £249 billion pounds. £15.3 billion pounds is spent on tourism alone (day trips and overnight stays) so getting your accessible offering right will help you to acquire and retain your share of this valuable and growing market.

Ensuring that your organisation makes 'reasonable adjustments' to its whole offering to meet the needs of disabled people is also a requirement of the [Equality Act, 2010](#).

Our audit report will help you to identify and promote the areas where your accessibility provision is already good, as well as to identify the areas where you can improve. This includes 'quick wins' as well as medium- and longer-term recommendations.



ACCESSIBILITY AUDIT

WEBSITE			
Facility	Notes	Image	Recommendations
Accessibility tab on Home page	No specific website. The only 'accessibility tab' is for Derbyshire County Council (DCC) and does not contain direct accessible access information regarding Pleasley Pit.		Create an Access For All tab on the 'Home' page of the DCC website (and repeat this with a standard level of access information for all the DCC trails).
Information provided separately for visitors with: Vision impairment Hearing impairment Mobility impairment Autism Dementia	Not as such but they do show the wheelchair symbol and a map of the site but it contains minimal information to back up what specific facilities and access there is there.		Provide separate information for visitors with each of these needs within the Access For All section of the website.
Photographs and videos of site available?	No videos currently present.		Create a video of the Pleasley Pit Country Park
Subtitles on website videos	N/A.		Make sure these videos are subtitled.
Audio description available for videos	N/A.		Ensure that any videos added to the website are audio-described.
360-degree tour available	No.		Create a 360-degree tour of the site and Access For All UK can assist with this.
Information on public transport / accessible public transport provided	No.		Provide a section on the website about accessible transport to the area.

Link to on-line Accessibility information.	https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/our-website/accessibility/accessibility.aspx This is the only part of the website that specifically addresses 'access' but this is in relation to DCC in general rather than Pleasley Pit itself.		Produce an on-line Accessibility information page.
Audio version of Accessibility Guide available on website	No accessibility guide present.		Create an audio version of your Accessibility information, once created.
Information on concessions available if applicable	N/A ,as it is free.		
Adjustable text and contrast available on website	No.		Enable adjustable text and contrast on the website. A web developer will help with this.
Website meets W3C website accessibility guidelines	No.		Aim for your website to meet WC3 accessibility guidelines A web developer will help with this.
Are all staff aware of the access information provided on your website?	The Country Park itself, does not have regular staff which are reachable by the public, but we recommend sharing any access information with DCC rangers and the Pleasley Pit Preservation Trust.		
Other	The information on the website regarding Café opening times (and access to accessible parking) contradicts what was said by one of the 'Pleasley Pit Trust members' who we spoke to.	 <p>https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/leisure/countryside/countryside-sites/country-parks-and-visitor-centres/pleasley-pit-country-park-and-local-nature-reserve-lnr.aspx#</p>	There needs to be a clear decision of the opening times and these need to be displayed on any relevant websites and information outlets.

Summary

Minimal access information on the website.

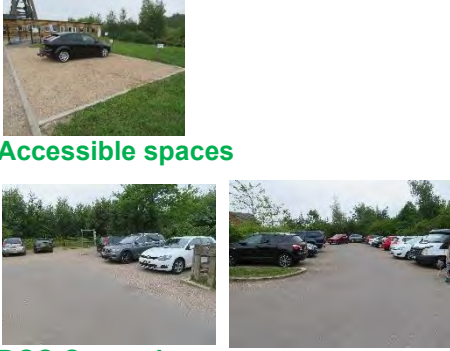


Priority recommendations






Create an access for all tab on the DCC website which follows the W3C guidelines and create information in alternative formats to reach all potential visitors. Honesty is key to meeting the needs of everyone, so that they can make an informed decision for themselves. Be very clear how you describe the site and all it has to offer.


ARRIVAL AND PARKING

Pit Lane parking, in front of the Pleasley Pit Museum site and adjacent to the museum.

Location:

Facility	Notes	Image	Recommendations
<p>Accessible Parking available</p>	<p>There are three accessible spaces on site but these are ONLY accessible when the café is open (10-2pm – on selected days). The DCC car park has 20-25 spaces, with no markings, therefore no accessible parking bays.</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Accessible spaces</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DCC Car park</p>	<p>Ensure that accessible parking spaces comprise a minimum of 4 – 6% of total available spaces.</p>
<p>‘Hatching’ to sides and rear of parking spaces</p>	<p>No markings present in either parking area.</p>		<p>Add rear hatching to the accessible parking spaces.</p> 
<p>Level, solid car park surface</p>	<p>Yes.</p>		<p>Describe this on the Access For All section of the website</p>

		<p>Level access via large open gate.</p>  <p>Barriered, entrance with no level access via standard car park.</p>	
Contact number of venue available on arrival	Not available.		Display the venue telephone number by the accessible parking spaces for customers who may need assistance on arrival (can be done virtually).
Drop-off point available	This is not advertised but could be possible, if and when, the museum and café are open as it allows close drop off towards the start of the country park trail.		Create a 'drop-off' point and promote this facility on the website, inviting customers to call in advance if they require assistance.
Dropped kerbs available at car park entry point to trail	These are not present unless using the large gate (as above, when the café is open).		Install dropped curbs where appropriate. Describe and indicate where the dropped curbs are on the Access For All section of the website.
Height restrictions at car park entrance	2.25m.		Describe this on the Access For All section of the website.
Car park opening and closing times	The standard car park does not have opening times, but the dedicated 'accessible parking' which is located up by the museum is open 10-2 (only on 'some' days of the week) – This varies as to whether the volunteers running the café are there to open the gate.		Describe this on the Access For All section of the website.





Good lighting at night	Street lighting on the streets and path leading up to the start of the trail but none was visible on the trails. (Good lighting outside the Pit café).		Describe this on the Access For All section of the website.
Is information on arrival and parking included on the trail website?	Yes, general parking information is included but it says nothing about accessible parking.	<p>Directions</p> <p>You will find the park off the roundabout where the A617 meets the A6191 between Chesterfield and Mansfield. Take the Chesterfield Road exit signed to Pleasley Village then turn right onto Pit Lane. Entry to the Country Park car park is on Pit Lane (Ordnance Survey grid ref SK 499 643).</p> <hr/> <p>Contact details</p> <p>Address: Pit Lane Pleasley</p> <p>Name: Pleasley Pit Country Park Home tel: 01529 533190 Email: countryrideservice@derbyshire.gov.uk</p>	Include this information on the Access For All section of the website.
Is information on arrival and parking included in any leaflets produced for the trail?	Not aware of any leaflets.		Include this information in leaflets.
Is information on arrival and parking included in training for trail staff?	Not aware of this.		Include this information in staff training.
Other			

Summary
Car parking is basic and could easily be improved.



Priority Recommendations
Create some accessible parking bays in the DDC car park (as in the picture above) and by listing a phone number in the car park for assistance (even if this is only provided virtually).

STILES, 'A' FRAMES, BARRIERS, OBSTACLES AND STEPS

including relevant measurements, nature of obstacles at floor or head height plus information on number, material, width, rise and tread height of steps

Feature	location	Notes	Image	Recommendations
A Frame	DCC Pit Lane Car Park	540mm		All entrances need to be at least 1 metre wide (or provide an alternative route).
Double step over onto path with large wooden thresholds	DCC Pit Lane Car Park	Not suitable for those with mobility impairments.		Ensure all entrances have level access.
A Frame	DCC Pit Lane Car Park (to right hand side by the large gate)	540mm		All entrances need to be at least 1 metre wide (or provide an alternative route).
Large Gate (security barrier) onto initial path from car park to start of country park and Pit museum site	From Car park to start of country park	This is only open from 10am-2pm on certain days, restricting level access from the car park.		As soon as possible remove an A Frames and create a 1 metre wide access on to the country park entrance path so that 24-hour access is possible and not reliant on the Pit Museum opening times.

<p>A Frame</p>	<p>Entrance from path near Pit Museum into initial country park area.</p>	<p>540mm</p>	<div data-bbox="1261 151 1496 327" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Only entrance previously was an A Frame as well as a small grassed uneven path from the accessible parking bays</p> <div data-bbox="1252 491 1599 842" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>New level access was created as of November 2020 (only seen on Google).</p>	<p>All entrances need to be at least 1 metre wide (or provide an alternative route).</p> <p>As of November 2020, we believe this may have been made into a proper concrete level access path (see photo), which provides an alternative barrier free route for people to start the country park trail.</p>
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<p>Kissing gate and large gate</p>	<p>Entrance into gated area of the country park.</p>	<p>Ground leading up the gate is not level and the other side (within the country park) is also uneven and has two very extremely steep inclines.</p>		<p>Ensure there is sufficient signage stating it is an accessible entrance. However, it may not be easy for someone independently in a wheelchair to use the large gate. This could be enhanced by creating a level platform either side of the gate.</p>
<p>Large gate with rope</p>	<p>From the hill of the first entrance into the country park to the reservoir area</p>	<p>This has level access except for some surface water / mud.</p>		<p>Improve the surface of this area so it is suitable for all weather and doesn't become a hazard.</p>
<p>Is accessibility information on these features included on the trail website?</p>	<p>No.</p>			<p>Include this information on the Access For All tab on the website.</p>
<p>Is accessibility information on these features included in any leaflets produced for the trail?</p>	<p>Not that we are aware of.</p>			<p>Include this in any leaflets.</p>

Is accessibility information on these features included in training for trail staff?	Not that we are aware of.			
Other:				

Summary



Remove all barriers where possible, that prevent making it accessible to all. For example A Frames, lack of signage, uneven ground etc. The site is perfect for all terrain wheelchairs and trampers, due to its muddy surfaces, but unfortunately due to the A Frames on arrival, the site is only accessible for limited hours each day.

