



Morris Goding
Access Consulting

Urbis

Alterations to Existing Club,
Wallacia Country Club

**Access Review –
Final**

9th December 2019



Morris Goding
Access Consulting

REPORT REVISIONS		
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Report Conducted By,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edward Daniel', is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Edward Daniel
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1. Executive Summary

The Access Review Report is a key element in the design development of upgrade works to the Existing Country Club, New Pool, New Gym and New Bowling Green at Wallacia Country Club located at 13 Park Drive, Wallacia, NSW 2745, and an appropriate response to the AS1428 series, Building Code of Australia (BCA), DDA Access to Premises Standards (including DDA Access Code) and ultimately the Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act (DDA).

Morris Goding Access Consulting has prepared the Access Report to provide advice and strategies to maximise reasonable provisions of access for people with disabilities.

The review will ensure that ingress and egress, paths of travel, circulation areas, and sanitary facilities comply with relevant statutory guidelines, and in addition, compliance with a higher level of accessibility and inclusiveness benchmarks set by the project.



2. Introduction

2.1 Background

Urbis has engaged Morris Goding Access Consulting, to provide a design review the proposed works to Wallacia Country Club located at 13 Park Drive, Wallacia, NSW 2745. The development consists of upgrade to existing golf club, new gym, new pool, new bowling green and addition of new parking bays.

The proposed development falls under a number of BCA classifications:

- Class 6.
- Class 7a (carpark).

The requirements of the investigation are to:

- Review supplied drawings of the proposed development;
- Provide a report that will analyse the provisions of disability design of the development, and
- Recommend solutions that will ensure the design complies with the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA), Building Code of Australia (BCA), relevant Australian Standards, and enhanced benchmark requirements set by the project.

2.2 Objectives

The Report seeks to ensure compliance with statutory requirements and enhanced benchmark requirements set by the project. The Report considers user groups, who include students, staff, and members of the public. The Report attempts to deliver equality, independence and functionality to people with a disability inclusive of:

- People with a mobility impairment (ambulant and wheelchair);
- People with a sensory impairment (hearing and vision); and
- People with a dexterity impairment

The Report seeks to provide compliance the Disability Discrimination Act 1992. In doing so, the report attempts to eliminate, as far as possible, discrimination against persons on the ground of disability.

2.3 Limitations

This report is limited to the accessibility provisions of the building in general. It does not provide comment on detailed design issues, such as: internals of accessible/ambulant toilet, fit-out, lift specification, slip resistant floor finishes, door schedules, hardware and controls, glazing, luminance contrast, stair nosing, TGSIs, handrail design, signage etc. that will be included in construction documentation.

2.4 Accessibility of Design



The proposed design will utilise the Federal Disability Discrimination Act (DDA), Disability (Access to Premises – Buildings) Standards 2010, BCA/DDA Access Code, Universal Design principles, the AS 1428 Series, and other design guidelines, to develop appropriate design documentation, to provide reasonable access provisions for people with disabilities.

The design will be developed to ensure the principles of the DDA are upheld. Under the DDA, it is unlawful to discriminate against people with disabilities in the provision of appropriate access, where the approach or access to and within a premise, makes it impossible or unreasonably difficult for people with disabilities to make use of a particular service or amenity.

2.5 Statutory Requirements

The development will be designed in accordance with the statutory and regulatory guidelines to ensure effective, appropriate and safe use by all people including those with disabilities.

These include:

- Federal Disability Discrimination Act (DDA);
- Disability (Access to Premises – Buildings) Standards 2010;
- Building Code of Australia (BCA) Part D3, F2, E3;
- AS 1428.1:2009 - (General Requirement for Access);
- AS 1428.4.1:2009 - (Tactile Ground Surface Indicators);
- AS 2890.6:2009 - (Parking for People with Disabilities);
- AS 1735.12:1999 - (Lift Facilities for Persons with Disabilities);
- Penrith Council DCP 2014 Volume 1;

Please note that there are also additional advisory standards (not currently referenced by BCA or DDA Premises Standards) as well as other relevant guidelines that will be considered, as relevant to promote equity and dignity in line with over-arching DDA principles and aspirational objectives. These include:

- Universal Design Principles;
- Human Rights Commission (HEREOC)
- Advisory Note February 2013 on streetscape, public, outdoor areas, fixtures, fittings and furniture;
- AS1428.2:1992 Enhanced and Additional requirements;
- AS1428.4.1 Draft Way-finding Standard;
- AS3745:2010 – Planning for Emergencies in Facilities (to assist with design strategies for provision for escape for people with disability that may require assistance).



