



Making Ryde Beach Accessible For All





Ryde is the largest town on the Isle of Wight with 5 miles of sandy beaches.

Unfortunately, current lack of accessibility means that many residents and visitors are excluded from enjoying it if using wheelchairs, mobility scooters or require walkers for stability.

Ryde Town Council strongly believe that nobody should feel excluded due to lack of access to facilities. Therefore, we want to make two of the most popular stretches of the beach accessible to wheelchair users, and people who struggle with mobility, so they too can enjoy beach days with their friends and family.

In consultation with local accessibility champions Unlimited Island, Isle Access and the IoW Council, we propose the installation of a seasonal walkway to create an access route on the sand for pedestrians, families with pushchairs and people with limited mobility or in wheelchairs.

After thorough research, the consensus is that opting for a wooden boardwalk, as opposed to a plastic mat, would ensure greater durability and offer a more cost-effective solution.



The temporary walkway will be located on two of the busiest stretches of beaches: 1) next to the Marina and 2) close to the Lifeguard Station.

The first boardwalk will facilitate access for people in regular wheelchairs, and families with pushchairs etc.

The hire of elevated sun loungers will conveniently be offered by the Beach Crew as part of their services.

Path for indication only - exact positioning might vary.



The second boardwalk will give access from the pavement to the Lifeguard Station where Beach wheelchairs, Beach Walkers and Sea Wheelchairs can be booked and collected.

The use of the Sea Wheelchairs will be restricted to the water closest to the Lifeguard Station for obvious safety reasons.

Path for indication only - exact positioning might vary.



Based on the results of a recent survey (September 2022) sent to a number of island Homes and Services for Adults with Physical and Learning Difficulties, 76% responded that they would go in the sea if they could use a sea wheelchair and 73% would use a beach wheelchair.

The Waterside Pool Lifeguards have successfully secured funding and purchased one beach wheelchair.

Ryde Town Council are working towards adding two more beach wheelchairs to Ryde Beach (one adult and one child sized).





The amphibious chair facilitates the movement and especially the swimming of people with reduced mobility. It offers the possibility to float in calm waters and allows users to enjoy the beach and sea with stability and comfort.

We're hoping to get enough funding for two amphibious chairs.



Ideal for walks on several types of grounds (dry and wet sand, grass, soil, gravel, etc), the rollator allows people with reduced mobility to move independently. Its two rear wheels are equipped with brakes which ensure safety for the user.

Ryde Town Council aim to purchase two beach walkers.



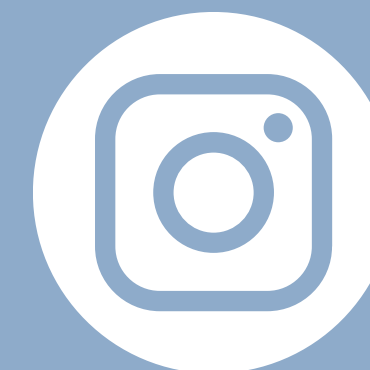
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