Priority recommendations





Remove A Frames and increase level access and promote that the site is ideal for scooters/trampers. Include all accessible paths suitable for manual wheelchair users in any maps produced and with signage around the country park.






PATH SURFACES AND CONDITION, WIDTH, GRADIENTS AND CAMBER


including rough terrain, tree root disruption, surface gaps, passing places
plus gradient and length of slopes and ramps

Feature	Location	Notes	Image	Recommendations
Path	From inside/back the corner of the DCC car park onto the trail (entrance point – through the A Frame or double step over barrier)	The surface is a mix of grass and hard surface and is uneven and there is an empty notice board frame obstructing the pathway. There is a dropped curb but it is partially obstructed by the notice board.		<p style="color: green;">Reposition the empty wooden notice board frame and create a clearway from the dropped curb to entry point of the trail.</p>
Path	From Pit Lane car park to initial entry point	Smooth, level surface with over 2m width to allow two-way traffic. There is also a walkway for pedestrians with a raised edge which helps people with visual impairments.		<p style="color: green;">Put this information/ photographs on your website.</p>

<p>Path</p>	<p>From first entry point (A Frame or newly created level access path) to country park gated entry point.</p>	<p>The path is uneven with tripping hazards and a slight incline, but if the ground was even the incline would be suitable for manual wheelchairs.</p>		<p>Create a level surface/ wheelchair accessible path, which allows for two-way traffic. Ensure there is sufficient signage on this stretch, as we noticed paths to the left and right but there was no signage.</p>
<p>Path</p>	<p>From country park gated entry point up the steep incline to the large gate into reservoir area.</p>	<p>The left-hand path is over 1 metre wide but is extremely steep and the gravel makes it hard to push a wheelchair up. The right-hand path is from people walking that way and is not accessible due to uneven surface and width of path.</p>		<p>Provide an alternative path which weaves up the hill at less of an incline and has a level surface to allow wheelchair users a smoother journey. Ensure photos and videos of this stretch is included on your website so visitors can make an informed choice.</p>

<p>Path</p>	<p>Around the right-hand side of the reservoir (area 1 on the map).</p>	<p>This was very muddy/ pit clay with uneven surfaces (from horses, bicycles and humans churning up the ground) where wheelchairs and pushchairs get stuck especially in bad weather. No clear path down to the water's edge or to the viewing bench (which was not accessible).</p>	   	<p>Make an all-weather suitable surface which is accessible for all and over 2metres wide as there is traffic coming both ways. Create a well signed path with a smooth surface down to the water and the observing bench. We would also recommend more seating platform areas which are accessible from the path.</p>
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<p>Path</p>	<p>Around the back of the reservoir to the bird hide (area 2 on the map).</p>	<p>This was concrete, wide enough and suitable for all, except for some overhanging branches which could be trimmed back. There were a number of paths which had no signage and gave no indication of where they went and suitability.</p>	  	<p>Trim overhanging branches. And include more signage at the junction that lead onto this part of the path. It would be good to have a map which indicated multi-user suitability, direction (including destination) and length of path.</p>
<p>Path</p>	<p>From the bird hide back to the gate (area 3 on the map).</p>	<p>This path was concrete for the majority but did have a muddy/ clay and grassy section towards the end and some of the concrete section had some surface water on which did not drain away from the path and was hard to avoid without going on the grass. The path was over 2 metres wide so could easily allow for two-way traffic.</p>	 	<p>Level out the path and make it accessible for all. Warn people that there is a decline in the path and some obstacles may occur such as horse manure. The path and gate into the bird hide needs to be made more accessible (not 1 metre wide and uneven path surface) and information needs to be given about how to obtain entry (membership and contact details etc.).</p>

				
Is accessibility information on these features included on the trail website?	No			Include all of the path information on the website.
Is accessibility information on these features included in any leaflets produced for the trail?	Not that we are aware of.			Include all of the path information in the leaflets.
Is accessibility information on these features included in training for trail staff?	Not that we are aware of.			Include all of the path information within staff training.
Other:				

Summary

A large area around the reservoir had uneven surface/ pit clay and mud, making it extremely difficult for manual wheelchair users. The majority of the wheelchair accessible paths were over 1 metre wide and some were over 2 metres. The site is great for scooters and trampers with the steep slope but the problem is that when the barrier gate is down e.g. 2pm-10am then scooters cannot get through the A Frames. The steep slope would be a challenge for any manual wheelchair users.



Priority recommendations


Improve surface on the pathway (section from Pit building to the base of steep incline gate and also the muddy area in section 1 and part of section 3 as indicated in the map). Remove hazards, make them level and accessible for all. Include signage for alternative and accessible routes. Come to some arrangement with the Pleasley Pit Preservation Trust to keep the barrier open for more than 4 hours. Until paths have been improved, a clear

map promoting level access pathways should be displayed, as much of the site is inaccessible for manual wheelchairs due to pit clay and mud around the reservoir. Create a video of the site to give viewers a clear indication of what to expect.

SEATING

Including availability of armrests and back rests

Feature	Location	Notes	Image	Recommendations
Backed bench	At the top of the slope leading to the reservoir gate, which overlooks the pit site and museum.	It is good that the bench has a back rest but the path leading to it is not great for wheelchair users due to overgrown grass and uneven surface.	 	<p>This is where a sound bench would be ideal as it could tell stories of the view and give visitors information about the pit and its history.</p> <p>The path leading to this bench from the main path needs to be levelled out so wheelchair users can utilise it, with a wheelchair accessible base.</p>



Simple bench on raised concrete platform	Located off section 1 on the map, facing the reservoir.	There is not an accessible path leading to the bench as it is through the grass and pit clay/mud, causing it to be uneven. The platform is raised, meaning it is inaccessible for wheelchair users.		Create a level access path to concrete base with a wheelchair accessible bench. The path also needs to be 1 metre wide. Ideally the bench should have a back rest and arm rests to give more security. This is the location of the second ideal sound bench (or QR code for quick win) to explain about the surrounding nature.
Is accessibility information on these features included on the trail website?	No			Include all of the bench information, concerning location, accessibility of the bench and type of bench on the website.
Is accessibility information on these features included in any leaflets produced for the trail?	Not that we are aware of.			Include all of the bench information, concerning location, accessibility of the bench and type of bench in any leaflets.
Is accessibility information on these features included in training for trail staff?	Not that we are aware of.			Include all of the bench information, concerning location, accessibility of the bench and type of bench within staff training.
Other:				
<p>Summary Overall lack of sufficient benches around the country park (we understand this may be due to vandalism). However, it could be improved with local fundraising etc.</p>				

Priority recommendations

Install wheelchair accessible solid paths and bases for the accessible seating. Improve information about benches and their location and accessibility etc. and consider getting more benches so that people are able to take some rest when exploring the country park.

SIGNAGE AND INTERPRETATION

including position, type and effectiveness of signage

Feature	Location	Notes	Image	Recommendations
Entrance sign	Pit Lane	The sign is old, dirty and not clear to read information displayed on it.		The sign does not represent the beauty and image of the country park and simply needs cleaning and tidying up so that visitors are able to read the information and feel welcomed to the site. This could be done using local volunteers?
Notice board	By car park leading to initial path.	The notice board has very little information and the majority is outdated and the board is uncared for.		Clean the notice board and collaborate with the community to fill with local, up to date and useful information about the country park and surrounding areas for the public to make use of. This is a perfect board to add access information about this country park and other surrounding trails e.g. Skegby Trail.

<p>Country park entrance sign.</p>	<p>In the first part of the country park (through A Frame / along path from the accessible parking bays).</p>	<p>Good visual contrast sign and easy to read with symbols of the users and a contact number.</p>		<p>This sign could be improved by including accessibility information and having a map to show key points of interest, benches, facilities and path information and a QR code to enable alternative formats of information.</p>
<p>Country park and nature reserve information sign.</p>	<p>Located just inside the gated entrance area of the country park.</p>	<p>There is some useful information about the wildlife, surrounding area and a map of the site, but unfortunately the glazed screen over the sign means the visual contrast is poor and reading the information becomes extremely difficult.</p>		<p>The visibility of this signs need to be improved so people can read the information as well as including a QR code for people to find out more information and to get access to the information in alternative formats such as larger text and an audio version. Once a new map has been produced with improved information, this would be an ideal location for this.</p>
<p>Nature information sign.</p>	<p>Located next to the entrance to the bird hide (section 2 on the map).</p>	<p>There is some useful and interesting information about the nature and wildlife but it is somewhat unkempt and it is not clear how you can get involved and get a key to the bird hide etc.</p>		<p>The information shown here could do with being repeated on the other side of the reservoir where there is a good view and the observation bench. The sign needs tidying up and the information staying up to date with next events and how to get involved in the nature study group etc. It would be good to have some more information about how and when is best to find the wildlife. This could be given via a QR code where people can look up what to find at that time of year and a trail could be given to follow to add</p>

				interest and interaction around the site.
Is accessibility information on these features included on the trail website?	No			Include signage and tourist information on the website including accessibility of information and how people can obtain the information in an alternative format.
Is accessibility information on these features included in any leaflets produced for the trail?	Not that we are aware of.			Include signage and tourist information in the leaflets including accessibility of information and how people can obtain the information in an alternative format.
Is accessibility information on these features included in training for trail staff?	Not that we are aware of.			Include signage and tourist information in the staff training including accessibility of information and how people can obtain the information in an alternative format.
Other:				






Summary






There is a lack of information/signage to show how to start and get to the country park and nature reserve from the car park. There is a lack of general information and directional signage around the country park, especially as there are multiple entry points and no information about where each one leads to and from.



