

**EXAMPLES OF AGE FRIENDLY STREET AUDITS – carried out following Pail training session in WHO audit of streets, built environment and open spaces by seniors and volunteers**

**1) AGE FRIENDLY AUDIT OF EMBANKMENT AREA IN WESTMINSTER**

**Embankment Gardens**

**Seating** – Plenty of seating available, divided seats not ideal for the homeless but useful for older people to aid standing up.

**Public Toilets** – Facilities exist but don't seem managed. Pay to use or ask for assistance for disabled toilets, however nobody around.

**Lighting** – Good lighting, park closes at 7pm so the park will always be lit when in use.

**Parks and Green Space** – Lovely park, however would benefit from wardens to police behaviour, substance abuse and homelessness.

**Signage**- Clear signage for park rules and regulations (though not regulated). No directions to station however.

**Walkable streets** – Gate tripping hazard which doesn't serve a purpose. Wide pavements, which can accommodate outdoor seating too.

**Summary:** Good area overall, need to have someone to enforce the rules they have in place. Drinking fountain was a nice touch, however it didn't seem to work.



Tripping hazard beneath one of the gates. It looks like it was historically used as a lock mechanism but now the gate is locked with a chain.



Outdoor exercise area was a nice addition.



The inclusion of toilets was useful, however nobody seemed to be about to allow access to the accessible toilets.



Very detailed, easy to read map, signposting current location as well as all the necessary amenities.

### Embankment Bridge

**Signage** - No sign to the lift on the North sign of the river when approaching from the East, which needs some indication before people take the stairs. However, very good that there was a lift available to get up onto the bridge – even better that there were two on the other end.

Not sure which side of the stairs to walk on so some signage would be useful to indicate which side to walk on and which side to hold onto the hand rails.

**Walkable streets** – Wide path with plenty of room, some cyclists and unsure if cyclists are allowed to bike on the bridge.

**Summary** – Lift a very good touch, need to further enforce rules for cyclists on bridge.



The lift was particularly useful, but needs a sign for it on the other side of the bridge.

### **South Bank towards aquarium**

**Seating** – A few seats and plenty of wall seating if people are happy to use those.

**Toilets** – Very clean, clearly maintained toilets open 24 hours and usable with the radar key.

**Lighting** – Plenty of rustic lighting.

**Signage** – Lots of signs, which are large and clear and informative. Indicate where the local amenities like toilets are located.

**Walkable streets** – Very wide street, pedestrianised area so no hazard of traffic. Quite busy and lively and some cyclists.

**Summary:** Pleasant area, walkable and safe. Noise level can be disorientating.



Another useful map highlighting the area. This one seemed to be missing a few of the facilities in the immediate area however.

### **Jubilee Gardens**

**Seating** – Plenty of seating on walls and benches. Divided seats again which will aid in standing up.

**Parking** – Very unsafe to drop people off. Single lane road that isn't one way with lots of congestion and traffic which got quite dangerous at times. Not safe to drop off. Also not a specified drop off point as there were double yellow lines.

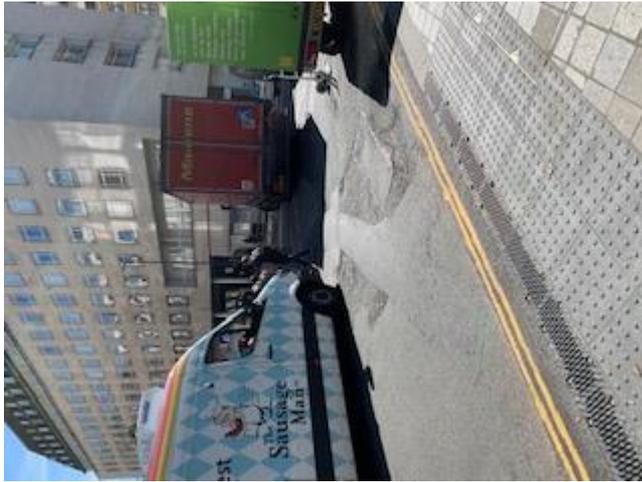
**Street Crossing** – No street crossing present however a VERY BUSY CROSSING POINT, so would benefit from a zebra crossing. Several people we're having to navigate the congestion and cyclists, very dangerous as people use it as a walkway between Waterloo station and the Jubilee Walkway. Cars were driving on the pavement to get around. Lots of bike tours went past which were likely to not be experienced cyclists.

**Lighting** – The garden doesn't appear to close, but there were a lot of heavy duty lighting to light up the area at night time.

**Parks and Green Space** – Clean and well maintained, could benefit with a Warden to further enforce the park rules.

**Signage** – Small green and yellow sign that blends in with the background. Small font which is difficult to read. The rules and regulations were easy to read however and lots of rules.

**Summary:** First point of access to road and needs serious attention to make it safer. Lots of building work going on which could also pose a hazard and force older people to cross the dangerous road. The garden itself was charming though.



The chaotic road crossing. The traffic here had come to a standstill and pedestrians were trying to weave through the vans and lorries. Buses were also trying to come the other way. Makes it difficult to use as a drop off point.



Good signage in the garden, though some people may miss it due to the colouring.



Split benches look as though they would make it easier for an older person to get back up from the addition of more arm rests.

### **Festival Hall/Film Theatre**

**Seating** – Very little seating available in food market area – 8 tables to serve hundreds of people so people resorted to sitting on stairs which could be daunting to older people as well as posing a health and safety risk.

**Toilets** – Plenty of toilets within the buildings and well signposted within the building.

**Parking** – Disabled and blue badge spaces were full of motorbikes. Unsure if the spaces have been repurposed for bikes, but the blue badge sign looked new and was very much in place.

**Public Building** – Film Theatre signposted a lift which led through a very dangerous looking area through motorcycle parking. Upon arrival the lift needed a pass to operate so didn't actually work. Forced to walk back and find an alternative way up.

Inside the Film Theatre there were lifts however they led to a dead end and it turns out there was no way of getting up to the Waterloo Bridge without using stairs or without walking back to the Embankment Bridge.

Some tripping hazards as the floors are uneven.

Had enough stuff inside the Film Theatre to accommodate during an emergency.

**Walkable paths** – Plenty of room, however the path was uneven and someone with difficulty walking or balancing would struggle.

**Summary:** Need an accessible way up from the South Bank up to Waterloo Bridge. It's possible to get halfway up in the Film Theatre however this is pointless as people will need to get all the way up. Plenty of toilets available.



Crowded stairs in the food market would be both intimidating and difficult to navigate for older person (especially considering the difficulty in finding a lift in the area).



Signage indicates it's accessible parking, not for bikes. This needs to be enforced or the signage removed.

### **Waterloo Bridge**

**Lighting** – Adequate lighting for night time.

**Walkable streets** – Pretty narrow walkway, but enough room. Bike lane on the road, however some people were seen to use their bikes in the pedestrian lane regardless. Bike lane cuts off which would encourage people onto the walkway.



Cycle lane cuts off towards the end of the bridge.