

BCR

Building Control Report

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Issue 1



Access for All in Europe

Consortium of European Building Control

The Consortium of European Building Control (CEBC) is a pan-European body that represents the Building Control profession across Europe.

Its membership encompasses government departments, professional bodies, institutions and private companies.

The Consortium meets as a body twice a year at locations around Europe. A theme is chosen for each meeting depending on the country to be visited. A typical meeting usually includes a technical site visit and papers given, linked to a particular theme.

At recent meetings, members have debated the following topics:-

- Philosophy of Control
- Fire Safety Engineering
- European Directive on the Energy Performance of Buildings
- Innovations in Timber Framed Building Construction
- Access to buildings legislation
- Reconstruction, renovation and quality of buildings
- CE Marking and market surveillance
- Snow loading on buildings
- Effect of climate change on the built environment
- Building Insurance and Liability
- Qualifications of Building Professionals
- Self Certification
- Web based solutions

Each meeting also allows members to debate issues developing in their respective countries and to be able to share information and experiences. This has been particularly important on subjects such as defects in construction products and durability.

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On 9th November 2007 the European Commission issued a draft standardisation mandate (38/2007 – EN) in support of European accessibility requirements for public procurement in the built environment.

This applies to buildings, public buildings, public places, parking, routes, transport related built facilities such as stations, ports, airports, recreation, leisure, cultural, educational and sports facilities and can also have repercussions on construction products.

Europe is promoting a ‘Design for All’ approach to the built environment so that buildings and public spaces are readily useable by as many people as possible. Furthermore, it is well known that the costs to build an accessible building from the beginning are negligible, while providing accessible facilities by way of alteration at a later date is not only costly but less satisfactory as compromises are made on what would have been the best practice.

Having clear standards that define functional requirements for accessibility to the built environment to be used in public procurement can facilitate a policy to prevent barriers to accessibility.

Although access to the built environment is essentially a Member State responsibility, the Commission 2003 Communication on ‘Establishing equal opportunities for people with disabilities: A European Action Plan’ committed itself to take into account the recommendations made in 2003 by the group of independent experts on accessibility to the built environment and expressed in the report called ‘2010: a Europe for All’.

Most Member States have regulatory and/or technical standards and conformity assessment schemes or audit trails to assess accessibility of buildings, which are also used in public procurement. Whilst many standards, building codes and other means are based on work in ISO and guidance given by CEN, the different national approaches are not harmonised and this could influence the acceptance or otherwise of designs and products, whilst at the same time not influencing the level of accessibility in a building.

As far as it is known the information in this publication was correct at the time of going to press. However in the present climate of constant change in Regulations you are strongly advised to check with the CEBC Member for the state concerned.

This is the second booklet in this series following the successful publication of Building Control Report number 1 (Issue 2) on Building Control Systems in Europe.

European Day of Disabled People

The United Nations proclaimed, in resolution 47/3 of 14 October 1992, that 3rd December would be observed every year as the International Day of Disabled People.

Since 1993 to mark this date the European Commission has celebrated the European Day of Disabled People. The European Day provides an opportunity to raise awareness and promote European co-operation in the disability field.

The European Commission supports events at European and national levels.

Previous themes of the European Days of Disabled People have been:

- | | |
|------|--|
| 1999 | Combating violence against disabled people |
| 2000 | Combating discrimination against disabled people in the labour market |
| 2001 | Design for all – Background paper |
| 2002 | 2002 focused on the educational sector. Through a competition to design the official postcard for the European Year of People with Disabilities 2003. Young people aged between 10 and 15, disabled and non-disabled were asked to illustrate the changes they would make to ensure that disabled people are treated equally in society. |
| 2003 | 2003 was the European Year of People with Disabilities |

There are estimated to be over 38 million people with disabilities in the European Union. In 2003, the European Commission and the disability movement organised the European Year of People with Disabilities to highlight barriers and discrimination faced by disabled people and to improve the lives of those who have a disability.

The European Commission organised a major event - "Get on Board". Starting in January 2003 in Athens, a specially designed European Year bus travelled through the then 15 EU member countries, with disabled children, their friends and allies accompanying the bus on its journey. The disability community in each country organised events along the bus route. Besides the bus, there were thousands of activities which got disabled and non-disabled people on board for the Year: street festivals, competitions, demonstrations and much more, in towns and villages throughout Europe.

- | | |
|------|---|
| 2004 | Helping people with disabilities find and keep jobs |
| 2005 | Living together in society |
| 2006 | Youth = Future. Let's make an equal future for all |
| 2007 | Equal opportunities for All |

Executive Summary

The purpose of this study is to provide information about access to the built environment, particularly disabled access, in Europe. This information should be of benefit to architects, surveyors, developers, builders and contractors, who no longer work only in national markets, but in the common market for services, construction and construction products, as cross-border activities invariably increase.

The study has shown that the principles of the legislation vary very little in their requirements and this is somewhat unexpected. However it is gratifying to know that there is a commonality of purpose running through the legislative requirements and associated guidance. The problems of access for disabled people will in fact be the same in whichever country they live and work.