3. General Access Planning Considerations

The Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA) is a legislative law that protects the rights of all people. The Act makes disability discrimination unlawful and promotes equal rights, equal opportunity and equal access for people with disabilities. The Australian Human Right Commission is the governing body who control and enforce DDA compliance.

Nevertheless, building elements that provide insufficient accessible provisions for people with disabilities remain subject to the DDA. The improvement of non-compliant building elements and areas to meet current access requirements will mitigate the risk of a DDA complaint being made against the building owner.

Since the 1st May 2011, the Commonwealth's Disability (Access to Premises – Buildings) Standards 2010 (DDA Premises Standards) apply to all new building works and to affected parts of existing buildings.

The DDA Premises Standards' requirements (DDA Access Code) are mirrored in the access provisions of the BCA. New building work and affected parts must comply with the DDA Premises Standards and AS1428.1-2009 in the same manner as they would comply with the BCA by meeting deemed-to-satisfy provisions or by adopting an alternative solution that achieves the relevant performance requirements.

By utilizing AS 1428 suite of Standards, the overall aim is to provide continuous accessible paths of travel to connect the proposed development to and through public domain areas and between associated accessible buildings in accordance with the DDA Access Code.

MGAC supports the use and consideration of universal design (UD) principles into the design to maximize access for all people. We will assist the design team to incorporate UD principles where possible within the project, while still meeting mandatory compliance requirements.

Universal design principles consider the needs of a broad range of people including older people, families with children and pushing prams, people from other cultures and language groups, visitors in transit and people with disability. By considering the diversity of users, the design will embed access into and within it, so that benefits can be maximized, without adding on specialized 'accessible' features that can be costly, visually unappealing and may perpetuate exclusion and potential stigma.

The seven key Universal design principles to consider in the on-going design include:

- Principle 1: Equitable Use
- Principle 2: Flexibility in Use
- Principle 3: Simple and Intuitive Use
- Principle 4: Perceptible Information
- Principle 5: Tolerance for Error
- Principle 6: Low Physical Effort
- Principle 7: Size and Space for Approach and use



4. Ingress & Egress

4.1 External Linkages

The BCA and DDA Premises Standards contain requirements for site approaches for the use of persons with disabilities. These requirements can be summarised as follows:

- An accessible path of travel from main pedestrian entry points at the site allotment boundary to all building entrances compliant with AS1428.1:2009. Currently, affected part is to be amended to achieve full compliance, on site conditions are to be assessed and amended to achieve a path of travel from main pedestrian point to the new works as per AS1428.1, BCA and DDA Premises Standards.
- An accessible path of travel between buildings (or parts of buildings) that are connected by a pedestrian linkage, within the site allotment boundary, compliant with AS1428.1:2009 is also required. Currently, the drawings have sufficient space to allow alterations to be made so that linkages between buildings and new works comply with AS1428.1 and the DDA Premises Standards.
- An accessible path of travel to building entrances (required to be accessible) from associated accessible car-parking bays, compliant with AS1428.1:2009 is required. Currently, there is a path of travel provided from the accessible parking bays to the entrances of the new works. However, amendments are required to be made to gradients and paths of travel (e.g. ramps) to achieve compliance as per AS1428.1 and the DDA Premises Standards.

