

# Worcester Access Map

Project delivered by:



**Grant awarded: £5,000**

## General Overview of the Project

Whilst there was some mapping and sustainable transport/city trail information available for Worcester as a whole, there was a gap in terms of the 'access map' provision and connectivity to the University campuses. Possessing one of the highest percentages of students with a disability attending any UK university (over 10% of learners have accessibility needs in some form) this project has not only benefitted the University's community (10,000) but the city too. The access map is constructed based on the tried and tested Gloucestershire Community Rail Partnership suite, and we have deployed the same model and design team to support the production of this tool for Worcester.

## Project Delivery

The main stakeholders (Worcestershire Community Rail Partnership, Gloucestershire Community Rail Partnership and Worcester University) met initially to map out the project including timescales and resource management. We sourced students who could walk the routes and provide key information for the map maker and employed students through the University's employability service to produce the maps ready for the two-week Welcome Festival in September 2023. This was used as a soft launch to test out the maps and their effectiveness and enable a revised digital version to be provided for Spring 2024 if needed. The resulting map was

checked by the stakeholders and officers within Worcester City Council. Once design and accuracy was agreed we sent to print and also hosted map on WCRP and University websites for use by existing and prospective students of the University.

## Project Impact

There is now an accessible map of Worcester City centre available digitally and in print for use by visitors including students, parents, and other visitors to the area. The printed map has been distributed to several outlets across Worcester including the Tourist Information Centre.

*The Worcester Access Map project undertaken by the students of the University of Worcester, is a lovely project incorporating both inclusivity and sustainability. It brilliantly guides individuals with both visible and hidden disabilities through the city's most accessible routes for walking, wheeling, and cycling. This map not only enhances the mobility experience for visitors but also serves as an invaluable resource for students and staff, and prospective students visiting us for Open days. It's a testament to the power of student-led initiatives and their potential to create impactful, real-world solutions.*

**Katy Boom, Director of Sustainability, University of Worcester**