The tables included later in this report set out the main requirements of each country's legislation, usually building regulations, and the guidance issued setting out how to meet those requirements.

In some countries which have separate states or provinces, the legislation differs slightly, and where this is the case the table shows an indicative form of the requirements or a common theme.

Background

The study began as initial discussions and workshops held at the CEBC meeting in Bergen in June 2004, where members of CEBC comprising representatives of government departments, private building control bodies and local authority building control bodies, who are responsible for enforcing building regulations and associated legislation concerning disabled access in Europe looked at access for the disabled in member countries. This includes countries in the European Economic area as well as EU members.

Purpose

The purpose of this study is to compile and compare the legislation, which as stated above, will be of benefit to construction professionals, but also may aid the form and content of the legislation to come together in a more pan-European consistency of approach.

Methodology

In order to collate and compare the requirements of each country, members were sent a questionnaire, which asked for the name and nature of the Regulations and how they applied to dwellings and non-domestic buildings. The order of the questionnaire follows the 'arrival' of a wheelchair user at the site boundary of the building, then up to the building, entry into it and internal layout of the building, including the facilities provided.

It is difficult for all members to answer all questions as some do not universally apply but a best effort has been made in this regard. The information has been analysed to find common applications and patterns. Appendix A sets out in a simple 'tick box' form, which regulations or requirements apply, and Appendix B some basic requirements of the legislation.

Findings

The responses in this publication are from the 25 member countries of CEBC, which includes Northern Ireland and Scotland separately, as their building regulations differ in some respects from England and Wales. Austria, Belgium and Germany's responses are a common denominator of their legislation, as there are a number of provinces or Länder in these countries.

Perhaps surprisingly in some respects, but very gratifying in others, was to learn that the requirements for disabled access are very similar, if not the same in many countries in Europe. Almost invariably the minimum size of a passenger lift is 1.1m x 1.4m and for non-domestic buildings in all countries without exception, access is covered from the site boundary, the approach to the building, entry into the building and in the building itself. As far as dwellings are concerned only Croatia and Estonia do not control the approach to the building for disabled access purposes.

In the case of a requirement for automatic doors at the entrance to buildings, only Belgium and Croatia stipulate the provision of this facility. The most varied requirements that the questionnaire revealed were those in respect of facilities for disabilities other than physical ones, as can be seen by the responses in respect of hearing and sight impairments. An interesting variance is the one concerned with the number of storeys where a passenger lift becomes mandatory. Where it is mandatory, the majority fall into the category of three, four or five storeys.

Conclusions

This publication can only be a brief summary of each country's legislation and building regulations that relate to access. Although the prime mover for this study was to look at access for the disabled, it should be remembered that good access for the disabled results in good access for everyone, including particularly, parents with children in pushchairs and prams as well as the ambulant disabled and the elderly.

It is proposed that in the near future, because the information in this document is a précis of much more comprehensive legislation, that there will be a hyperlink to a copy of this publication on the CEBC website, which will take CEBC members to the completed questionnaires with their much more detailed information. Members of the Consortium will update their own country's entry at least once a year or when there is a significant change in the legislation and everyone should check with them to ensure the information is up to date.

It is hoped that the publication of this information relating to Access will be useful to those building professionals who require it for designing and constructing buildings, for students who require it for study and academic purposes and for everyone to raise their awareness of disability issues. Members of CEBC looking at their colleagues' Access requirements that are more comprehensive, may even be influenced to improve their own to the same standard.

Acknowledgements

The Author would like to thank all those colleagues in CEBC who have contributed to this publication, to Annalisa Morini and Rita Pomposini of the CNR ITC Unit of Rome, to Jean-Louis Cochard of CSTB France and to Sharron Routledge and Frederick McGregor of North Kesteven District Council for her help in compiling this Report.

Partly

E Existing buildings only

100

CEBC

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| | Is disabled access covered by legislation? | |
| | Is disabled access a Building Regulation matter? | |
| | Are the Regulations performance based? | |
| | Is there supporting technical guidance? | |
| | Do the Regulations apply to non-dwellings? | |
| | Do the Regulations apply to extensions as well as new buildings? | |
| | Do the Regulations apply to approach to the building? | |
| | Are maximum gradients to external ramps specified? | |
| | Do the Regulations apply to external stairways? | |
| | Do the Regulations apply to minimum width of entrance doors? | |
| | Do the Regulations stipulate automatic doors at entrances? | |
| | Do the Regulations control visibility of large glazed areas? | |
| | Are reception areas and lobbies controlled by the Regulations? | |
| | Do the Regulations control widths of corridors and hallways? | |
| | Do the Regulations control internal door widths? | |
| | Do the Regulations control the gradient of internal ramps? | |
| | Do the Regulations control internal stairs? | |
| | Are passenger lifts required by the Regulations? | |
| | Can platform lifts and stairlifts be considered as an alternative? | |
| | Do the Regulations require toilets for the disabled? | |
| | Do the Regulations control the colour/contrast of internal surfaces? | |
| | Do the Regulations require low level counters etc at reception areas? | |
| | Are induction loops required for the deaf? | |
| | Are wayfinding signs required? | |
| | Is artificial lighting controlled by the Regulations? | |
| | Is means of escape in case of fire for disabled people controlled? | |
| | Are building management action plans accepted with trade off for alarms, refuges etc? | |
| (b) Non-domestic/commercial | | |
| Sweden | | |
| Spain | | |
| Slovenia | | |
| Slovak Republic | | |
| Scotland | | |
| Poland | | |
| Norway | | |
| Northern Ireland | | |
| Netherlands | | |
| Lithuania | | |
| Latvia | | |
| Italy | | |
| Ireland | | |
| Iceland | | |
| Germany | | |
| France | | |
| Finland | | |
| Estonia | | |
| England & Wales | | |
| Denmark | | |
| Czech Republic | | |
| Cyprus | | |
| Croatia | | |
| Belgium | | |
| Austria | | |

