



ARCHITECTURE
INTERIOR DESIGN
PLANNING
PROJECT MANAGEMENT
URBANISM

UCD Student Residences Masterplan - Universal Design Statement

The underlying philosophy and approach adopted for the proposed Student Residences Masterplan is that all buildings should be accessible and usable by everyone, regardless of age, gender or ability. This approach is a continuation of the overall the UCD Campus Accessibility strategy.

The main design criteria that have been incorporated into site and landscape is for access routes and circulation routes around the buildings to be in accordance with TGD Part M 2010 of the Building Regulations.

The approach routes to the accessible entrances of a building are the routes from:

- The adjacent road, designated car-parking spaces for people with disabilities and/or setting down areas.
- Accessible car-parking is provided on the basis of 5% of total car-parking spaces.

The circulation routes around a building are the routes:

- Between the accessible entrances and other subsidiary entrances and buildings, where external circulation is required between them;
- To and from facilities associated with the building and within the proposed masterplan; and
- From the building exits to assembly points.

The provision of accessible bedspaces is on the basis of 5% of the overall bed space number. Within the buildings the design criteria that have been incorporated into the design of student apartments/studio facilities that contain accessible bedrooms catering for Universal Design and disabled student needs in accordance with TGD Part M 2010 are:

- minimum clear manoeuvring space clear of door swing is provided at the accessible apartment entrance.
- All corridors achieve a minimum clear width, adequate turning spaces are also provided and a minimum leading edge is provided on all doors to accessible areas.
- Accessible bedrooms provide a clear manoeuvring space on one side of the bed. Furniture is designed and carefully located to maximise accessibility – wheelchair accessible study desk, wardrobe etc. An emergency alarm is provided and is accessible from both the bed and the clear space next to the bed.
- Accessible en-suites are provided to each accessible bedroom/studio and where more than one is provided a choice in the handing is also provided.
- In addition to provisions for fire detection the fire alarm includes both visual and audible indicators.
- Kitchens include a clear unobstructed space with key task areas such as the sink, hob and food preparation space provided with a knee recess. Oven units are designed to be accessible as is the dining area. Kitchen switches are carefully positioned and accessible including hob, extractor fans, sockets and isolators. The height of work surfaces allows for use by both ambulant and wheelchair users and floor mounted storage units include banks of drawers.

Facilities within common amenity areas provide aids to communication and independently accessible sanitary facilities that meet the needs of people with a wide range of abilities in accordance with TGD Part M 2010.