Priority recommendations

Improve directional signage from the car park and all around the country park so that every junction and gate etc. has a sign indicating what is ahead, the accessibility of the path and what points of interest there are. Make sure that all informational signs are accessible for all (include images and symbols and the ability to obtain the information in alternative formats (via QR code and creating an RNIB tactile map), as well able to be read at a wheelchair height).

CAFÉ

Facility	Notes	Image	Recommendations
Table reservations available	This café is walk in.		<p>Describe this in the Access For All section of the website.</p> 
Table service available	Not that we were aware of – it is a one-way order and collection service.		<p>Describe this in the Access For All section of the website.</p> 
Dietary requirements catered for	No, there were no options displayed for gluten free and vegan etc.		<p>Describe this in the Access For All section of the website.</p>
Menus available online	No, as this is not part of the Country Park, but part of the Pleasley Pit Preservation Trust.		<p>Describe this in the Access For All section of the website.</p> 
Menus available in large print	No other menus except the one outside on the board where the writing is quite small.		<p>Create a large print version of current leaflets / menus etc.</p> 


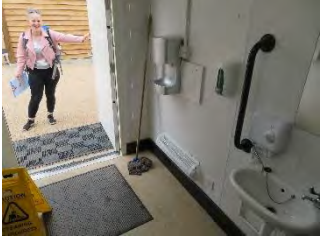
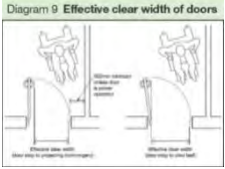
<p>Dropped Counter</p>	<p>The counter is suitable for wheelchair users.</p>		
<p>Appropriate table heights (700mm min to underside of table)</p>	<p>Some of the outside tables and benches were suitable for wheelchair users. (The inside was not open at this time).</p>		<p>Ensure that tables measure a minimum of 700mm to the underside. Add 'table raisers' or replace one or two tables where appropriate.</p> 
<p>Flexible furniture</p>	<p>The furniture outside could be moved to accommodate for different group sizes.</p>		<p>Describe this in the Access For All section of the website.</p> 
<p>'Easy-hold' cutlery available?</p>	<p>Not as far as we were aware.</p>		<p>Purchase a few sets of 'Easy hold' cutlery and promote its availability on the website and on-site.</p> 
<p>Hearing loop available</p>	<p>No.</p>		





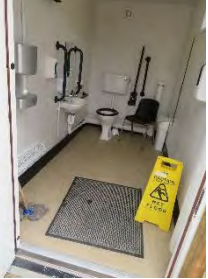
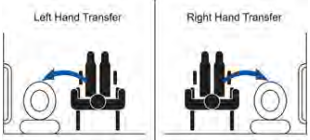
<p>Other</p>	<p>Lack of level access out of the café- the way in is level over a small threshold but the way out (due to introduction of a one-way system) is down some steps.</p>	 <p>Way in</p>  <p>Way out</p>	<p>Include clear signage and offer assistance if people need it to explain the one-way system is not accessible/suitable for those with mobility impairments. Install a door threshold ramp to make it easier for wheelchairs to access the cafe counter.</p>
<p>Is accessibility information on the café / restaurant included on the trail website?</p>	<p>No</p>		<p>Include this information on the access for all section of the DCC website.</p>
<p>Is accessibility information on the café / restaurant included in any leaflets produced for the trail?</p>	<p>Not that we were aware of.</p>		<p>Include this information in any leaflets that are produced.</p>
<p>Is accessibility information on the café / restaurant included in training for trail staff?</p>	<p>Not that we were aware of.</p>		<p>Include this information in any staff training for park rangers.</p>




ACCESSIBLE TOILET

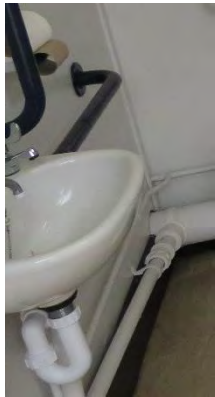


On the Pit Museum and café site – ONLY OPEN 10-2PM WHEN THE CAFÉ IS OPEN


Location:

Facility	Notes	Image	Recommendations
<p>Is there appropriate signage for the accessible toilet?</p>	<p>No. Due to the women's not being open (Covid restrictions), the sign had been moved and covered up the accessible toilet sign. This meant that it looked like there was no longer an accessible toilet and they were hiding a vital a good feature.</p>		<p>Include appropriate signage on the door of the toilet, around the site and in the car park as well as on the website so people feel reassured. If the accessible toilet is the 'women's' one as well then both signs should exist together and not one covering up the other.</p>
<p>Adequate opening width of door (min. 900mm)</p>	<p>Yes.</p>		 <p>Diagram 9: Effective clear width of doors</p>

<p>Adequate room size? (Ideal minimum: 2200mm x 1500mm)</p>	<p>Yes.</p>		 <p>1500mm x 220mm</p>
<p>Outward opening door.</p>	<p>Yes.</p>		
<p>Grab-rail on inside of door</p>	<p>No.</p>		<p>Install a grab rail on the inside of the door.</p> 
<p>Direction of transfer onto toilet (From right to left or left to right?)</p>	<p>Right hand transfer.</p>		<p>Describe this in the Access For All section of the website.</p> 

<p>Type of bin available</p>	<p>Only a sanitary bin.</p>		<p>Describe the type and quantity of bins available. Include an open or automatic bin for non-sanitary waste so it is accessible for all to use.</p>
<p>Appropriate visual contrast grab rails toilet seat etc.</p>	<p>Yes with navy blue , white and wooden flooring.</p>		<p>Describe this in the Access For All section of the website.</p>
<p>Mirror accessible by all</p>	<p>Yes, if sanitary bin is moved.</p>		<p>Install an additional mirror at a height that is suitable for wheelchair users.</p>

Lever taps	Yes.		Describe this in the Access For All section of the website.
Electric hand dryer	Yes.		Describe this in the Access For All section of the website.
Paper towels	No.		Provide paper towels in the toilet in addition to the hand dryer for visitors who are noise sensitive, such as autistic visitors.








<p>Other toilet facilities available e.g. male, female, baby changing, Changing Places</p>	<p>Yes. Unsure if there was baby changing facilities as the 'women's' was closed due to inefficient space for social distancing.</p>		<p>Make sure these are signed and promoted (work in collaboration between the Pleasley Pit Preservation Trust and Derbyshire County Council to encourage more visitors to come) which they will do if they know there is a toilet as well as</p>
<p>Is accessibility information on this toilet facility included on the trail website?</p>	<p>No. There is information on toilets but nothing that states about accessibility and the accessible toilet.</p>		<p>Include accessible toilet information on the website.</p>
<p>Is accessibility information on this toilet facility included in any leaflets produced for the trail?</p>	<p>Not that we are aware of.</p>		<p>Include accessible toilet information in the leaflets</p>
<p>Is accessibility information on this toilet facility included in training for trail staff?</p>	<p>Not that we are aware of.</p>		<p>Include accessible toilet information in the staff training.</p>
<p>Other:</p>			

Summary
The toilet is not part of DCC but collaborating to promote this feature would benefit both the trust, DCC and customers. A toilet facility outside the Pleasley Pit perimeter fencing is recommended. When museum is closed there is no toilet. **During our visit the café was closed and measurements were not obtained of the toilet as it was not part of the DCC audit.**

Priority recommendations






Collaborate together with the trust to promote this feature. Install handrail. Consider installing a Changing Places toilet (see recent Government funding). A Changing Places toilet would also help disabled people transfer using the ceiling track hoist onto adapted cycles/scooters etc.






VISITORS WITH HEARING IMPAIRMENT


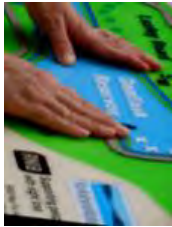
Facility	Notes	Image	Recommendations
Hearing loops available	No, but not necessarily a need for them in the country park and nature reserve. It would be useful if the café had one.		Purchase hearing loops for guided tours of both the country park/ nature reserve and the Pit Museum. It would be good if the café also had a hearing loop.
Subtitles on key videos on site if relevant	N/A		Add subtitles to any videos running on site.
Subtitles on T.V. screens on site, if relevant	N/A		Provide details of how to enable the subtitle function on T.V.'s in the venue.
Flashing Fire / Smoke Alarms, where applicable	N/A		Install a flashing fire alarm in any future upgrade to the fire alarm system.
Signed sessions	No but this would be useful if and when doing guided tours of the country park and nature reserve.		Investigate local BSL signers and consider providing 'signed' sessions.
BSL available	N/A		As above.
Pen and paper	N/A		Provide a pen and paper in your venue to assist with communication.
Other e.g. groups who currently use the trail	This was not clear if the country park was well promoted with local groups.		Promote the country park with local disabled groups.
Is information on your provision for visitors with hearing impairment included on the trail website?	No.		Include this information on the access for all section of the DCC website.