4.2 Entrances

The BCA and DDA Premises Standards contain requirements for building entry for the use of persons with disabilities. These requirements can be summarised as follows:

- Access through at least 50% of entrances, including the principal pedestrian entrance/s to all buildings or parts of buildings (ie. when they have a separate function and/or use eg. external retail tenancy). Note it is preferred that all entrances are accessible. Currently, there is access paths provided to all main entrances. Paths of travel to new entrances are to achieve compliance in accordance with AS1428.1
- All accessible doors with 850mm min. clear width opening and suitable door circulation area, compliant with AS1428.1:2009. Currently, sufficient space is provide for compliance to be achieved under AS1428.1 at design stages.
- An accessible path of travel eg. ramp or lift provided adjacent (or in reasonable proximity) to any stair access. Note: providing choice of access route directly adjacent so that people can start and finish in the same location/travel similar route promotes inclusion and UD principles. Currently, there are accessible paths of travel provided adjacent to or nearby non-accessible paths. However, amendments are required to be made for the accessible paths to be compliant in accordance with AS1428.1.

4.3 Emergency Egress



BCA 2016 Part D2.17 has requirements for all fire-isolated egress stairs from areas required to be accessible (not communication stairs) to include at least one continuous handrail designed to be compliant with AS1428.1 Clause 12. Provision of an off-set tread at the base of stair flights or an extended mid-landing that will allow a 300mm extension clear of egress route is considered appropriate for achieving a consistent height handrail (without vertical or raked sections). Such an off-set tread configuration has been shown at the majority of stairs and would appear to be possible elsewhere, subject to further detail design.

Where fire-isolated egress stairs will also be used for communication stair purposes between levels, they should be designed to meet AS1428.1:2009. Confirmation is required on the likely use of certain stairs for this purpose.

There is currently no mandatory requirement within BCA or DDA Premises Standards for provision of independent accessible egress for people with a disability in accordance with AS1428.1 and this remains an important DDA issue.

Consideration of an accessible egress strategy with emergency evacuation plan will be needed as a minimum starting point.

Consideration of management systems and fire wardens for emergency egress for people with disabilities will be needed as a minimum starting point.



5. Paths of Travel

5.1 Circulation Areas

The BCA and DDA Premises Standards contain requirements for circulation areas for the use of persons with disabilities. These requirements can be summarised as follows:

- Wheelchair passing bays (1800mm width x 2000 length) when a direct line of sight is not available and are to be provided at 20m max. intervals along access-ways. Currently, the majority of areas achieve passing bays in accordance with AS1428.1. however, the entrance ramp to the main entrance of the existing golf club is to have landing of 1800mm x 2000mm, there is sufficient space for amendment to be made to achieve compliance as per AS1428.1.
- Turning spaces (at least 1540mm W x 2070mm L) within 2m of every corridor end and at 20m.max intervals along all access-ways. This is needed for wheelchairs to make a 180 degree turn, compliant with AS1428.1:2009. Currently, turning bays are provided at the end of corridors in accordance with AS1428.1.
- All common-use doors (ie. not excluded under Part D3.4) with 850mm min. clear width opening (each active door leaf) and suitable door circulation area, compliant with AS1428.1:2009. Currently, the majority of doors achieve 850mm clear width with sufficient door circulation, however there are doors within the new works of the existing golf club that require amendment to achieve compliance, there is sufficient space to amend these doors to achieve compliance under AS1428.1.
- All common-use corridors and accessible paths of travel with at least 1000mm min. width when travelling in linear direction Note: Increased clear width paths of travel required for doorway circulation, turning areas etc. Currently, this requirement has been achieved as majority of paths are 1000mm or greater, set in accordance with AS1428.1.

5.2 Passenger Lifts

The BCA and DDA Premises Standards contain requirements for passenger lifts and circulation areas for the use of persons with disabilities. These requirements can be summarised as follows:

- Passenger lifts with min. internal size at floor of 1400mm width x 1600mm depth, compliant with BCA/DDA Access Code Part E3.6 and AS1735.12. Currently, this requirement has been achieved as lifts measure 2100mm x 2500mm.
- All lift lobbies and main corridors on each level with 1800mm min. clear width to allow two wheelchairs ability to space pass each other. Currently, this requirement has been achieved as open space is provided at the lift lobbies treater than 1800mm x 2000mm

5.3 Stairs & Ramps

The BCA and DDA Premises Standards contain requirements for stairs and ramps for the use of persons with disabilities. These requirements can be summarised as follows:



- Ramps maximum 1:14 gradient with landings at no more than 9 metre intervals.
- Ramps with handrails on both sides with minimum 1 metre clearance in accordance with AS1428.1.
- Landings 1200mm length with 1500mm length at 90 degree turns or 1800mm x 2000mm where no line of sight is provided.
- Stairs handrails on both sides in accordance with AS1428.1.
- Stairs and ramps with offset to ensure no encroachment of handrail extensions into transverse path of travel at top and bottom of stair/ramp.