* Part V ~~≠~~ multi storey

Existing buildings only / Yes = No

235 etc number of stress

CEBC – Access for All – Austria

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? | | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? |
|--|---|--|---|---|
| | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | Internal layout | Facilities |
| Not federal legislations but regulations for each Länder (province). Vienna is used as an example. However the Länder will soon harmonise their building regulations (2008-2009). Bauordnung für Wien | Yes New buildings only but applies to extensions and also new parts of conversions | Partly functional, partly prescriptive | Partly functional, partly prescriptive Yes OIB Guideline 6 and ÖNORM B 1600 (Austrian standard). | |
| Dwellings | Maximum gradient of ramps 1 in 16.5, exceptionally 1 in 10, minimum width 0.9m, landings 1.5m deep, 1.2m platforms every 7m. Kerbs 100mm high. Entrance doors minimum 900mm wide, maximum threshold 20mm. | Minimum width 900mm, turning space 750mm radius | Minimum width of doors on escape routes 900mm, otherwise 800mm. Ramps on approach with handrails 750mm and 1.0m high. Lifts required if more than two storeys – minimum 1.1m x 1.4m or 1.5m x 1.5m | No requirement for accessible toilets |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | General functional requirement for access for approach and door widths | Only applies in part functional requirement for access | Lifts required if more than two storeys | Accessible toilet required 1.65m x 2.15m, with minimum 900mm wide door. All in accordance with 'state of the art' |

CEBC – Access for All – Belgium

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? | | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? |
|--|--|---|---|---|
| | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | | |
| CWATUP (Wallonia) RRU (Brussels) Laws of 17.07.75 & 09.05.77 (FLANDERS) Now obsolete CWATUP most stringent | No | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable |
| Building Type | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | Internal layout | Facilities |
| Dwellings | Maximum gradient of ramps 1 in 3.3 (30%) for ramps not exceeding 0.3m long to 1 in 20 (5%) for ramps 10m long. (Common areas) | Minimum width 1.5m for corridors exceeding 15m long, otherwise 1.2m. | Minimum width of doors 850mm (CWATUP) 830mm (RRU) | No requirement for accessible toilets except where accessible to the public |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | Maximum gradient of ramps 1 in 3.3 (30%) for ramps not exceeding 0.3m long to 1 in 20 (5%) for ramps 10m long. | Minimum width 1.5m for corridors exceeding 15m long, otherwise 1.2m. | Minimum width of doors 850mm (CWATUP) 830mm (RRU) | Accessible toilet required, minimum width of door 930mm |
| | Entrance doors minimum width 930mm (RRU) or 850mm (CWATUP) | Lift required to rooms not accessible by ramps Minimum lift size 1.1m x 1.4m | | |

CEBC – Access for All – Croatia

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Building Type | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | Internal layout Facilities |
| The Building Act 2003 (amended 2004) | Yes, 2005 Regulations but generally applies to new buildings only. Does not apply to dwellings unless there are more than ten flats in a building | Performance based | Yes; Guidance by the Minister responsible for building. Published in the Narodne novine (Official gazette of the Republic of Croatia) |
| Dwellings | Not applicable | <p>Not applicable for single dwellings.</p> <p>Minimum width of corridors 1.2m in apartments.</p> | <p>Not applicable for single dwellings.</p> <p>Minimum door width in apartments 800mm.</p> |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | Ramps required where there is a difference in level of less than 1.2m. Maximum gradient 1 in 20, minimum width 1.2m Entrance doors minimum width 1.1m | <p>Minimum width of corridor 1.5m</p> | <p>Minimum width of doors 900mm.</p> <p>Lift required where floor levels differ by more than 1.2m – Lift minimum 1.1m x 1.4m</p> <p>Minimum of one toilet for disabled. Size varies from 2.25m x 2.25m to 1.90m x 1.90m depending on the building type.</p> |

