

Find out if the Town is accessible for you as a member of the public

We want you to be confident that you can access and use the building. If you need more information to decide, please call 01323 410000 for general enquiries or 03456 080 198.

Where to find the Town Hall

The Town Hall is on the junction of Grove Road, Meads Road and Saffrons Road, Eastbourne.

Where to park

There is an accessible parking bay for Blue Badge holders in front of the building on Grove Road. It does not have dropped kerbs.

(The car park behind the building is for council staff and councillors).

Walking to the centre

There are bus stops opposite the Town Hall on Grove Road and on Mead Road; both are within a short walking distance, that is 50 m to 100 m.

The footways are generally firm and even.

There is a steep slope to the crossing point on Grove Road but there are signs to another route that is shallower.

Getting into the Town Hall

The main public entrance is on Grove Road. You can use steps at the front and sides or a ramp to get into the building.



Figure 1 Town Hall building

Using the steps

The steps have a landing and some steps have handrails. There are 7 steps to enter the building.

They take you to large wooden doors, which are held open, and then glass lobby doors. You turn right to reach the reception. This is signposted.



Figure 2 Image of steps to main entrance

Using the ramp

The ramp is signposted from the steps. It has two sections and there is 1200 mm between the handrails, which are round.

The ramp takes you to outer doors that are held open and inner doors that are sliding and powered. You will find yourself at the Reception Desk.



Figure 3 Ramp to main entrance

What to expect at the entrance lobby / reception

The floor is old and has a mosaic pattern and dark border that might be confusing to some people.



Figure 4 Glass doors out of the reception area

The reception desk has a height of 800 mm and a knee recess that is 750 mm high.

There is an induction loop.

Glass double doors lead out of the reception.

Getting around the Town Hall

Floor surfaces are easy to move across.

Lighting levels are good

Doors

All single leaf doors are wide enough for a wheelchair to pass through, with a clear effective width of 800 mm.

The double leaf doors are narrower and both leaves need to be held open to make enough space for a wheelchair.

Door handles are above 1000 mm and some have round twist knob handles.



Figure 5 Example of a double door, specifically, the door in the image is the entrance to the Court Room

About the stairs and steps

Some of the stairs have tapered treads. This means their width changes and so could be a tripping hazard.

Staircase next to the lift

There are handrails to one side only. These are usually used by staff only.

Main staircase

The stairs are carpeted.

There are handrails on both sides from the ground floor to the intermediate landing.

Where the stairs divide there is a handrail to the balustrade on both sides with the flight on the left also having a handrail on the wall.

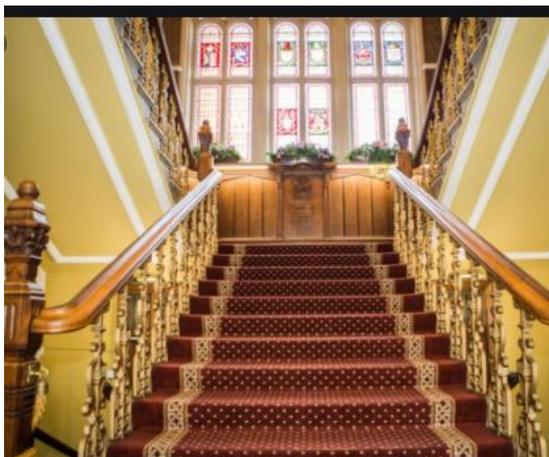


Figure 6 Main staircase

Steps up to Court Room

There are 3 steps with a handrail to the right on the way up.

Ramp to the Court Room

The ramp is 1455m at its narrowest point.

There are handrails on both sides.



Figure 7 Ramp leading to the Court Room

Choice of toilets

You will find single-sex toilets on the ground and first floors.

You will find an accessible WC on the ground floor.

There is not an adult changing place.

About the self-contained toilets

There is a self-contained male single sex WC next to the Court Room on the ground floor. You can use the taps with a clenched fist.

About the ground floor single-sex toilets

There are five steps with a handrail on the left side down to the male toilets.

There are five steps with a handrail to the left and one in the centre leading down to the female toilets.

There are no outward opening cubicles or support rails.



Figure 8 Steps to male toilets



Figure 9 Steps to female toilets

About the accessible WC

You can find this next to the Court Room on the ground floor.

It is more than 40 m away from the lift.

It is a right transfer.



Figure 10 Accessible toilet

About the Court Room and Registrars Room

Both rooms are on the ground floor and can be reached from inside the Town Hall but the Court Room also has an external entrance.

The Court Room has an external ramp leading up to it from the staff car park, this is steep. The external entrance door has a high threshold so a portable ramp is available.



Figure 11 The external ramp up to the Court Room and the portable ramp at the entrance to the threshold

An induction loop is provided for the Court Room.

The furniture can be moved to suit different uses.

About the Meeting/Committee Room

It is on the ground floor.

A portable induction loop is provided.

The furniture can be moved to suit different needs.

About the Assembly Room

It is on the first floor and it is only accessed by the main staircase. The lift is not accessible to the public.

There is only stepped access onto the stage.

An induction loop is provided.

Lighting can be adjusted.

About the Council Chamber

It is on the first floor and it is only accessed by the main staircase. The lift is not accessible to the public.

An induction loop is provided.

The room's layout can be changed to suit different uses.

About the Print Room

There is a very steep slope down (with a typical gradient of 1:10) on the approach to Printing Services from Grove Road.

It has a single leaf door. The doorbell is out of reach from a seated position.

For this reason, all services provided by the Printing Services team can be accessed via the main reception desk in the Town Hall or remotely by email, phone and post.

Getting out in an emergency

Exits are clearly signed and lit.

Fire doors are clearly marked.

There are refuge areas on the stairs next to the lift.

The lift cannot be used in an emergency evacuation.

Evac chairs are provided.

The ramp at the main entrance provides the only step-free exit when the building is closed to the public.

Exit from the Court Room requires the use of a portable ramp.

There are 3 staircases that lead from the first floor to the ground floor.

There is 1 staircase leading from the second floor to the first floor and then ground floor.