

The Inclusive Action Plan

The Cultural Inclusion Manifesto would like an Inclusive Action Plan for inclusive travel to and from every cultural institution. This should be considered by funders, planning departments and all others involved in supporting the institution's business plans. Over time no funding should be awarded – nor planning permission given – to an arts or cultural setting that does not have an Inclusive Action Plan.

Why should a young person with additional needs, their family or their school pay more to access a cultural space when their neuro-typical and able bodied peers do not? Why – after so many years funding settings on inclusion - is this not included within a strategic offer of all cultural institutions?

The criteria below are a work in progress have already been considered by some venues and funders as a potential 'kitemark' for Inclusive Action Plans.

1. The Inclusive Action Plan document should be written in accessible English (reading age 8) and be accessible in a number of formats. It should be clearly sign-posted on the setting's website. Ideally it should be summarised in video format with sub-titles.
2. It should include guidance on public transport, walking routes, routes suitable for wheelchair users and those with limited mobility and for private cars. This should include indicative prices where possible.
3. Where possible settings should try and negotiate discounts for transport and travel to their venues. This might include special deals with train companies or exemptions from car parking fees.
4. Where transport and travel costs may be a barrier to access settings should consider subsidies to ensure those with disabilities are not paying more than non-disabled peers.
5. Cultural organisations should have designated parking for minibuses/cars that are either on-site or working in collaboration with the local council/local business, have spaces designated that have easy access to the venue, i.e. reasonable walking distance when pushing a wheelchair with only a minimum of road crossings.
6. There should be a map that clearly highlights the closest tube/train/bus stops with a map of how you can then access the venue.
7. Public facing staff should receive disability awareness training.

View the original blog <https://culturalinclusion.uk/blog/the-inclusive-access-plan/>