
User-Led Accessibility Audit Report: Trinity Biomedical Sciences Institute

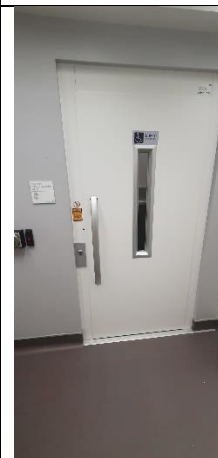
Date Of Audit: **July 2024**



Audited By: **Glen Wilkie, Faolan Doecke Lauanders**

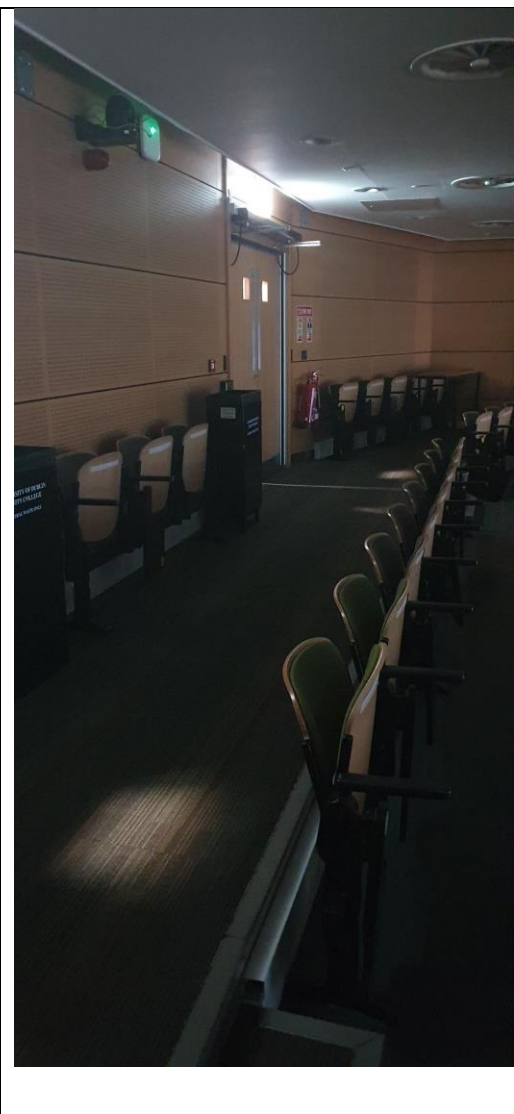
Area Zone: **4**

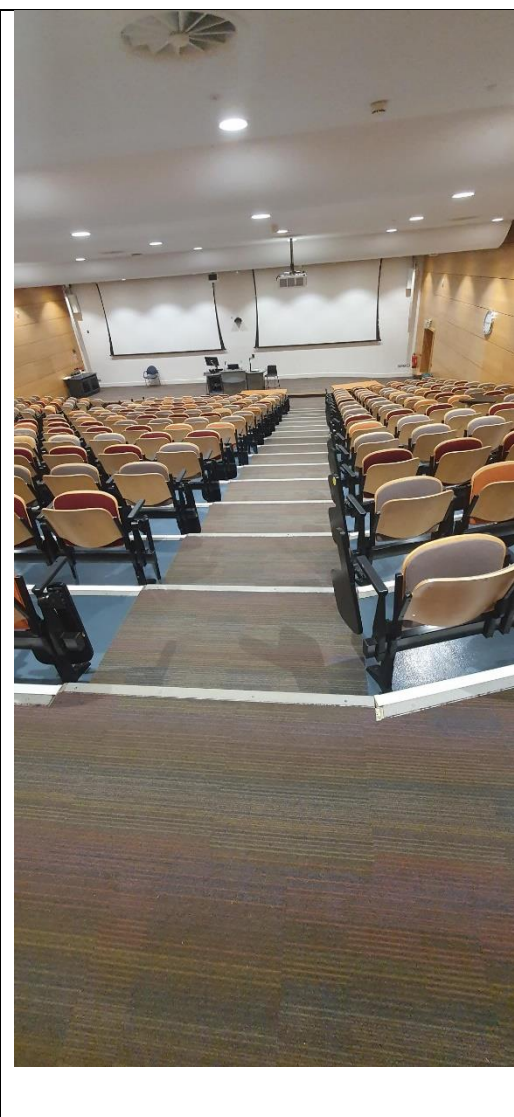
Premises Manager: **Graham Tucker**

Tabular Summary of Accessibility Issues

<i>Feature</i>	<i>Access Comment</i>	<i>Action Required</i>	<i>Image (if applicable)</i>
Door for lift in Zón Mac Leinn TBSI does not open automatically	Door is manual in nature, requires user to pull open which is quite heavy – not complaint with door weight 60	Consider re-evaluating this lift to	
Tactile surfaces near entrances and doorways for the visually impaired	No tactile surfaces are present by the entrances and exits of the building, restricting use of access by those with visual impairments.	Consider implementing tactile surfaces near the entrance/exit of Trinity Biomedical Sciences Institute.	N/A