CEBC – Access for All – Cyprus

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Streets and Buildings Law | Yes by Regulation 61H of Streets and Buildings Law. New buildings and extensions and alterations | Part performance based and part prescriptive. | No, but future revised regulations will give guidance. | |
| Building Type | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | Internal layout | Facilities |
| Dwellings | Regulations do not apply to dwellings unless there are more than 5 dwellings in a new multi-storey building and/or a need for more than 5 parking places. | Regulations do not apply to dwellings unless there are more than 5 dwellings in a new multi-storey building and/or a need for more than 5 parking places. | Regulations do not apply to dwellings unless there are more than 5 dwellings in a new multi-storey building and/or a need for more than 5 parking places. | Regulations do not apply to dwellings unless there are more than 5 dwellings in a new multi-storey building and/or a need for more than 5 parking places. |
| | Requirements as below. | Requirements as below. | Requirements as below. | Requirements as below. |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | Maximum gradient of ramps 1 in 15 up to 5m long and 1 in 20 over 5m long. Minimum width of ramp 1.2m. With kerbs 150mm high Minimum clear width of entrance 900mm. | Internal door widths not controlled, corridors minimum width of 1.25m generally. For hallways to lift and stairs a minimum 1.5m wide | Passenger lifts not mandatory but usually provided where more than three storeys minimum size 1.1m x 1.4m | Accessible toilet provision of minimum size 2.0m x 2.0m |

CEBC – Access for All – Czech Republic

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Town and Country Planning and Building Regulations: Act of Parliament 50/1976 Coll. | Yes Public Notice No 369/2001. Applies to extensions to existing buildings as well as new buildings. | Performance based. | No | |
| Building Type | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | Internal layout | Facilities |
| Dwellings | Maximum gradient of ramps 1 in 12, 1 in 8 where ramp is less than 3.0m long Minimum entrance door width 900mm. | Corridors and hallways have to be sufficient width for the use of wheelchairs. Minimum width of doors prescribed. Passenger lifts required for buildings with more than four storeys. | Minimum width of doors Passenger lifts required for buildings with more than four storeys. | Toilet for disabled required minimum size 1.4m x 1.4m. Minimum door width 900mm. |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | Maximum gradient of ramps 1 in 12, 1 in 8 where ramp is less than 3.0m long Minimum entrance door width 900mm. | Corridors and hallways have to be sufficient width for the use of wheelchairs. Minimum width of doors prescribed. Passenger lifts required for buildings with more than four storeys. | Minimum width of doors Passenger lifts required for buildings with more than four storeys. | Toilet for disabled required minimum size 1.4m x 1.4m. Minimum door width 900mm. |

CEBC – Access for All – Denmark

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? | | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? Generally performance based. | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? Yes; Outdoor areas for all and Dwellings accessibility. |
|---|--|---|--|--|
| | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | | |
| Building Type | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | Internal layout | Facilities |
| Dwellings | Approach to building to be at least 1.3m wide. Maximum gradient of ramps 1 in 20 and minimum width 1.3m. Minimum width of entrance door 900mm. | Minimum width of hallway 1.3m. Lift required if 3 storeys or more, minimum size 1.1m x 1.4m. | Minimum width of ramps 1.3m. Maximum gradient 1 in 20. Minimum width of door 900mm | No mandatory requirements. 1.1m ‘free’ space required at WC's and baths. At least one suitable WC for disabled to be provided. |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | Approach to building at least 1.3m wide. Maximum gradient of ramps 1 in 20 and 1.3m minimum width. Minimum width of entrance door 900mm. | Minimum width of corridor 1.3m. | Minimum width of ramps 1.3m Maximum gradient 1 in 20. Passenger lifts required if 3 storeys or more, minimum size 1.1m x 1.4m Minimum door width 900mm. | |

CEBC – Access for All – England and Wales

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? |
|---|--|--|---|
| Building Type | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | Facilities |
| The Building Act 1984 The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and 2005. | Yes The Building Regulations 2000. | Performance based. | Yes; Approved Document M and BS 8300 : 2001. |
| Dwellings | New dwellings only. Approach has to have firm surface from site boundary. Maximum gradient 1 in 12, and minimum width 900mm Minimum width of entrance doors 775mm. | Hallways generally a minimum of 900mm wide. Lifts not mandatory but usually provided where there are more than three storeys. | Internal door width generally 775mm, sometimes 800mm. WC with a minimum width of 900mm required in entrance storey. May be in bathroom. |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | Approach to be level or gentle gradient. Maximum gradient 1 in 12 and minimum width 1.5m Minimum width of entrance doors 800mm or 1.0m to public buildings. | Minimum width of corridors 1.2m. | At least one suitable WC minimum size 1.5m x 2.2m. 800mm minimum width door opening outwards. Lift required for two or more storeys 1.1m x 1.4m wide. |

CEBC – Access for All – Estonia

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? | | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| | Contained in the Decree. | Performance based. | | |
| Building Type | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | Internal layout | Facilities |
| Dwellings | Not applicable. | Not applicable. | Not applicable. | Not applicable. |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | Maximum gradient of ramp for new buildings 1 in 16.6, existing buildings 1 in 10. Entrance doors minimum 800mm wide, 20mm maximum threshold. | Non slip surfaces to floors. Widths of corridors depend on type of building. | No minimum width of internal doors. Lift required to public rooms on a different floor, minimum 1.1m x 1.4m | At least one WC to be provided minimum size 2.2m x 2.5m. Doors to open outwards. |