Is information on your provisions for visitors with hearing impairment included in any leaflets produced for the trail?	Not that we are aware of.		Include this information in any leaflets.
Is information on your provision for visitors with hearing impairment included in training for trail staff?	Not that we are aware of.		Include this information in any staff training, e.g. the park rangers.
Other			
<p>Summary Lack of provisions in place for those with hearing impairments.</p> <p>Priority Recommendations For country park and nature reserve tours, consider getting a tour guide hearing loop and increasing collaboration with the trust. Also invite local disabled groups to come and explore the country park and give their feedback. Any videos produced should have subtitles.</p>			

VISITORS WITH VISION IMPAIRMENT

Facility	Notes	Image	Recommendations
Audio commentary on key videos in venue if applicable	N/A		Include an audio described version of any videos produced for the venue in the future.
Audio-description available on T.V.'s in venue	N/A		Provide clear instructions on how to enable the 'audio description' function on any television sets installed in the future.
Leaflets, menus and maps available in large print	The maps are not in large print but having a QR code on all the signs with maps could enable this feature.		Create a large print version of the map and make them tactile, as well as having online ones with audio description and further information about the facilities, routes and points of interest.
Magnifiers available	N/A		Provide some simple, page magnifiers and 'ready reader' spectacles.
Sound boxes or sound benches available	No, but would really benefit from one or two.		Purchase a 'sound' or 'audio' box or bench, describing an element of your venue or the view from the bench etc. – For example the bench at the top of the slope which faces the Pleasley Pit and museum. The second one could be installed at the seating area which looks out onto the reservoir and it could explain all of the wildlife around and the view in front and around them.
Good visual contrast throughout the trail	Yes as the built paths were different colour to the grass and the gates were also different to the surroundings so easy to see. The purple signs with white writing had good visual contrast. The steps as you leave the cafe also had good visual contrast.		Describe this on the Access For All section of the website e.g. by providing a link to an on-line Accessibility Guide as well as in an Access For All leaflet.

		 	
<p>Trail free of clutter / obstacles at floor and head height</p>	<p>There was sometimes horse manure, large bodies of water and tree stumps and rocks in the ground and muddy boggy areas making the surface uneven and overhanging branches.</p>	  	<p>Describe this on the Access For All section of the website e.g. by providing a link to an on-line Accessibility Guide as well as in an Access For All leaflet. Make sure that all level access paths are clearly signed and as much clutter as possible (natural things like horse manure, can't be controlled) is cleared out of the way of these 'accessible routes'</p>

			
<p>Good lighting levels throughout</p>	<p>Street lighting on the streets leading up to the country park e.g. Pit Lane, but none was visible on the trails in the country park itself. (However, Good lighting outside the Pit café).</p>		<p>Describe this on the Access For All section of the website e.g. by providing a link to an on-line Accessibility Guide as well as in an Access For All leaflet.</p>
<p>Key signage available in Braille</p>	<p>No.</p>		<p>Provide key signage in Braille e.g. for the toilet and route directional signage.</p> 
<p>Tactile maps and models</p>	<p>No, but it would really benefit from one.</p>		<p>Create a tactile map or model of your venue or of one or two of its key features to increase accessibility for visitors with vision impairment. RNIB create these. More information can be found on this link https://www.rnib.org.uk/sites/default/files/tactile_images_and_maps_2015_brochure_low_res.pdf</p>
<p>'Touch' Tours</p>	<p>No, however there could be self-directed ones explained on the website about what visitors could touch to experience.</p>		<p>On the website, offer to support guests with vision impairment who need help finding their way around the venue or who may need the menu reading to them.</p>

Other e.g. groups who currently use the trail	None that we are aware of.		
Is information on your provision for visitors with vision impairment included on the trail website?	No.		Include this information on the access for all section of the DCC website.
Is information on your provisions for visitors with vision impairment included in any leaflets produced for the trail?	Not that we are aware of.		Include this information in any leaflets.
Is information on your provision for visitors with vision impairment included in training for trail staff?	Not that we are aware of.		Include this information in any staff training, e.g. the park rangers.
Other:			







Summary








For those with visual impairments this site could cause some issues due to tripping hazards, lack of braille signage and lack of tactile maps as well as sound benches which could benefit their experience. Also for someone who has a visual impairment, the area would provide a pleasant experience due to the sounds and smells of nature and wildlife.

Priority Recommendations

Install a sound bench or two, install some tactile maps to help people navigate their way around and QR codes which enable audio description and information in alternative formats, level out paths and routes to minimise hazards. Trim all overhanging bushes and branches. Install some tactile sculptures around the park.

VISITORS WITH MOBILITY IMPAIRMENT

Facility	Notes	Image	Recommendations
Information provided on areas with level access via ramps or lifts / areas which are inaccessible	No, this is not provided anywhere on site or in places which provide information on the country park.		Provide information on areas with level access on your website as well as on-site.
Dropped kerbs at entry points around site	No, as there are natural paths rather than concrete.		Describe this on the Access For All section of the website e.g. by providing a link to an on-line Accessibility Guide as well as in an Access For All leaflet.
Mobile Hoist (if applicable)	No. If one was to be installed in the toilets, this would require collaboration with The Pleasley Pit Preservation Trust.		Provide a mobile hoist at your venue for visitors who require hoisting e.g. onto the toilet or onto an adapted cycle etc.
Dropped counters or alternative e.g. table	N/A.		Provide a dropped counter at reception, café and bar areas.
Information on local, wheelchair-accessible taxi companies	No.		Indicate this on the website. Or provide a link to the local Council website which has information on local wheelchair accessible taxi companies.
Wheelchairs available for hire	No.		Purchase a standard wheelchair and have this available for visitors who need in on site. Remember to promote this on your website.

Scooters available for hire	No.		Purchase a standard wheelchair and have this available for visitors who need in on site. Remember to promote this on your website.
Scooter charging point available	No.		Provide a Scooter charging point for potential customers with mobility impairment to help create a warm welcome.
Solid, level path surfaces around site	No. See section on paths above.		Describe the pavement and car park surfaces on the website.
Information on path gradients provided	No. See section on paths above.		Describe relevant path gradients on and adjacent to your site.
'Easy route' around your trail signposted	No. This would be very beneficial for this site.		Signpost a 'barrier-free', 'step-free' route around your venue to help wheelchair and scooter users and those with mobility impairment.
Provision of handrails where relevant (recommended height 900mm)	No, but these could be beneficial on some of the uphill paths.		Provide handrails on both sides of steps and staircases to assist visitors with mobility impairment as well as visitors with vision impairment.
Appropriate path widths for w/c users	The majority of the paths are over 2 metres wide and if not then they are over 1 metre wide (see path section above).		Ensure that path widths meet the recommended minimum of
Other key measurements e.g. height of tables etc. and groups who currently use the trail			

Is information on your provision for visitors with mobility impairment included on the trail website?	No.		Include this information in the access for all section of the DCC website.
Is information on your provisions for visitors with mobility impairment included in any leaflets produced for the trail?	Not that we are aware of.		Include this information in any leaflets.
Is information on your provision for visitors with mobility impairment included in training for trail staff?	Not that we are aware of.		Include this information in any staff training.
Other			


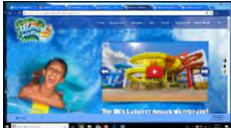



Summary






The gradient and surface of most of the paths would make it difficult for manual wheelchair users and the benches which are provided are not easily reached by those with mobility impairments. Make it clear on the website that there is a steep slope to access the reservoir/nature reserve. People can then decide if it is suitable for them.

Priority Recommendations

Promote use of the country park with trampers, provide charging points and consider partnering with the Pleasley Pit Preservation Trust to have trampers and mobile scooters to hire for people to use around the country park. Promote the provisions in place on the website, in leaflets and with staff. Installing a toilet provision including Changing Places on the DCC land which is not fenced off to the public. Consider having a mobile hoist at the Pleasley Pit site, to enable people to transfer onto adapted cycles etc.

VISITORS WITH AUTISM

Facility	Notes	Image	Recommendations
Photographs of venue available on website	Only one photo of the view from the country park looking onto the pit site.		<p>Ensure that lots of photographs of all areas of your venue are available on your website.</p>
Videos available on website	No.		<p>Create a simple video of the venue to help promote its facilities and services to all potential customers.</p> 
Quiet / Sensory Spaces available	There are some areas which could be used for a quiet space, but nothing is specified anywhere.		<p>Describe this on the website so that potential visitors who are autistic are informed and can decide if the venue is right for them. Promote quieter times if possible (though this is quite difficult to predict)</p>
Sensory Story available	There is not a specific sensory story on the website but some useful information which could be used to create this (e.g. nature that you might see and hear).		<p>Produce a simple Sensory Story for the venue available as a download on the website.</p> 

Wi-Fi available	Not that we are aware of.		Indicate on the website whether Wi-Fi is available and promote the Wi-Fi code throughout your venue. Also indicate whether you have a good mobile phone signal.
Relaxed or Quiet sessions available	No, but it is generally quite quiet and spacious throughout the country park.		Offer 'Relaxed' or Quiet sessions or performance. In addition, promote quieter times of the day / days of the week if possible.
Ear Defenders available	N/A.		Purchase a simple set of ear defenders for the venue and promote the fact on the website.
Familiarisation visits	N/A.		Offer free 'familiarisation' visits for autistic visitors and promote this on your website.
Autism Friendly Award	No.		Consider applying for the National Autistic Society Autism Friendly Award.
Is information on your provision for visitors with autism included on the trail website?	No.		Include all of this information on the access for all section of the DCC website.
Is information on your provisions for visitors with autism included in any leaflets produced for the trail?	No.		Include all of this information in leaflets.
Is information on your provision for visitors with	No.		Include all of this information in the staff training.

autism included in training for trail staff?			
Other e.g. groups who include the trail			





Summary




There is plenty of scope to make this an enjoyable experience for those with Autism, it just lacks promotion. The Pleasley Pit Museum would make a great attraction for people with Autism to visit.

Priority Recommendations

Promote quiet spaces, and areas of shelter around the nature reserve as well as creating a sensory story and showing lots of photos and videos on the website.

