Guildford Design Awards Nomination Form 2023

1. Address of scheme:

University of Surrey, Stag Hill Campus, Stag Hill Guildford, GU2 7XH

2. Category of project:

Public Realm

3. Name of Client:

Andy Chalklin: Chief Operating Officer
The University of Surrey Student's Union

4. Architect, Design Consultants or Artist:

Perry Petworth, Lance Wild + David Harding (University of Surrey)

5. Key Contact:

Charlotte Discombe c.discombe@surrey.ac.uk 07779 439751

6. Brief description of the Project:

The University of Surrey (UoS) has been based on Stag Hill since moving from Battersea to Guildford in 1962. Our Stag Hill campus expands over 34 acres of beautiful rolling hills. However, the combination of hilly terrain and 1960s/1970s architecture has often made access difficult for members of our community with mobility disabilities.

This was particularly the case for access to our Student's Union (SU) Nightclub, Hillside Coffee Shop, and Oak Suite meeting rooms – all vibrant, central venues on campus frequently used by our community. All three venues only had one accessible entrance and required wheelchair users to enter various buildings, before being able to enter these spaces. Students with mobility disabilities reported how this negatively impacted their university experience, often avoiding events within these spaces as a result.

Our team's task then was to design and build a ramp that would connect the SU Nightclub, Hillside Coffee Shop and Oak Suite meeting rooms, providing easy and direct wheelchair access for our community.

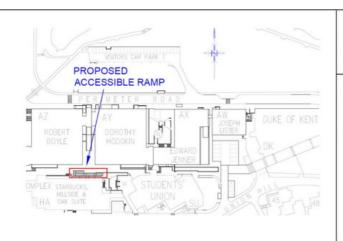
To ensure all needs were met, the team worked closely with the University's Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion team (EDI), setting up regular consultations with the group and the SU to design an accessible ramp.

The design period started July 2021, with the ramp successfully completing in June 2022.

There are many aspects to this ramp that make it incredibly unique:

- Measuring at 26 meters long, the ramp connects three of the UoS most popular venues making them easily accessible, whilst also giving our community multiple ways to enter each building. The 15 meters landing also provides those with mobility disabilities plenty of resting space whilst using the ramp.
- Sat between concrete buildings on a narrow, raised pathway, the ramp was designed to fit into a confined space whilst still providing ample room for wheelchair users. The ramp's shape and length ensured it avoided blocking the surrounding pathway an incredibly high footfall area on campus.
- Placed at the heart of the campus, the ramp's design was developed to fit into the surrounding area, adding to the historical 1960s/1970s architecture that makes up a significant part of the University's story.
- Made from 90% reused and recycled materials, the ramp is a prominent example of the UoS commitment to minimise its environmental impact and develop its campus sustainably.
- Anti-slip tread and appropriate stud hazard warnings were put in place with advice from the University's EDI team to ensure the ramp can be easily and safely used by all.

7. Photographs, elevations, sections + plans:



Location

HA Rubix building, approach to Student Union Building and retail coffee facilities on the upper level.

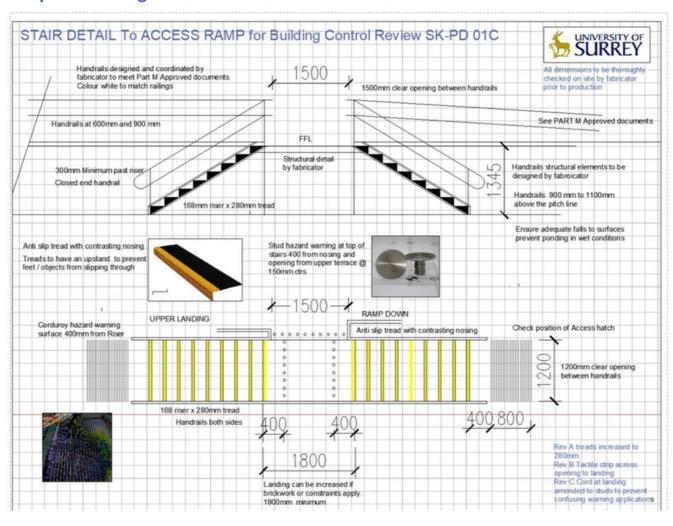


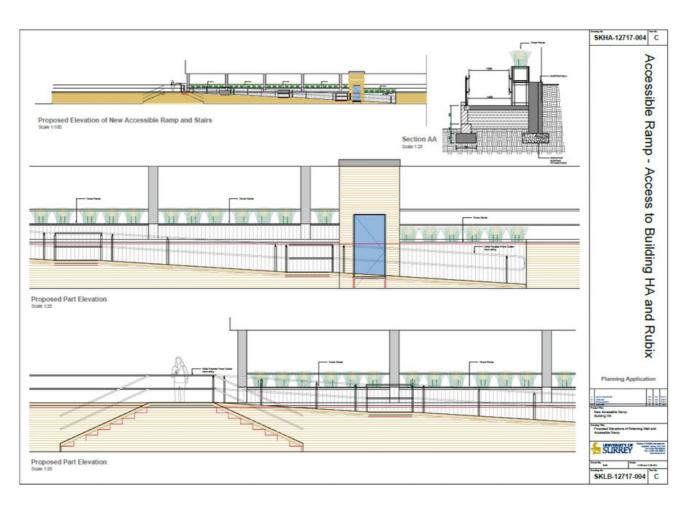
Existing Approach and Access





Proposed Design and Detail for Construction





As Built Installation