CEBC – Access for All – Finland

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? | | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? Partly Performance based, partly prescriptive. | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? No |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | | |
| Land Use and Building Act and Land Use and Building Decree. | National code of Finland, Part F1, Barrier Free Building and G1, Housing Design. Lesser extent in dwellings and small workplaces. Applies to extensions as well as new buildings. | | | |
| Building Type | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | Internal layout | Facilities |
| Dwellings | Maximum gradient of ramp 1 in 12.5 Minimum width of entrance doors 800mm. | 1.3m turning circle required by fire regulations. | Minimum door width. Lift required for three storeys or more minimum size 1.1m x 1.4m. | One WC suitable for the disabled in buildings where a lift is required |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | Maximum gradient of ramps 1 in 12.5 Minimum width of entrance doors 850mm. | Minimum turning circle 1.5m. Ramps as external ramps. | Minimum door width. If ramp not practicable a lift of minimum 1.1m x 1.4m required. | Minimum door width 850mm for toilet(s) for disabled required depending on design and use. |

CEBC – Access for All – France

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? | | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | | |
| No. 2005-102 du 11 Février 2005 pour l'égalité des droits, et des chances, la participation et la citoyenneté des personnes handicapées. | Order 1 st August 2006 for flats and single dwellings, and public buildings Order 26 th February 2007 for workplaces and changes of use. Order 21 st March 2007 for alterations to public buildings | | Performance based | Draft guidance being prepared |
| Building Type | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | Internal layout | Facilities |
| Dwellings | Maximum gradient of ramp 1 in 20, minimum width 1.2m Minimum width of entrance doors 900mm | Hallways minimum width 1.2m. Turning circle 1.5m Minimum lighting level 100 lux | Minimum width of doors 800mm Lift required for more than three storeys | Minimum free space at side of WC and outside door 800mm x 1.3m |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | Maximum gradient of ramp 1 in 20, minimum width 1.4m Minimum width of entrance doors 900mm and 1.4m if occupancy exceeds 100 people | Hallways minimum width 1.4m. Turning circle 1.5m Minimum lighting level 100 lux | Minimum width of doors 900mm and 1.4m if occupancy exceeds 100 people Lift required to EN 81-70 | Minimum free space at side of WC and outside door 800mm x 1.3m |

CEBC – Access for All – Germany

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? Gesetz zur Gleichstellung von Menschen mit Behinderungen vom 01.05.2000 und 11.12.1003 des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen Building Act of North Rhine-Westphalia 2000 | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? § 55 Building Act and DIN (allgemein anerkannte Regeln der Technik) 18024 | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? Performance based Yes § 55 Building Act and DIN (allgemein anerkannte Regeln der Technik) 18024 | |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| Building Type | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | Internal layout | Facilities |
| Dwellings | Maximum gradient of ramps 1 in 16.5m, minimum width 1.5m with 1.5m platforms every 6m. Entrance doors minimum 900mm wide | Minimum width 1.5m | Minimum width of doors 900mm. Access required by ramps or lifts to at least one flat if more than two storeys. 1.1m x 1.4m lift required where there are more than five storeys | Accessible toilet with at least 1.5 x 1.5m clear area and same for lobby to toilet. |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | | | Minimum width 1.5m | 1.1 x 1.4 lift required in public buildings |

CEBC – Access for All – Iceland

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| Planning and Building Act 73/1997. | Building Regulation 441/1998. Applies to alterations and extensions of existing buildings as well as new buildings. | Performance based. | Yes; Several technical guidance documents issued by the Building Research Institute of Iceland. | |
| Building Type | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | Internal layout | Facilities |
| Dwellings | Details in guidance documents. Minimum width of entrance doors 800mm. | Hallways and corridors are controlled. Minimum width of doors on escape routes 900mm. | Maximum gradient of ramps 1 in 20. Emergency or temporary ramp 1 in 6. If four storeys or more a lift 1.1m x 2.1m required. | WC suitable for disabled in accordance with B.R.I. of Iceland. |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | Details in guidance documents. Minimum width of entrance doors 900mm. | Reception areas not covered but hallways and corridors are controlled. Minimum width of doors on escape routes 900mm. | Maximum gradient of ramps 1 in 20. Emergency or temporary ramp 1 in 6. If two storeys or more 1.1m x 1.4m lift required. | WC suitable for disabled in accordance with B.R.I. of Iceland. |

CEBC – Access for All – Ireland

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? | |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| Building Control Act 2007. | Building Regulations 2000. (currently under review) Access for people with disabilities. | Performance based. Existing buildings not to be altered to make access worse. | Technical guidance Part M, BS 8300:2001 and other guidance. | |
| Building Type | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | Internal layout | Facilities |
| Dwellings | Dwellings must be 'visitible'. Maximum gradients of ramps 1 in 12. Minimum width 900mm. Minimum width of entrance doors 775mm. | Dimensions of doors and windows as Diagram 12 | Minimum width of doors 750 – 800mm. No guidance on ramps. Lift not required to single dwellings. Required if more than 8 flats in total above entrance level. | Diagram 15 for minimum sizes. Door width 750mm. |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | Approach from car park or adjacent road should be level. Maximum gradient of ramp 1 in 12. Minimum width 1.0m. Minimum width of entrance doors 800mm. | Minimum corridor width 1.2m. | Minimum width of doors 750mm. Ramps as external. Lift 1.1 x 1.4m required to two storey building over 280m ² floor area or three storey over 200m ² floor area. | Accessible WC minimum 2.0m x 1.5m. Door width 750mm. |

