



1. Accessibility Assessment of Q-House (Q-talo)

Subject: Accessibility assessment of Q-House (Q-talo) (address: Nummenpuistokatu 2, 20540 Turku) 17 October 2019.

This memo was submitted to the Student Union of the University of Turku on 16 December 2019.

Present: Paula Pietilä, Accessibility Planning Officer, University of Turku
Teppo Lindberg, Caretaker of Premises, Student Union of the University of Turku
Ville Ritola, Specialist in Social Affairs, Student Union of the University of Turku

General

Q-House (Q-talo) is an event venue with banquet facilities on the street level of the building. The premises feature a unified ballroom and stage, as well as a small DJ booth and kitchenette. There are also toilet facilities. Downstairs is the separate rental space Vähä-Heikkilä, as well as storage facilities. They can only be accessed by stairs.

Parking

There are a few parking spaces in front of the building, one of which is marked for the disabled. There is plenty of space in front of the building for dropping people off with a car.

Entrance

The main entrance of the building is reached by going up a ramp. The slope of the ramp is approx. 15%, while the recommended slope is 5-8%. There are no handrails on the ramp. On the left side of the ramp is the wall of the building. The entrance door is heavy and has no automation. There is a bell button on the left side of the door at a height of about 150 cm. It might not be immediately noticeable. There is a 5 cm high threshold at the door.

Ballroom

From the door, the space opens up into a large lobby where movement is unobstructed. The general lighting in the room is dim.

The ballroom has detached chairs which can be freely arranged to accommodate different needs. The stage can be reached by climbing up three steps. There is no alternate route. In the back of the ballroom there is a small kitchen. The doorway to the kitchen space is narrow, and the kitchen cannot be entered with a wide vehicle, such as an electric wheelchair. The door frame is relatively low and taller people are at risk of banging their head. The colour scheme of the kitchen is mostly white and grey.

There is also a small DJ booth in the ballroom. There isn't enough space in it to turn around with assistive equipment.



Toilets

One of the bathroom stalls is tailored for the disabled. There is a lot of space on the right side of the toilet seat and a little less on the left. There is no free space behind the toilet seat. The seat is of normal height, while the recommended height of the seat in an accessible toilet is 45-48 cm. The toilet door lacks a pull handle on the inside. The hand wash basins are located in a separate, shared space. The space is unobstructed, but the sinks, soap dispensers and towel racks are at standing height. There is free space under the sink.

Emergency exit

The emergency exit is located behind the kitchen area. At the time of inspection, there are boxes being stored at the exit. There are a few steps at the emergency exit, but a ramp could also be built along the side of the building.

Downstairs storage facilities

The floor of the staircase room is mostly dark grey and white in colour. The walls are red. There is a handrail on the stairs and the stairs are straight. The storage facilities cannot be reached by an elevator. The storage facilities themselves were not visited during the assessment.