VISITORS WITH DEMENTIA

Facility	Notes	Image	Recommendations
'Relaxed' sessions available	Not that we are aware of.		Promote quieter time of the day / days of the week on the website.
'Memory Box' available	No, but this could easily be created with the trust with items from or similar to that in the museum, so that people can think back to when the mining was happening.		<p>Create a Memory Box or Memory book of the area in times gone by, including postcards, photographs etc.</p> 
Neutral threshold / other mats where applicable	No, the only mats which are by the toilets and café area (on the pit site) are all black.		<p>Purchase a neutral coloured threshold mats to assist visitors with Dementia, as they may perceive a black mat as a large hole and not want to go near it.</p> 

Neutral, not 'busy' wall and floor coverings, where applicable	N/A		<p>Paint the walls in a neutral colour and ensure that floor coverings are neutral too.</p> 
Good lighting (not 'pooled')	N/A		<p>Provide good overall lighting levels that do not create 'pools' of shadow.</p> 
Non-reflective flooring, where applicable	N/A		<p>Install non-reflective flooring.</p> 

Visual 'cues' e.g. signs / objects of reference	No (not owned by DCC)		<p>Provide some 'visual cues' e.g. the picture of a toilet on the toilet door.</p> 
Dementia Friends trained?	Not that we are aware of.		<p>Attend a free, local Dementia Friends session. Once you have attended, promote the fact that you have received this training on your website.</p> 
Other e.g. groups who currently use the trail			

<p>Is information on your provision for visitors with dementia included on the trail website?</p>	<p>No.</p>		<p>Include this information on the access for all section of the DCC website.</p>
<p>Is information on your provisions for visitors with dementia included in any leaflets produced for the trail?</p>	<p>Not that we are aware of.</p>		<p>Include this information in any leaflets.</p>
<p>Is information on your provision for visitors with dementia included in training for trail staff?</p>	<p>Not that we are aware of.</p>		<p>Include this information in any staff training, e.g. park rangers.</p>




Summary:


No specific features for people with living with Dementia but many ways it can be an enjoyable experience for them with its heritage and history.








Priority recommendations:






If anywhere has a black mat, replace it with a neutral one. Attend free Dementia friends training and create memory boxes of time gone by in relation to history of the site. Also when considering signs make sure they have visual cues as well as wording.

GENERAL ACCESSIBILITY INFORMATION

Facility	Notes	Image	Recommendations
Shelter available	No. There are no buildings on the country trail and no natural shelter or covered seating.		Install a picnic shelter or covered seating area, so people can enjoy the country park in all weather. This can be natural or manmade.
Viewing areas available	We were unable to get into the bird hide to see if that was accessible but the reservoir viewing point with bench on concrete platform was not accessible to all due to the path and step up onto the platform.		Make sure viewing points are accessible for all.
Online booking available, where relevant	N/A.		Include options for visitors with access needs if online booking is implemented in the future. Invite customers to contact the venue to discuss their individual needs.
First Aid room available	No, but no buildings owned by DCC which could house one of these.		 <p>Detail where the closest one is and how to obtain it.</p>
Defibrillator on-site or nearest one signposted	Yes, just outside of the Pit Museum and café site gates.		Promote this on-site, in the leaflets and on the website.

<p>Assistance dogs catered for</p>	<p>N/A, no specific facilities owned by DCC, but the pit café does have dog bowls outside, although does have limited opening times.</p>		<p>Describe this on the Access For All section of the website e.g. by providing a link to an on-line Accessibility Guide as well as in an Access For All leaflet.</p>
<p>All dogs welcome?</p>	<p>Yes and even in the pit café.</p>		<p>Describe this on the Access For All section of the website e.g. by providing a link to an on-line Accessibility Guide as well as in an Access For All leaflet.</p>
<p>Areas where no dogs are permitted</p>	<p>There is nowhere which specifies this.</p>		<p>If there are areas which dogs are not allowed in or should avoid due to wildlife etc., this needs to be specified on the website, in leaflets and on signage across the site.</p>
<p>Changing Places locally listed</p>	<p>No.</p>		<p>Promote this on the Access For All section of the website. Use this link to find the closest Changing Places and promote it http://www.changing-places.org/find_a_toilet.aspx</p>
<p>Good lighting at night, if applicable</p>	<p>No..</p>		<p>Around the country park, at gates etc and in the car park some more lighting should be installed.</p>

Makaton available	N/A.		Learn some basic Makaton signs to create a warm welcome for visitors who use this communication system.
PECS available	No.		Display some relevant PECS symbols around the country park.
Accessibility Champion/s	No.		Attend an Accessibility Champion training course. These are run regularly by Access For All UK.
Local accessible accommodation listed	No.		Add a link to Accessible Derbyshire on the Access For All section of the website.
Feedback available from previous visitors with access needs	No.		Gather testimonials from visitors with access needs and share these on the website.
Suggestion box available	No.		Provide a suggestion box for visitors with access needs to leave valuable feedback. This could be done via QR codes on notice boards around the site, which link to online forms or by having a physical box which is regularly checked by DCC.
Information available on accessibility of wider area	No. There is very little in this sense aside from the website saying it has 'easy access for all', which is not technically true due to the barriers recognised through this accessibility audit.		Add a link to Accessible Derbyshire on the Access For All section of the website.

Trail listed on Euan's Guide	No.		List the venue on Euan's Guide.
Members of Tourism For All	No.		Consider applying for this membership.
Other memberships indicated	No.		
Accessibility Awards received indicated	No.		Promote any awards won in the future on the Access For all section of the website.
Images of disabled people in marketing materials	No.		Include images of disabled people in new marketing materials. 
Is accessibility information included in any leaflets for the trail?	Not that we are aware of.		Include all this information in the leaflets.
Is accessibility information included in staff training?	Not that we are aware of.		Include all this information in the staff training.
<p>Summary A lack of accessibility information is included throughout (signage, on the website, in leaflets and through staff training) as far as we are aware.</p> <p>Priority recommendations</p>			

Include all honest information on the website, including pictures of disabled people, invest in some access champions and consider getting a Changing Places toilet facility (look into government funding).

CONCLUSION

The implementation of the recommendations outlined in this report, both 'quick wins' and longer term improvements, will significantly enhance the accessibility and inclusion of Pleasley Pit Country Park.





Many of these recommendations can be achieved quickly, easily and at low cost, while others will take a greater level of investment in terms of time and money. The production of an action plan to fulfil these is therefore an important first step.

One of the key strategies of the new government Tourism Sector Deal announced in July 2019, is that the U.K. will be the most accessible tourism destination in Europe by 2025 and improving the accessibility of Pleasley Pit Country Park will help to deliver this strategy.

Most importantly, the provision of inclusive information, facilities and services will mean that this much-loved trail can be enjoyed by all.



SKEGBY TRAIL FEEDBACK:

Component / Comments	Image	Improvement suggestion/ Best practise feedback
<p>It has the same car park and facilities as Pleasley Pit.</p>		<p>Make this clear online and on the signs and that the toilets are only open when the café is etc.</p>
<p>The entrance is not great for trampers/electric/larger wheelchairs. Gate in place has limited room and therefore excludes hand trikes etc. and adapted cycles.</p>		<p>Install gates for all. E.g. Trans Pennine Trail designs and RSPB. https://centrewire.com/product-category/kissing-gates/</p> 
<p>The Derbyshire County Council end of the trail was very unkempt in appearance and not an 'attractive' entrance onto trail.</p>		<p>Clean up the sign and improve entrances to make them accessible for all.</p>





Signage is poor and gives no indication as to lengths/accessibility/and features along the way.

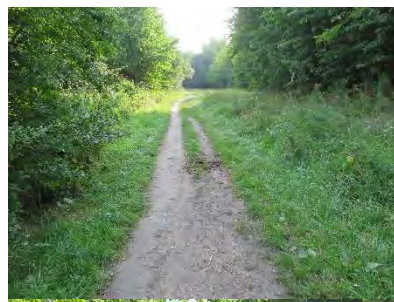
There are also 'splits' and off-shots in path but no directional signage.



At all entrance points and joining parts, have information regarding length of path and direction which each part leads to.

<p>Many A frames along the route which are inaccessible to many.</p> <p>Also many steel gates to stop the bikers.</p>		<p>Change these to accessible gates (still considering the need to restrict motorbikes using the past).</p>
<p>The surface and width of the paths vary (mud, roots, grass etc.)</p> <p>Most paths are a metre wide but some areas go into narrow grassy tracks.</p>		<p>Ensure the path surface is included online and at entrance signs so people can decide if it is suitable for them to use.</p> <p>Where possible try to ensure that paths are at least 1 metre wide with smooth surface to make it accessible for people with wheelchairs. If 2 metres wide it can also allow social distancing for all.</p>

Lots of sensory elements (horses, bikes, wildlife, wildflowers)



<p>Lack of storytelling interpretation and seating which would make the trail more appealing to all.</p>		<p>This link has good advice on how to make the trail more interactive and what to include on the panels/ information boards https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/media/library/9813-trails-interpretationtoolkit.pdf</p> <p>Install benches and bins along the route so people can take a break and absorb the scenery (place where this is possible). Make sure these benches are accessible for all.</p>
<p>The Skegby Heritage Trail was a different thing to the trail for walking.....it was around the village of Skegby.</p>		<p>Make sure all signage is clear and consistent between both/ all ends of the path – This will require collaboration between Derbyshire and Nottingham County Councils.</p>
<p>There are less barriers to enter the Skegby end of the trail, with 'no gate'</p>		<p>Also another area where collaboration and consistency for the trail on all entrances/ exits would be beneficial.</p>
<p>At Skegby end, the path has a big split but only signage on the Skegby side. Other path hidden in trees said, 'Link Track', however there is no indication as to where this links to where exactly?</p>		<p>Ensure clear signage (direction, distance, surface and accessibility) through the trail and to linking paths.</p>

<p>No logo indicating wheelchair Access on any sign but some said 'multiuser'.</p>		<p>Make signage clearer and include the wheelchair symbol/ explain what the accessibility is like along each section of the trail. What does 'multiuser' mean?</p>
<p>Better surface at Skegby end and some seats and prettier wildlife but maybe due to better soil conditions e.g. pit clay</p>		<p>Collaboration between councils again could improve this and ensure the trail is more consistent.</p>
<p>Some fallen and low hanging branches.</p>		<p>This need taking care of (monitored and clipped back) especially important for those who are visually impaired and may walk into these and injure themselves.</p>
<p>Skegby end better for manual wheelchairs.</p>		



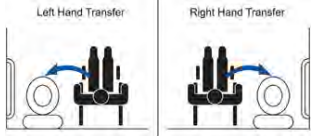

The Skegby Trail from the Nottinghamshire end looked much more 'appealing' and did not look like it was part of the same trail!