CEBC – Access for All – Italy

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| Law 9 January 1989 N13 Law 5 February 1992 N104 | | Yes Ministerial Decree N236 Presidential Decree N503 Presidential Decree N380 Ministerial Decree Circular 1.3.02 n4 Applies to dwellings and commercial | Performance based. | Yes Minister of Health and Ministry of Interior guidelines. |
| Building Type | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | Internal layout | Facilities |
| Dwellings | Minimum width of ramps 900mm. Maximum gradient 1 in 12.5 Minimum width of entrance door 800mm | Minimum width of hallway 1.0m. | Minimum door width 750mm 1.3m x 950mm minimum lift size in new dwellings where there are more than 3 storeys. If less, space provision for future adaptation should be made. | WCV minimum sizes specified. |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | Minimum width of ramps 900mm. Maximum gradient 1 in 12.5 Minimum width of entrance door 800mm increasing as number of employees increases. | Minimum width of corridor 1.0m. | Minimum door width as approach to building i.e. 800mm plus limited use of internal ramps permitted. Lift provided in alteration work minimum 1.2m x 800mm. | At least one accessible toilet per storey in public buildings. |

CEBC – Access for All – Latvia

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? |
|----------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Building Type | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | Facilities |
| Building Law | General Construction Provisions LBN 211-98 Multi storey dwelling houses. LBN 208-00 Public buildings. Applies to new and existing buildings. | Performance based | Yes LBN 006-01 Essential demands for buildings. |
| Dwellings | Minimum width of entrance doors 1.2m. Maximum gradient of ramps 1 in 20 but for short ramps 1 in 12. | Not applicable to single dwellings. In multi storey houses minimum width of hallway 1.2m | Lifts required for new multi storey dwellings minimum size 1.1 x 1.4m. Minimum width of internal doors 1.2m. Maximum gradient of ramps 1 in 12. |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | Minimum width of entrance doors 1.2m. Maximum gradient of ramps 1 in 12. Minimum width of ramp 1.2m. | Minimum width of corridors 1.8m. Minimum width of doors 1.2m. | Minimum internal door width 1.2m. Lifts required for new buildings used by the public, minimum size 1.1 x 1.4m. Maximum gradient of ramps 1 in 12. |

CEBC – Access for All – Lithuania

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? | |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| Law on social integration for disabled people and Law on Construction. | Yes; Law on Construction (CTR) 2.03.01 : 2001 (CTR) 2.06.01 : 1999 Does not apply to single dwellings or temporary buildings. | Performance based. | No. | |
| Building Type | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | Internal layout | Facilities |
| Dwellings | Disabled parking required within 60m of building. Minimum width of ramp 1.2m Maximum gradient 1 in 12. 850mm clear width to entrance door. Maximum threshold 20mm. | Must be able to move freely in every room. Generally 900mm required. | Minimum clear width at doors 850mm. Minimum lift size 1.1m x 1.4m. | No requirement as such but minimum sizes and facilities recommended. |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | Disabled parking required with 60m of building. Minimum width of ramp 1.2m Maximum gradient 1 in 12. 850mm clear width to entrance door. Maximum threshold 20mm. | Minimum width of corridors 1.5m, increased dependent on position of doors in corridors. | Minimum clear width at doors 850mm. Minimum lift size 1.1m x 1.4m. | No requirement as such but minimum sizes and facilities recommended. |

CEBC – Access for All – Netherlands

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? | |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| Housing Act 1992 – clause 2 | Dutch Building Decree 2003 Chapter 4. Only applies to new buildings. | Performance based but with given values. | No. | |
| Building Type | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | Internal layout | Facilities |
| Dwellings | Controlled by byelaws of different municipalities. Maximum threshold 20mm. | Minimum width of hallway 850mm If provided in flats a minimum size of 1.05m x 2.05m. | Provision of lifts not stipulated. | A minimum of one accessible toilet is required. Minimum size 900mm x 1.2m. |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | Controlled by byelaws of different municipalities. Maximum threshold 20mm. | Minimum width of corridor 1.2m If provided minimum size 1.05m x 1.35m. | Provision of lifts not stipulated. | A minimum of one accessible toilet is required. Minimum size 1.65m x 2.2m. |

CEBC – Access for All – Northern Ireland

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? | |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| The Building Regulations (Northern Ireland) Order 1979 The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (as modified by Schedule 8) | The Building Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2000 (as amended). | Performance based. | Yes; Technical Booklet R BS 8300 : 2001 | |
| Building Type | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | Internal layout | Facilities |
| Dwellings | Approach to be firm and even to the principal entrance. Maximum gradient of ramps 1 in 12. Minimum width 900mm. 1 in 15 on ramps 5 -10m long. Minimum width of entrance door 775mm, level threshold. | Hallways at entrance storey minimum 900mm wide. Minimum width of internal doors 750mm to 800mm dependent on layout. | Minimum width of internal doors 750mm to 800mm dependent on layout. Minimum width of ramps 1.2m Lifts not mandatory but recommended size 900mm x 1.25m. | W.C required in entrance storey minimum 900mm wide x 750mm space in front of W.C pan. At least one accessible WC necessary, minimum size 1.5m x 2.2m. |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | Minimum width of access route 1.5m, firm and even to principal entrance. Maximum gradient 1 in 12 to 1 in 20 dependent on length. Minimum width of entrance door 800mm. | Minimum width of corridor 1.2m with passing places. | Internal door minimum width 800mm. Minimum width of ramps 1.3m Lift required to any storey above or below principal entrance minimum 1.1m x 1.4m. | At least one accessible WC necessary, minimum size 1.5m x 2.2m. |

