Street Mapping

Overview

This toolkit is based on our project which involved identifying, recording and highlighting access issues on commonly used routes within the town centre. We also make recommendations for improvements needed. We do not reference legal requirements and it is from the perspective of real life experience of people with a range of disabilities and / or mobility issues. Our aim was to undertake this work not to aggressively lobby but to raise awareness and gently persuade. Many issues we identify are relevant to non-disabled people too.

Our project resulted in a general summary report, a detailed data report (included in this pack as examples), some display boards of photos and a power point presentation. It would be useful to have in mind how you will disseminate the findings before you start.

What you will need

- People with a range of disabilities interested in joining in
- Enlarged maps of the area you want to map (in a plastic sleeve) It may be useful to use zones.
- Data collection sheets (we have included a pro-forma in this toolkit but you may prefer to adapt / design your own)
- Clipboards
- Notebooks
- Pen / pencils
- Cameras (Please note when using photos / videos for dissemination vehicle registration numbers and any faces of public will need to be removed unless distance crowd shots)
- A place to meet indoors after the street surveys to reflect and collate data

General Advice

Be realistic in your ambitions depending on:-

- How many volunteers you have
- The time available
- Any deadlines committed to

It is better to be thorough, mapping a smaller area in detail rather than collect unspecific data about a wider area.

Manage expectations if other people and/ or organisations commission and / or fund the work.

Take a systematic approach by:-

- Planning routes
- Allocating work clearly (divide the territory in to zones)
- Take easily readable maps
- Visit sites more than once and at different times eg in the week and on a weekend
- Use sheets to collect data
- Collect as much information as possible
- Take note of the context
- Have plenty of café stops!

Public Relations

Agree a clear explanation of the project to respond to questions about what you are doing and why. Take a note of any responses you get from the public while out and about. If anyone is negative do not enter in to altercations.

If you can work with other organisations in your community this would increase the credibility and impact of the project.

Access TOOLKITS