

HERITAGE STATEMENT (HPK/2018/0190)

X19-0098a – Buxton DVSA Works

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This supporting Heritage Statement accompanies Application Reference HPK/2018/0190 relating to the erection of a new accessible ramp at Buxton Driving Test Centre , 7 Green Lane, Buxton, SK17 9DS.

This document should be read in conjunction with the planning application form and supporting documentation.

Please note, all directions discussed are taken as viewing the building from the main front entrance to the premises.

2.0 PROPOSAL

The proposal includes the introduction of a new accessible ramp to the front elevation of the driving test centre to provide access to the building.

The ramp is to be installed along the front elevation of the property positioned on an existing area of hardstanding. The ramp is to be mechanically fixed in place.

3.0 EXISTING SITE AND SURROUNDING AREA

The three storey property is situated on grounds surrounded by an established residential area.

The traditional masonry constructed building has been converted from a Dwellinghouse to a multi-use property. The property is occupied by the landlord and/or private residential tenant and by DVSA, a commercial tenant.

Vehicle garages adjoin the main property accessed via an existing driveway.

The boundary to the sides is formed by mortared stone walls, capped with concrete coping stones. The boundary to the front remains open, allowing unrestricted access to the adjoining public footpath.

The existing hardstanding to the front external area comprises a mixture of concrete, tarmac and pre-cast concrete paving flags.

Previously, the site did benefit from a timber accessible ramp. Due to material deterioration the ramp became inoperable and was therefore removed to prevent injury to its users. As a result, a temporary step was installed as a short term solution to maintain access to the building.

The existing site is situated within a conservation area; however the building is not listed and does not hold any architectural significance.

4.0 MATERIAL CHOICE AND FIXINGS

The proposed materials include pre-fabricated galvanized and acrylic coated steel, which have been selected to aid installation and construction; having little impact on the existing building structure and adjoining external areas. Utilising a pre-fabricated structure will therefore reduce potential disturbance to the operation of the business and its neighboring properties.

An existing lightwell serves the basement of the property; in order to maintain full access for maintenance it is essential the ramp construction did not restrict access to existing area. The proposed modular steel ramp will be sited on pedestals and will allow full access to lightwell for future maintenance.

The proposals allow for the structure to be mechanically fixed back to the existing brickwork façade, beneath the door aperture and existing tarmacadam hardstanding. Due to the nature of fixing methods, the installation is reversible.

5.0 MATERIAL SCALE AND APPEARANCE

The ramp has been designed with the aim of meeting requirements of the Equality Act, BS8300 and Approved Documents of the Building Regulations.

Due to existing site constraints, designs have incorporated minimum dimensional requirements expected of Approved Document M and K of the Building Regulations.

The platforms are intended to be black and ramp is intended to be grey. Handrails and kerbs are intended to be green.

Please refer to supporting documents for ramp dimensions and proposal visuals.

6.0 HOW THE PROPOSED WORKS AFFECT THE CURRENT SITE

The proposed works will greatly benefit the site, allowing full and inclusive access for all staff and visitors to site.

Visually, the installation should not deter from the aesthetics of the existing building or its surroundings.

The installation timescales are minimal, and will not disrupt or disturb the surrounding environment.

The ramp design and installation is simple in nature, and not affect the integrity of the building. The installation will also maintain unrestricted access to the existing fire exit of the adjoining residential property.

7.0 ACCESS

Works will be contained to the front external areas of the site. All works will take place within the site boundary all will not affect the adjoining public footpath or road.

Appendix A | Photographs



Photo 01 View of property from Green Lane (Source: Google Maps)



Photo 02 – Existing Entrance to Driving Test Centre



Photo 03 – Existing Lightwell