6. Facilities & Amenities

6.1 Sanitary Facilities

The BCA and DDA Premises Standards contain requirements for sanitary facilities suitable for the use of persons with disabilities. These requirements can be summarised as follows:

- Provide at least 1 unisex accessible toilet, adjacent to every bank of toilets (where provided) on each storey, compliant with AS1428.1 under BCA/DDA Access Code part F2.4. If more than 1 toilet bank provided on each level, accessible toilet is required at 50% min. of toilet banks at each level.

If common-use change facilities provided (ie. both toilets and showers) a separate combined accessible WC/shower adjacent to male and female change rooms is required, compliant with AS1428.1 under BCA/DDA Access Code Part F2.4.

Currently, an accessible toilet has been provided at each bank of male and female toilets (with showers where required) in accordance with BCA F2.4.

- An even number of left hand (LH) and right hand (RH) transfer WC pans (accessible toilets) within the building. Alternating LH/RH layouts on each subsequent level is the most appropriate and inclusive approach.
- Accessible WC with 2300mm x 1900mm around the pan with the basin to sit outside this area in accordance with AS1428.1. Currently, this requirement has been met as accessible toilet have over all sizes to allow for circulation spaces and alternation of LH and RH pan transfer in accordance with AS1428.1.
- An ambulant cubicle within every standard toilet bank adjacent to an accessible toilet under DDA Access Code Part F2.4 compliant with AS1428.1:2009. Currently, male and female toilets in the gym and new pool area do not have ambulant cubicle, amendments are to be made to include ambulant cubicles in each male and female toilet in accordance with AS1428.1 and BCA F2.4.

6.2 Common Areas

The BCA and DDA Premises Standards contain requirements for common use areas suitable for the use of persons with disabilities. These requirements can be summarised as follows:

- Access to a unique common use facility, common use courtyards within buildings in accordance with DDA Premises Standards
- Wheelchair access is required to any external and outdoor terrace areas including roof terraces compliant with AS1428.1.

Currently, accessibility has been provided to all common use facilities within the new works in accordance with AS1428.1.

6.3 Car Parking

The BCA and DDA Premises Standards contain requirements for parking which are applicable to this project. These requirements can be summarised as follows:



- Class 6 retail development: 1 accessible car bay for every 50 car bays or part thereof, compliant with AS2890.6.
- Accessible car bays 2.4 metre with 2.4 metre shared area.
- Class 2 residential. An adaptable unit car bay for each adaptable unit. These car bays can have 3.8 metre width or 2.4 m with 2.4 metre shared zone
- All accessible car bays located near relevant lifts and/or associated building entry points to minimise distance to relevant lift and ensure accessible path of travel between these areas.
- 2.5m min. height clearance, compliant with AS2890.6 fig 2.7 over accessible car bays with 2.2 m min. vertical clearance leading to the accessible and adaptable unit car bays (Note: consideration for 2.3 or 2.4m min. height preferred for higher vans/adapted vehicles is recommended as good practice).

Currently, accessible parking bays have been provided in accordance with the aforementioned requirements. Further review is required to assess the gradient and paths of travel from the accessible parking bays to new building entrance to ensure compliance with AS1428.1, AS2890.6 and the DDA Premises Standards.



7. Conclusion

MGAC has assessed the proposed scheme for the upgrade works to the Existing Country Club, New Pool, New Gym and New Bowling Green at Wallacia Country Club located at 13 Park Drive, Wallacia, NSW 2745.

The proposed drawings indicate that accessibility requirements, pertaining to external site linkages, building access, common area access, sanitary facilities and parking can be readily achieved.

It is advised that MGAC will work with the project team as the scheme progresses to ensure appropriate outcomes are achieved in building design and external domain design.