

**SAMPLE QUESTIONS FROM ACCESS AUDIT in 'Widening the Eye of the Needle'** (available from Church House Bookshop, or through your local bookshop), which provides more detailed information about Access to historic church buildings.

<b>APPROACH AND CAR PARKING</b>						
				<b>Wheelchair</b>	<b>Ambulant</b>	
1.			Is the building within convenient walking distance of car parking?			
2.			Is the surface smooth and slip resistant?			
3.			Is the route wide enough?			
4.			Is the route adequately lit?			
5.			Is there car parking for people with reduced mobility?			
6.			Is it clearly marked out, signed, easily found and kept free from misuse?			
7.			Is it as near the entrance as possible?			
<b>ROUTES AND EXTERNAL LEVEL CHANGE INCLUDING RAMPS AND STEPS</b>						
8.			Is there a ramp, with level surfaces at <i>top/intermediate/bottom</i> ?			
9.			Is it wide enough and suitably graded?			
10.			Is the surface slip-resistant?			
11.			Are there handrails to <i>one</i> or <i>both</i> sides?			
12.			If a permanent ramp cannot be formed, is a portable ramp available?			
13.			Are there (alternative) steps?			
14.			Are ramps and steps adequately lit?			
<b>ENTRANCES, INCLUDING RECEPTION</b>						
15.			Is the door clearly distinguishable from the façade?			
16.			If glass, is it visible when closed?			
17.			Does the <i>door opening</i> or <i>one leaf</i> when opened permit passage of a wheelchair or double buggy?			
18.			Does it have a <i>level</i> or <i>flush</i> threshold, and a <i>recessed mat well</i> ?			
19.			Can the door furniture be used at both <i>standing</i> and <i>seated</i> height?			
20.			Can it be easily grasped and operated?			

21.			If there is a lobby, do the inner and outer doors meet the same criteria?				
22.			Do junctions between floor surfaces present tripping hazards or cause visual confusion?				
23.			Does the lighting installation take into account the needs of people with visual impairments?				
24.			Is the reception point fitted with an induction loop?				
<b>HORIZONTAL MOVEMENT AND ASSEMBLY</b>							
25.			Is any corridor/passageway/aisle wide enough for a wheelchair user to manoeuvre and for other people to pass?				
26.			Is any corridor etc free from obstruction to wheelchair users and hazards to people with impaired vision?				
27.			Do any lobbies allow users to clear one door before approaching the next with minimal manoeuvre?				
28.			Are direction or information signs (including means of escape) visible from both sitting and standing eye levels, and are they in <i>upper</i> and <i>lower</i> case and large enough type to be read by those with impaired vision?				
29.			Are seating arrangements/spaces available for use by people with visual disabilities?				
30.			Are all areas for assembly / meeting equipped with an induction loop system?				
<b>VERTICAL MOVEMENT AND INTERNAL LEVEL CHANGE</b>							
31.			Is the location of any <i>steps/stairs/ramps</i> clearly indicated by use of <i>sign/colour/contrast/texture/lighting</i> ?				
32.			Does any <i>step/stairs/ramp</i> have a handrail to <i>one/both</i> side(s)?				
33.			Is any level change clearly lit?				
34.			If a permanent ramp cannot be provided, can a moveable ramp be made available?				
35.			Are steps available as an alternative to any ramp or ramped surface?				
<b>DOORS</b>							
36.			Do the doors serve a <i>functional/safety</i> purpose?				

37.		Can they be readily distinguished?				
38.		If glass, are they visible when shut?				
39.		Can people <i>standing</i> , or <i>sitting</i> in a wheelchair see each other, and be seen from either side of the door?				
40.		Is any door furniture/handle at a height for <i>standing/sitting</i> use?				
41.		Can the door furniture/handles be easily <i>operated/grasped</i> ?				

**LAVATORIES**

42.		Is WC provision made for people with disabilities?				
43.		Do all lavatory areas have slip-resistant floors?				
44.		Can ambulant disabled people manoeuvre, and raise and lower themselves in standard cubicles?				
45.		Is provision made for wheelchair users?				
46.		If so, is the wheelchair WC compartment large enough to permit manoeuvre for <i>frontal/lateral/angled/backward</i> , with or without assistance?				
47.		Are the fittings arranged to facilitate these manoeuvres?				
48.		Is the tap appropriate for use by someone with limited dexterity, grip or strength?				
49.		Are suitable grab rails fitted in all the appropriate positions to facilitate use of the WC?				

**FIXTURES AND FITTINGS**

50.		Is any baptistry/font accessible to all users, including those with hearing impediments?				
51.		If the church has pews, are there also spaces for wheelchair users amongst the seating of the congregation?				
52.		Is it possible for wheelchair users and people with other disabilities to serve as members of the choir?				
53.		It is possible for people with disabilities to serve as members of the choir?				
54.		Are all fittings readily distinguishable from their background?				

**INFORMATION**

55.		Is the <i>church/church hall</i> equipped to provide hearing assistance?				
56.		Does the lighting installation of the <i>church / church hall</i> take into account the needs of people with visual disabilities?				
57.		Are there large print versions of information about the church and activities available?				
58.		Is there Braille information available for people with visual disabilities?				
59.		Is there an 'audio' version of information about the church available?				
60.		Where there are staff available in the church and at sales and refreshment facilities are they trained in communication with people with physical and sensory disabilities?				