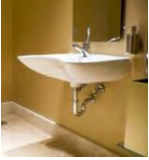


Overall improvements for Skegby:



- Maintain overhanging branches and tripping hazards on path, such as tree stumps
- Increase directional signage at all entry points and junctions so clear routes are able to be observed
- Install shelters along the Skegby trail so it can be used in all weather conditions and include these on a map
- Install seating along the Skegby trail at multiple points and include these on a map
- The signage at all entrance points along the trail needs to include a map which indicates length, gradient and accessibility of path as well as seating and points of interest
- Include honest accessibility information on the website and create an accessibility guide
- Collaborate with other councils (e.g. Nottinghamshire County Council) which own part of the trail to ensure consistency and an enjoyable experience for all customers
- Create a sensory story about the path to increase interaction and enjoyment

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- Install more seating and indicate this on a map, in leaflets and on the website
- Remove A Frames and install accessible 'gates'
- Ensure all paths are at least 1 metre wide and 2 metres if two-way traffic is required
- Add some interpretation/sculpture trail to add interest
- In case of emergencies it is recommended to have 'location markers' or promote the 'what3words' App which provides accurate locations.

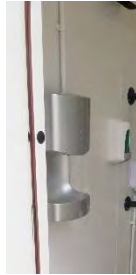


<p>Adequate room size? (Ideal minimum: 2200mm x 1500mm)</p>	<p>Yes.</p>		<p>1500mm x 220mm</p>
<p>Outward opening door.</p>	<p>Yes.</p>		

<p>Grab-rail on inside of door</p>	<p>No.</p>		<p>Install a grab rail on the inside of the door.</p> 
<p>Direction of transfer onto toilet (From right to left or left to right?)</p>	<p>Right hand transfer.</p>		<p>Describe this in the Access For All section of the website.</p> 
<p>Space available in front of toilet</p>	<p>N/A.</p>		<p>Describe this in the Access For All section of the website, including the length of the space available in front of the toilet.</p> 
<p>Height of toilet seat 480mm</p>	<p>N/A.</p>		<p>Describe this in the Access For All section of the website.</p>

			
Height of sink	Wheelchair accessible.		<p>Describe this in the Access For All section of the website.</p> 
Shelf available	No.		<p>Describe this in the Access For All section of the website.</p> 
Hooks available	No.		<p>Describe this in the Access For All section of the website.</p> 

<p>Type of bin available</p>	<p>Only a sanitary bin.</p>		<p>Describe the type and quantity of bins available. Include an open or automatic bin for non-sanitary waste so it is accessible for all to use.</p>
<p>Appropriate visual contrast grab rails toilet seat etc.</p>	<p>Yes with navy blue , white and wooden flooring.</p>		<p>Describe this in the Access For All section of the website.</p>
<p>Emergency alarm system available</p>	<p>No.</p>		<p>Describe this in the Access For All section of the website. Install an emergency cord.</p> 
<p>Emergency pull cord to floor</p>	<p>No cord available.</p>		<p>Describe this in the Access For All section of the website.</p> 

Response to red cord tested regularly			Test the response to the red cord regularly.
Mirror accessible by all	Yes, if sanitary bin is moved.		Install an additional mirror at a height that is suitable for wheelchair users.
Lever taps	Yes.		Describe this in the Access For All section of the website.

<p>Electric hand dryer</p>	<p>Yes.</p>		<p>Describe this in the Access For All section of the website.</p>
<p>Paper towels</p>	<p>No.</p>		<p>Provide paper towels in the toilet in addition to the hand dryer for visitors who are noise sensitive, such as autistic visitors.</p>
<p>Other toilet facilities available e.g. male, female, baby changing, Changing Places</p>	<p>Yes. Unsure if there was baby changing facilities as the 'women's' was closed due to inefficient space for social distancing .</p>		<p>Make sure these are signed and promoted (work in collaboration between the Pleasley Pit Preservation Trust and Derbyshire County Council to encourage more visitors to come) which they will do if they know there is a toilet as well as</p>
<p>Is accessibility information on this toilet facility included on the trail website?</p>	<p>No. There is information on toilets but nothing that states about accessibility and the accessible toilet.</p>		<p>Include accessible toilet information on the website.</p>


Is accessibility information on this toilet facility included in any leaflets produced for the trail?	Not that we are aware of.		Include accessible toilet information in the leaflets
Is accessibility information on this toilet facility included in training for trail staff?	Not that we are aware of.		Include accessible toilet information in the staff training.
Other:			

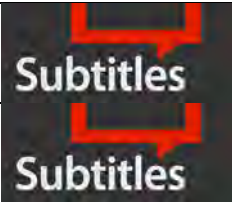





Summary
The toilet is not part of DCC but collaborating to promote this feature would benefit both the trust, DCC and customers. A toilet facility outside the Pleasley Pit perimeter fencing is recommended. When museum is closed there is no toilet.

Priority recommendations

Collaborate together with the trust to promote this feature. Install handrail. Consider installing a Changing Places toilet (see recent Government funding). A Changing Places toilet would also help disabled people transfer using the ceiling hoist onto adapted cycles/scooters etc.

Visitors with hearing impairment: summary

Facility	Notes	Image	Recommendations
Hearing loops available	No, but not necessarily a need for them in the country park and nature reserve. It would be useful if the café had one.		Purchase hearing loops for guided tours of both the country park/ nature reserve and the Pit Museum. It would be good if the café also had a hearing loop.

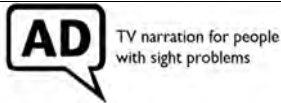
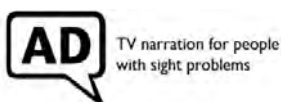



Subtitles on key videos on site if relevant	N/A		Add subtitles to any videos running on site.
Subtitles on T.V. screens on site, if relevant	N/A		Provide details of how to enable the subtitle function on T.V.'s in the venue.
Flashing Fire / Smoke Alarms, where applicable	N/A		Install a flashing fire alarm in any future upgrade to the fire alarm system.
Signed sessions	No but this would be useful if and when doing guided tours of the country park and nature reserve.		Investigate local BSL signers and consider providing 'signed' sessions.
BSL available	N/A		As above.
Pen and paper	N/A		Provide a pen and paper in your venue to assist with communication.
Other e.g. groups who currently use the trail	This was not clear if the country park was well promoted with local groups.		Promote the country park with local disabled groups.
Is information on your provision for visitors with hearing impairment included on the trail website?	No.		
Is information on your provisions for visitors with hearing impairment included in any leaflets produced for the trail?	Not that we are aware of.		
Is information on your provision for visitors with hearing impairment included in training for trail staff?	Not that we are aware of.		
Other			
Summary			






Lack of provisions in place for those with hearing impairments.



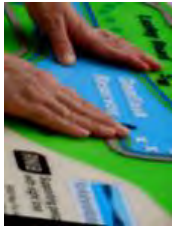
Priority Recommendations

For country park and nature reserve tours, consider getting a tour guide hearing loop and increasing collaboration with the trust. Also invite local disabled groups to come and explore the country park and give their feedback

Visitors with vision impairment

Facility	Notes	Image	Recommendations
Audio commentary on key videos in venue if applicable	N/A		<p>Include an audio described version of any videos produced for the venue in the future.</p>
Audio-description available on T.V.'s in venue	N/A		<p>Provide clear instructions on how to enable the 'audio description' function on any television sets installed in the future.</p>
Leaflets, menus and maps available in large print	The maps are not in large print but having a QR code on all the signs with maps could enable this feature.		<p>Create a large print version of the map and make them tactile, as well as having online ones with audio description and further information about the facilities, routes and points of interest.</p>
Magnifiers available	N/A		<p>Provide some simple, page magnifiers and 'ready reader' spectacles.</p>
Sound boxes or sound benches available	No, but would really benefit from one or two.		<p>Purchase a 'sound' or 'audio' box or bench, describing an element of your venue or the view from the bench etc. – For example the bench at the top of the slope which faces the Pleasley Pit and museum. The second one could be installed at the seating area which looks out onto the reservoir and it could explain all of the wildlife</p>







			<p>around and the view in front and around them.</p>
<p>Good visual contrast throughout the trail</p>	<p>Yes as the built paths were different colour to the grass and the gates were also different to the surroundings so easy to see. The purple signs with white writing had good visual contrast. The steps as you leave the cafe also had good visual contrast.</p>	 	<p>Describe this on the Access For All section of the website e.g. by providing a link to an on-line Accessibility Guide as well as in an Access For All leaflet.</p>
<p>Trail free of clutter / obstacles at floor and head height</p>	<p>There was sometimes horse manure, large bodies of water and tree stumps and rocks in the ground and muddy boggy areas making the surface uneven and overhanging branches.</p>	  	<p>Describe this on the Access For All section of the website e.g. by providing a link to an on-line Accessibility Guide as well as in an Access For All leaflet. Make sure that all level access paths are clearly signed and as much clutter as possible (natural things like horse manure, can't be controlled) is cleared out of the way of these 'accessible routes'</p>