CEBC – Access for All – Norway

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? | |
|----------------------------------|---|---|---|--|
| Planning and Building Act | Chapter X, Norwegian Technical Regulations. Applies to 'substantially renewed' and new buildings. | Functional. | Yes; Building for Everyone – universal design of buildings and outdoor spaces. | |
| Building Type | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | Internal layout | Facilities |
| Dwellings | Access required where four or more dwellings are erected. Ramp gradients generally not exceeding 1 in 20 but may be 1 in 12 for short ramps. Minimum entrance door width 1.0m and maximum threshold 25mm. | Minimum width of hallways 900mm. Turning space for wheelchair 1.5m x 1.5m. Lift required where there are more than four storeys and more than twelve dwellings. Minimum size 1.1m x 1.4m. | No minimum internal door width but should be 900mm if wheelchair use is envisaged. Lift required where there are more than four storeys and more than twelve dwellings. Minimum size 1.1m x 1.4m. | Should have a layout suitable for disabled people. WC compartment 2.2m x 2.25m. In lodgings houses, 1 in 10 rooms should have this facility. |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | Access path minimum width 1.4m increasing to 1.8m where the path exceeds 12m. Ramp gradients generally not exceeding 1 in 20 but may be 1 in 12 for short ramps. Minimum entrance door width 1.0m and maximum threshold 25mm. | Minimum width of corridors 900mm with turning space for wheelchairs 1.5m x 1.5m. Lifts required in public buildings with more than three storeys. Minimum size 1.1m x 1.4m. | Minimum width to allow wheelchair access. Generally 900mm wide. | At least one accessible WC to be provided 2.2m x 2.25m In lodging houses, 1 in 10 rooms should have this facility. |

CEBC – Access for All – Poland

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? |
|--|--|--|---|
| Building Type | Approach to the building | Facilities | |
| Internal layout | Lobbies and hallways etc | | |
| Act of 7 th July 1974 Construction Law | Regulation of Minister of Infrastructure of 12 th April 2002. Applies to extensions as well as new buildings. | Performance based. | Yes; General guidance and Proceeding Code – Disability Management in Places of Employment. Principles for handicap changes the disabled? |
| Dwellings | External ramp gradient depends on the height of change of level. 150mm rise, maximum gradient 1 in 6.6 over 0.5m rise, maximum gradient 1 in 16.6. Minimum width 1.2m, kerbs 70mm. Minimum width of entrance door 900mm. Maximum threshold 20mm. | Minimum width of hallway in flat 1.2m but 900mm is possible in part. | Minimum width of internal doors 800mm. Ramp gradient depends on height of change of level. 150mm rise, maximum gradient 1 in 6.6 0.5m rise, maximum gradient 1 in 12.5. Lift required if building exceeds 12m high or four storeys. |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | External ramp gradient depends on the height of change level. 150mm rise, maximum gradient 1 in 6.6 over 0.5m rise, maximum gradient 1 in 16.6. Minimum width 1.2m, kerbs 70mm. Minimum width of entrance door 900mm. Maximum threshold 20mm. | No control | At least one accessible toilet on any floor level that is accessible to wheelchair users. Manoeuvring space at least 1.5m x 1.5m. |
| | | | At least one accessible toilet on any floor level that is accessible to wheelchair users. Manoeuvring space at least 1.5m x 1.5m. |

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? | |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| Building (Scotland) Act 2003 | Yes Building (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (amended 2006), applies to new buildings, extensions, alterations and conversions. | Functional | Yes Domestic and non-domestic guides. | |
| Building Type | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | Internal layout | Facilities |
| Dwellings | Minimum width of ramp 900mm for one dwelling, 1.2m for up to ten dwellings. Maximum gradient 1 in 12 up to 2m, 1 in 13 up to 3m then 1 in 20. Minimum clear width of entrance doors 800mm. Threshold max. 15mm | Hallway widths generally a minimum of 900mm. Common areas in flats 1.2m wide | Minimum width of internal doors 775/800mm depending on width of hallway Ramps as external. Lift required for flats if a floor is more than 10m above entrance storey, usually five storeys, minimum size 1.1 x 1.4m | Accessible WC required with minimum space in front of the WC pan 1.1m x 800mm. Accessible bath or shower required |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | Minimum width of ramp 1.8m from parking/drop off, otherwise 1.2m. Gradients as above. Minimum clear width of entrance door 800mm. | Minimum corridor width 1.2m. | Minimum width of doors 800/850mm depending on width of corridor Lift required to all floors except for limited function uses. Platform lift may be used in smaller and existing buildings | Accessible WC required minimum size 2.2m x 1.5m if sanitary facilities are provided |

