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10.17 Footbridges: general requirements

A Footbridge at a station or one that gives access to a station shall, so far as reasonably practicable, comply with the requirements of *Accessible train station design for disabled people: A code of practice*.

Subject to the overriding requirements of this standard, consideration shall be given to following the requirements of [BD 29/04: Design criteria for footbridges](#). Details that do not comply with [BD29/04](#) (except where changed by this standard) shall be identified in the AIP submission.

The width of the walkways on Footbridges shall be suitable for the current and anticipated pedestrian flows, and shall be determined following consultation with the Principal Architect's team and the Head of Fire Safety Policy. The agreed dimensions of the walkway shall be identified in the AIP submission.

The absolute minimum width of the footway shall be 1.4 m, and there shall be a minimum distance of 1.2 m between handrails. In reconstructing a Footbridge which carries a public footpath, the width of the footpath shall not be reduced where its existing width is less than 1.8 m.

For an enclosed Footbridge that is not located at a station or gives access to a station, the internal headroom dimensions shall be in accordance with either [BS 5395-1: Stairs. Code of practice for the design of stairs with straight flights and winders](#) or [BS EN ISO 14122-2: Safety of machinery. Permanent means of access to machinery. Working platforms and walkways](#).

Consideration shall be given to providing lighting within an enclosed Footbridge.

Except where the cladding or enclosure provides equivalent protection, pedestrian parapets shall be provided on Footbridges in accordance with [TD 19/06](#).

To prevent trespass onto the railway, a barrier that meets the requirements of [NR/L2/TRK/5100](#) shall be provided to Footbridges which are either attached to or integral with an Underline Bridge.

10.18 Footbridges: handrails

In addition to the provision of pedestrian parapets on a Footbridge, pedestrian handrails shall be provided on both sides of stairs, ramps and the approaches to ramps.

Handrails shall either be fixed to the parapet, barrier or structural members, or be self-supporting. Handrails shall only be attached to

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cladding or glazing where the cladding/glazing has been designed to accommodate the attachment and applied loads.

Handrails shall be designed in accordance with [BS 8300](#): *Design of buildings and their approaches to meet the needs of disabled people*, and due account taken of the requirements of *Accessible train station designs for people: A code of practice*.

The height of the handrail shall be not less than 900 mm or more than 1000 mm measured vertically above the surface of a ramp or nosing of stairs.

To facilitate ease of use by disabled people and children, consideration shall be given to providing an additional lower handrail at 450 to 550 mm above the stair nosing or ramp surface. An additional central handrail need only be provided where the width of stairs or ramps exceeds 3 m.

Handrails are not normally required along parapets on spans over the railway, and shall only be provided where (a) the Bridge is enclosed, or (b) the parapet height is increased to provide the required minimum height above the handrail. Where the width of the walkway is adequate, a barrier with handrails may be provided along the middle of the walkway.

10.19 Pedestrian subways

A pedestrian subway passing under the railway shall comply with the applicable requirements for an Underline Bridge, and those for the stairs and ramps of a Footbridge.

10.20 Pipe Bridges

Normally, self-supporting (or free-standing) pipes shall not be permitted to span over railway tracks. Agreement for the construction of self-supporting pipes that carry low pressure water or non-hazardous materials shall only be considered where there is no practicable alternative.

Pipelines that carry liquids or gases over the railway, where the pipes are not supported by or incorporated in a structure, shall be supported on a purpose-designed beam or pipe Bridge. Where reasonably practicable, such beams or pipe Bridges shall span over the railway without intermediate supports. Supports, including intermediate supports where these are not reasonably avoidable, shall comply with either the clearance or impact requirements of **14.4**.

Consideration shall be given to providing:

- side enclosures to facilitate maintenance of the pipe,