			
<p>Good lighting levels throughout</p>	<p>Street lighting on the streets leading up to the country park e.g. Pit Lane, but none was visible on the trails in the country park itself. (However, Good lighting outside the Pit café).</p>		<p>Describe this on the Access For All section of the website e.g. by providing a link to an on-line Accessibility Guide as well as in an Access For All leaflet.</p>
<p>Key signage available in Braille</p>	<p>No.</p>		<p>Provide key signage in Braille e.g. for the toilet and route directional signage.</p> 
<p>Tactile maps and models</p>	<p>No, but it would really benefit from one.</p>		<p>Create a tactile map or model of your venue or of one or two of its key features to increase accessibility for visitors with vision impairment. RNIB create these. More information can be found on this link</p>


			https://www.rnib.org.uk/sites/default/files/tactile_images_and_maps_2015_brochure_low_res.pdf
'Touch' Tours	No, however there could be self-directed ones explained on the website about what visitors could touch to experience.		On the website, offer to support guests with vision impairment who need help finding their way around the venue or who may need the menu reading to them.
Other e.g. groups who currently use the trail	None that we are aware of.		
Is information on your provision for visitors with vision impairment included on the trail website?	No.		
Is information on your provisions for visitors with vision impairment included in any leaflets produced for the trail?	Not that we are aware of.		
Is information on your provision for visitors with vision impairment included in training for trail staff?	Not that we are aware of.		
Other:			
<p>Summary For those with visual impairments this site could cause some issues due to tripping hazards, lack of braille signage and tactile maps as well as sound benches which could benefit their experience.</p> <p>Priority Recommendations</p>			

Install a sound bench or two, install some tactile maps to help people navigate their way around and QR codes which enable audio description and information in alternative formats, level out paths and routes to minimise hazards, consider braille signage.

Visitors with mobility impairment

Facility	Notes	Image	Recommendations
Information provided on areas with level access via ramps or lifts / areas which are inaccessible	No, this is not provided anywhere on site or in places which provide information on the country park.		<p style="color: green;">Provide information on areas with level access on your website as well as on-site.</p>
Dropped kerbs at entry points around site	No, as there are natural paths rather than concrete.		<p style="color: green;">Describe this on the Access For All section of the website e.g. by providing a link to an on-line Accessibility Guide as well as in an Access For All leaflet.</p>
Mobile Hoist (if applicable)	No. If one was to be installed in the toilets, this would require collaboration with The Pleasley Pit Preservation Trust.		<p style="color: green;">Provide a mobile hoist at your venue for visitors who require hoisting e.g. onto the toilet or onto an adapted cycle etc.</p>
Dropped counters or alternative e.g. table	N/A.		<p style="color: green;">Provide a dropped counter at reception, café and bar areas.</p>
Information on local, wheelchair-accessible taxi companies	No.		<p style="color: green;">Indicate this on the website. Or provide a link to the local Council website which has information on local wheelchair accessible taxi companies.</p>
Wheelchairs available for hire	No.		<p style="color: green;">Purchase a standard wheelchair and have this available for visitors who need in on site. Remember to promote this on your website.</p>





Scooters available for hire	No.		Purchase a standard wheelchair and have this available for visitors who need in on site. Remember to promote this on your website.
Scooter charging point available	No.		Provide a Scooter charging point for potential customers with mobility impairment to help create a warm welcome.
Solid, level path surfaces around site	No. See section on paths above.		Describe the pavement and car park surfaces on the website.
Information on path gradients provided	No. See section on paths above.		Describe relevant path gradients on and adjacent to your site.
'Easy route' around your trail signposted	No. This would be very beneficial for this site.		Signpost a 'barrier-free', 'step-free' route around your venue to help wheelchair and scooter users and those with mobility impairment.
Provision of handrails where relevant (recommended height 900mm)	No, but these could be beneficial on some of the uphill paths.		Provide handrails on both sides of steps and staircases to assist visitors with mobility impairment as well as visitors with vision impairment.







Appropriate path widths for w/c users	The majority of the paths are over 2 metres wide and if not then they are over 1 metre wide (see path section above).		Ensure that path widths meet the recommended minimum of
Other key measurements e.g. height of tables etc. and groups who currently use the trail			
Is information on your provision for visitors with mobility impairment included on the trail website?	No.		
Is information on your provisions for visitors with mobility impairment included in any leaflets produced for the trail?	Not that we are aware of.		
Is information on your provision for visitors with mobility impairment included in training for trail staff?	Not that we are aware of.		
Other			

Summary
The gradient and surface of most of the paths would make it difficult for wheelchair users and the benches which are provided are not easily reached by those with mobility impairments. Make it very clear on the website that there is a steep slope to access the water reserve. People can then decide if it is suitable for them.

Priority Recommendations
Promote use of the country park with trampers, provide charging points and consider partnering with the Pleasley Pit Preservation Trust to have trampers and mobile scooters to hire for people to use around the country park. Promote the provisions in place on the website, in leaflets and with staff.





Visitors with Autism

Facility	Notes	Image	Recommendations
Photographs of venue available on website	Only one photo of the view from the country park looking onto the pit site.		<p style="text-align: center;">Ensure that lots of photographs of all areas of your venue are available on your website.</p>
Videos available on website	No.		<p style="text-align: center;">Create a simple video of the venue to help promote its facilities and services to all potential customers.</p> 
Quiet / Sensory Spaces available	There are some areas which could be used for a quiet space, but nothing is specified anywhere.		<p style="text-align: center;">Describe this on the website so that potential visitors who are autistic are informed and can decide if the venue is right for them. Promote quieter times if possible (though this is quite difficult to predict)</p>
Sensory Story available	There is not a specific sensory story on the website but some useful information which could be used to create this (e.g. nature that you might see and hear).		<p style="text-align: center;">Produce a simple Sensory Story for the venue available</p>



			<p>as a download on the website.</p> 
Wi-Fi available	Not that we are aware of.		<p>Indicate on the website whether Wi-Fi is available and promote the Wi-Fi code throughout your venue. Also indicate whether you have a good mobile phone signal.</p>
Relaxed or Quiet sessions available	No, but it is generally quite quiet and spacious throughout the country park.		<p>Offer 'Relaxed' or Quiet sessions or performance. In addition, promote quieter times of the day / days of the week if possible.</p>
Ear Defenders available	Not that we are aware of.		<p>Purchase a simple set of ear defenders for the venue and promote the fact on the website.</p>
Familiarisation visits	Not that we are aware of.		<p>Offer free 'familiarisation' visits for autistic visitors and promote this on your website.</p>
Autism Friendly Award	No.		<p>Consider applying for the National Autistic Society Autism Friendly Award.</p>
Is information on your provision for visitors with	No.		

autism included on the trail website?			
Is information on your provisions for visitors with autism included in any leaflets produced for the trail?	Not that we are aware of.		
Is information on your provision for visitors with autism included in training for trail staff?	Not that we are aware of.		
Other e.g. groups who include the trail			
<p>Summary There is plenty of scope to make this an enjoyable experience for those with Autism, it just lacks promotion.</p> <p>Priority Recommendations Advertise quiet spaces, create a sensory story and show lots of photos and videos on the website.</p>			

Visitors with Dementia





Facility	Notes	Image	Recommendations
‘Relaxed’ sessions available	Not that we are aware of.		Promote quieter time of the day / days of the week on the website.
‘Memory Box’ available	No, but this could easily be created with the trust with items from or similar to that in the museum, so that people can think back to when the mining was happening.		<p>Create a Memory Box or Memory book of the area in times gone by, including postcards, photographs etc.</p> 
Neutral threshold / other mats where applicable	No, the only mats which are by the toilets and café area (on the pit site) are all black.		<p>Purchase a neutral coloured threshold mats to assist visitors with dementia.</p> 






Neutral, not 'busy' wall and floor coverings, where applicable	N/A		<p>Paint the walls in a neutral colour and ensure that floor coverings are neutral too.</p> 
Good lighting (not 'pooled')	N/A		<p>Provide good overall lighting levels that do not create 'pools' of shadow.</p> 
Non-reflective flooring, where applicable	N/A		<p>Install non-reflective flooring.</p> 

Visual 'cues' e.g. signs / objects of reference	No (not owned by DCC)		<p>Provide some 'visual cues' e.g. the picture of a toilet on the toilet door.</p> 
Dementia Friends trained?	Not that we are aware of.		<p>Attend a free, local Dementia Friends session. Once you have attended, promote the fact that you have received this training on your website.</p> 
Other e.g. groups who			




currently use the trail			
Is information on your provision for visitors with dementia included on the trail website?	No.		
Is information on your provisions for visitors with dementia included in any leaflets produced for the trail?	Not that we are aware of.		
Is information on your provision for visitors with dementia included in training for trail staff?	Not that we are aware of.		




Special Events REMOVE THIS SECTION?





Facility	Notes	Image	Recommendations
Designated wheelchair accessible viewing area			<p>Allocate a wheelchair accessible viewing area ensuring an unimpeded view of the stage or screen.</p> <p>Include umbrellas, blankets and water bowls for assistance dogs for that extra special touch. Include this information in promotional materials.</p>
Accessible pathways/tracking			<p>Fit accessible boardwalks or pathways for people who are wheelchair users and others with mobility impairment.</p> <p>Include this information in promotional materials.</p>
Mobiloo available			<p>Hire the Mobiloo mobile Changing Places toilet for events until the site has its own permanent Changing Places facility. Remember to highlight its availability in all promotional materials. Locate the Mobiloo close to your wheelchair accessible viewing area.</p>
Good additional lighting			<p>Provide additional lighting for night-time events. This is particularly important to</p>







			highlight entrances, exits, pathways and toilets etc.
Shelter available			Provide shelter for disabled visitors in case of inclement weather.
Help available?			Provide staff to help disabled visitors. Ensure that they are very visible e.g. wearing 'Hi-Visibility' jackets or sashes saying 'Here to Help'
Subtitled, signed and audio-described performances available.		  	Include subtitled, audio-described and signed performances in your programme of events and remember to promote these widely.