CEBC – Access for All – Slovak Republic

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? |
|---|---|---|--|
| Act Nr. 50/1967 Code. Building Act Land use Planning and Building Order. | Yes Code of the Ministry of Environment of Slovak Republic Nr 532/2002 (Part 3 deals with the disabled) | Prescriptive | No, prescribed in Regulations |
| Building Type | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | Internal layout Facilities |
| Dwellings | Maximum gradient of ramp 1 in 12 and minimum width 1.3m (Exceptionally gradient may be a maximum of 1 in 8) Minimum width of entrance door 900mm | Minimum width of hallway 900mm unless specifically for the disabled, then 1.5m Lift 1.1m x 1.4m required if there are more than four storeys | Minimum width of door 800mm. In flats for disabled 900mm Accessible toilet 1.4m x 1.8m is necessary, but 1.6m x 1.8m in a new building with outward opening door |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | Maximum gradient of ramp 1 in 12 and minimum width 1.3m (Exceptionally gradient may be a maximum of 1 in 8) Minimum width of entrance door 900mm | Minimum turning circle 1.5m Minimum width of corridor 1.5m or 1.8m where it is required for two wheelchairs to pass | Minimum width of door 800mm. Accessible toilet 1.4m x 1.8m is necessary, but 1.6m x 1.8m in a new building with outward opening door Lift 1.1m x 1.4m required in public building if there are more than two storeys |

CEBC – Access for All – Slovenia

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? | |
|----------------------------------|--|--|---|--|
| Building Type | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | Internal layout | Facilities |
| The Building Act 2002. | Yes Rules on providing Free Access, Entrance and Use of Public Buildings and Dwellings. Does not apply to buildings with less than ten dwellings. Generally only applies to new buildings. | Mostly performance based. | Yes SIST ISO TR 8527 Building Construction – Needs of Disabled People. | |
| Dwellings | Maximum gradient of ramps 1 in 15, minimum width 900mm if ramp exceeds 6m. Otherwise maximum gradient 1 in 12. Minimum width of entrance doors | No minimum width of hallways. Internal ramps not controlled. | Minimum width of internal doors 800m. Lifts required to buildings with five or more storeys. | Accessible WC of minimum width 1.0m. May be in bathroom. |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | Maximum gradient of ramps 1 in 15, minimum width 900mm if ramp exceeds 6m. Otherwise maximum gradient 1 in 12. Minimum width of entrance doors 760mm with level threshold. | No minimum width of corridors. Internal ramps as external ramps. | Lift required for building with three or more storeys. Two lifts if eight or more storeys. | At least one accessible WC at least 1.6m wide with floor area at least 3.5m ² . |

CEBC – Access for All – Spain

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? | |
|---|--|---|---|---|
| Many Acts of Parliament including the Royal Decree 556/1989 | Yes It is regulated only in some regions but the legislation differs in each local authority. Will be regulated in a national scope by the Building Regulation Technical Code that came into force partially in 2006. | Performance based. | Technical Guide for Building Accessibility 2001. | |
| Building Type | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | Internal layout | Facilities |
| Dwellings | Level entry with a minimum door width of 850mm. | Minimum width of hallway 800mm. | Lift required in certain cases. Minimum width of hallway 1.05m Minimum width of internal doors 850mm. Lift minimum size 1.0m x 1.2m. | At least one WC per dwelling. |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | Level entry with a minimum entrance door width of 850mm. | Minimum width of corridors 900mm. | Minimum width of corridor 1.2m Minimum width of internal doors 850mm. Lift minimum size 1.0m x 1.2m | At least one accessible WC for each sex. Minimum size 1.5m x 2.1m. |

CEBC – Access for All – Sweden

| Legislation – Acts of Parliament | Is the legislation enforced through the building regulations? | Are the regulations prescriptive, functional or performance based? | Is the legislation/regulations supported by guidance notes? Guidance is included in the Building Regulations. |
|--|--|---|--|
| Building Type | Approach to the building | Lobbies and hallways etc | Internal layout Facilities |
| The Planning and Building Act The Act on Technical Requirements for Construction. | Yes The Building Regulations | Performance based. | Accessible WC required minimum size 1.7m x 1.9m. Minimum clear width of entry to WC 800mm. |
| Dwellings | Maximum gradient of ramps 1 in 12, minimum width 1.3m. Minimum clear width of entrance 800mm. | Minimum width of hallways 1.1m in apartments, in common areas 1.3m. Maximum gradient of ramps 1 in 12. | Lift required if there are more than two storeys. Minimum size 1.1m x 1.4m. |
| Non-domestic (commercial) | | | Lift required for two storeys and above. Minimum size 1.1m x 1.4m |
| | | | Accessible WC required for employees and customers. Minimum size 2.2m x 2.2m with 800mm clear width of entry to WC. |

Building construction – Accessibility and usability of the built environment

Construction – Accessibilité et facilité d'utilisation de l'environnement bâtiment.

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