<p>Directional signage for visually-impaired students</p>	<p>No braille is present on the directional signage for use by those with visual impairments. A darker contrast is required on the signage as the presence of light makes it difficult to read.</p>	<p>Consider updating the directional signage on the ground floor to include braille and a darker contrast.</p>	
<p>No automatic door functionality on door entering main entrance lift, or labs on upper floors that require swipe access</p>	<p>No automatic door functionality is present – door is heavy and difficult to operate</p>	<p>Install an automatic door mechanism to ensure its usability by wheelchair users.</p>	

<p>Lack of suitable accessible seating arrangements in main teaching spaces</p>	<p>No suitable accessible seating arrangements are present in Stanley Quek or Tercentenary Hall lecture theatres. Desks are present at the front of each theatre but these are impractical due to the location of the projector. Users have cited neck pain as a result.</p>	<p>Plans are in motion to create accessible seating areas at the back of these teaching spaces following the approval of funding. Keep updated on the works.</p>	
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<p>Lack of handrails on stairs in main teaching spaces</p>	<p>There is no handrails alongside the steps in the main teaching spaces – Stanley Quek or Tercentenary Hall that impede visually impaired students use of access.</p>	<p>Consider implementing handrails alongside these steps to ensure the safety of all students while using this space.</p>	

Accessible workspace arrangements in teaching laboratories	No accessible workspaces were identified in the teaching laboratories for use by wheelchair users.	Consider implementing accessible spaces for wheelchair users as required.	N/A
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Appendix 1: Introduction to the User-Led Audit

What is a User-Led Audit?

A User-Led Audit involves community members who experience accessibility challenges firsthand. These individuals will lead the evaluation of our physical and sensory environments to ensure our campus meets their needs effectively. This approach allows for authentic insights that are often overlooked in traditional audits, leading to more impactful and meaningful improvements.

Why User-Led Audits?

- **Authentic Feedback:** Direct from community members affected by accessibility barriers, ensuring that changes reflect real needs.
- **Empowerment:** This initiative empowers those impacted by accessibility issues to contribute actively to solutions, fostering a sense of ownership and involvement.
- **Comprehensive Improvements:** Beyond compliance, these audits aim to enhance actual usability and comfort, making our campus welcoming for everyone.

What is the Audit Tool being used?

The Audit Tool being used has been specifically designed for this initiative and continues to be constantly updated and developed as we move through each audit stage. The Audit Tool is an Excel-based program designed to streamline the data collection and analysis process for auditing accessible spaces.

The tool serves two primary functions:

- **Data Collection:** Users can systematically record detailed information about the accessibility features of various spaces. This includes inputting specific criteria and observations related to physical access, facilities, and compliance with accessibility standards.
- **Data Production:** The tool processes the collected data to generate comprehensive reports. These reports provide insights into the current state of accessibility, highlight areas of non-compliance, and suggest improvements.

Audit Objectives:

- To conduct detailed physical and sensory access audits across the TCD campus, identifying barriers to accessibility.
- To engage with the TCD community, particularly those with disabilities, ensuring a user-led approach in identifying and addressing accessibility issues.
- To develop and implement actionable recommendations for enhancing campus accessibility, informed by audit findings and user experiences.
- To foster a culture of inclusivity and awareness regarding accessibility issues within the TCD community.

Appendix 2: Reference Standards

- **Building Regulations 2010, Technical Guidance Document M (TGD M):** Access and Use: Provides guidance on complying with Part M of the Building Regulations for accessibility.
- **National Disability Authority (NDA) - Building for Everyone: A Universal Design Approach:** Offers comprehensive guidelines on universal design for accessible buildings and public spaces.
- **Irish Wheelchair Association (IWA) - Best Practice Access Guidelines:** Focuses on best practices for designing accessible environments, particularly for wheelchair users and those with mobility impairments.