General accessibility information

Facility	Notes	Image	Recommendations
Shelter available	No. There are no buildings on the country trail and no natural shelter or covered seating.		Install a picnic shelter or covered seating area, so people can enjoy the country park in all weather. This can be natural or manmade.
Viewing areas available	We were unable to get into the bird hide to see if that was accessible but the reservoir viewing point with bench on concrete platform was not accessible to all due to the path and step up onto the platform.		Make sure viewing points are accessible for all.
Online booking available, where relevant	N/A.		Include options for visitors with access needs if online booking is implemented in the future. Invite customers to contact the venue to discuss their individual needs.
First Aid room available	No, but no buildings owned by DCC which could house one of these.		 Detail where the closest one is and how to obtain it.
Defibrillator on-site or nearest one signposted	Yes, just outside of the Pit Museum and café site gates.		Promote this on-site, in the leaflets and on the website.

Assistance dogs catered for	N/A, no specific facilities owned by DCC, but the pit café does have dog bowls outside, although does have limited opening times.		Describe this on the Access For All section of the website e.g. by providing a link to an on-line Accessibility Guide as well as in an Access For All leaflet.
All dogs welcome?	Yes and even in the pit café.		Describe this on the Access For All section of the website e.g. by providing a link to an on-line Accessibility Guide as well as in an Access For All leaflet.
Areas where no dogs are permitted	There is nowhere which specifies this.		If there are areas which dogs are not allowed in or should avoid due to wildlife etc., this needs to be specified on the website, in leaflets and on signage across the site.
Changing Places locally listed	No.		Promote this on the Access For All section of the website. Use this link to find the closest Changing Places and promote it http://www.changing-places.org/find a toilet.aspx
Good lighting at night, if applicable	No..		Around the country park, at gates etc and in the car park

			some more lighting should be installed.
Makaton available	N/A.		Learn some basic Makaton signs to create a warm welcome for visitors who use this communication system.
PECS available	No.		Display some relevant PECS symbols around the country park.
Accessibility Champion/s	No.		Attend an Accessibility Champion training course. These are run regularly by Access For All UK.
Local accessible accommodation listed	No.		Add a link to Accessible Derbyshire on the Access For All section of the website.
Feedback available from previous visitors with access needs	No.		Gather testimonials from visitors with access needs and share these on the website.
Suggestion box available	No.		Provide a suggestion box for visitors with access needs to leave valuable feedback. This could be done via QR codes on notice boards around the site, which link to online forms or by having a physical box which is regularly checked by DCC.

<p>Information available on accessibility of wider area</p>	<p>No. There is very little in this sense aside from the website saying it has 'easy access for all', which is not technically true due to the barriers recognised through this accessibility audit.</p>		<p>Add a link to Accessible Derbyshire on the Access For All section of the website.</p>
<p>Trail listed on Euan's Guide</p>	<p>No.</p>		<p>List the venue on Euan's Guide.</p>
<p>Members of Tourism For All</p>	<p>No.</p>		<p>Consider applying for this membership.</p>
<p>Other memberships indicated</p>	<p>No.</p>		
<p>Accessibility Awards received indicated</p>	<p>No.</p>		<p>Promote any awards won in the future on the Access For all section of the website.</p>
<p>Images of disabled people in marketing materials</p>	<p>No.</p>		<p>Include images of disabled people in new marketing materials.</p> 
<p>Is accessibility information included in any leaflets for the trail?</p>	<p>Not that we are aware of.</p>		

Is accessibility information included in staff training?	Not that we are aware of.		
Other			

Summary

A lack of accessibility information is included throughout (signage, on the website, in leaflets and through staff training) as far as we are aware.

Priority recommendations

Include all honest information on the website, including pictures of disabled people, invest in some access champions and consider getting a Changing Places toilet facility (look into government funding).

Conclusion

The implementation of the recommendations outlined in this report, both 'quick wins' and longer-term improvements, will significantly enhance the accessibility and inclusion of Pleasley Pit Country Park.







Many of these recommendations can be achieved quickly, easily and at low cost, while others will take a greater level of investment in terms of time and money. The production of an action plan to fulfil these is therefore an important first step.

One of the key strategies of the new government Tourism Sector Deal announced in July 2019, is that the U.K. will be the most accessible tourism destination in Europe by 2025 and improving the accessibility of Pleasley Pit Country Park will help to deliver this strategy.

Most importantly, the provision of inclusive information, facilities and services will mean that this much-loved trail can be enjoyed by all.



Skegby Trail Feedback:

Component / Comments	Image	Improvement suggestion/ Best practise feedback
<p>It has the same car park and facilities as Pleasley Pit.</p>		<p>Make this clear online and on the signs and that the toilets are only open when the café is etc.</p>
<p>The entrance is not great for trampers/electric/larger wheelchairs. Gate in place has limited room and therefore excludes hand trikes etc. and adapted cycles.</p>		<p>Install gates for all. E.g. Trans Pennine Trail designs and RSPB. https://centrewire.com/product-category/kissing-gates/</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: center; margin-top: 10px;">  </div>
<p>The Derbyshire County Council end of the trail was very unkempt in appearance and not an 'attractive' entrance onto trail.</p>		<p>Clean up the sign and improve entrances to make them accessible for all.</p>





Signage is poor and gives no indication as to lengths/accessibility/and features along the way.

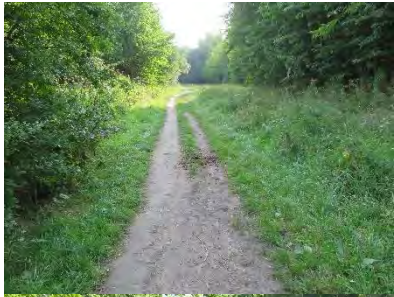
There are also 'splits' and off-shots in path but no directional signage.



At all entrance points and joining parts, have information regarding length of path and direction which each part leads to.

<p>Many A frames along the route which are inaccessible to many.</p> <p>Also many steel gates to stop the bikers.</p>		<p>Change these to accessible gates (still considering the need to restrict motorbikes using the past).</p>
<p>The surface and width of the paths vary (mud, roots, grass etc.)</p> <p>Most paths are a metre wide but some areas go into narrow grassy tracks.</p>		<p>Ensure the path surface is included online and at entrance signs so people can decide if it is suitable for them to use.</p> <p>Where possible try to ensure that paths are at least 1 metre wide with smooth surface to make it accessible for people with wheelchairs. If 2 metres wide it can also allow social distancing for all.</p>

Lots of sensory elements (horses, bikes, wildlife, wildflowers)



<p>Lack of storytelling interpretation and seating which would make the trail more appealing to all.</p>		<p>This link has good advice on how to make the trail more interactive and what to include on the panels/ information boards https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/media/library/9813-trails-interpretationtoolkit.pdf</p> <p>Install benches and bins along the route so people can take a break and absorb the scenery (place where this is possible). Make sure these benches are accessible for all.</p>
<p>The Skegby Heritage Trail was a different thing to the trail for walking.....it was around the village of Skegby.</p>		<p>Make sure all signage is clear and consistent between both/ all ends of the path – This will require collaboration between Derbyshire and Nottingham County Councils .</p>
<p>There are less barriers to enter the Skegby end of the trail, with 'no gate'</p>		<p>Also another area where collaboration and consistency for the trail on all entrances/ exits would be beneficial.</p>
<p>At Skegby end, the path has a big split but only signage on the Skegby side. Other path hidden in trees said, 'Link Track', however there is no indication as to where this links to where exactly?</p>		<p>Ensure clear signage (direction, distance, surface and accessibility) through the trail and to linking paths.</p>

<p>No logo indicating wheelchair Access on any sign but some said 'multiuser'.</p>		<p>Make signage clearer and include the wheelchair symbol/ explain what the accessibility is like along each section of the trail. What does 'multiuser' mean?</p>
<p>Better surface at Skegby end and some seats and prettier wildlife but maybe due to better soil conditions e.g. pit clay</p>		<p>Collaboration between councils again could improve this and ensure the trail is more consistent.</p>
<p>Some fallen and low hanging branches.</p>		<p>This need taking care of (monitored and clipped back) especially important for those who are visually impaired and may walk into these and injure themselves.</p>
<p>Skegby end better for manual wheelchairs.</p>		

The Skegby Trail from the Nottinghamshire end looked much more 'appealing' and did not look like it was part of the same trail!

Overall improvements:

- Maintain overhanging branches and tripping hazards on path, such as tree stumps
- Increase directional signage at all entry points and junctions so clear routes are able to be observed
- Include honest accessibility information on the website and create an accessibility guide
- Collaborate with other councils (e.g. Nottinghamshire County Council) which own part of the trail to ensure consistency and an enjoyable experience for all customers
- Create a sensory story about the path

- Install more seating and indicate this on a map, in leaflets and on the website
- Remove A Frames and install accessible 'gates'
- Ensure all paths are at least 1 metre wide and 2 metres if two-way traffic is required
- Add some interpretation/sculpture trail to add interest
- In case of emergencies it is recommended to have 'location markers' or promote the 'what3words' App which provides accurate locations.