



Dynamic Earth

Inclusivity and Accessibility Report

30 January 2024

Dynamic Earth

Holyrood Road,

Edinburgh

EH8 8AS



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Welcome to the Space Investment Forum

As we begin to understand how space technologies can help us solve some of our biggest challenges, the UK Space Agency's **Space Investment Forum** exists to connect investors with the increasingly exciting and innovative UK space sector, accelerating growth and driving new business opportunities, bringing the UK into the forefront of pioneering excellence in the Space Industry.

Our team will make every possible adjustment to meet your inclusivity and accessibility needs. For your needs to be met we kindly ask that you include them in the 'Do you have any accessibility requirements?' section of the registration form once your application to the event has been approved.

This Inclusivity and Accessibility Report is to help make your day at the Space Investment Forum as straight forward and streamline as possible. If you have any questions in advance of the event, please do not hesitate to get in touch at: ben.robson@dods-events.com.

For further information about the venue you can visit the website <https://dynamicearth.org.uk/>

General Information

Assistance dogs

Assistance dogs are permitted in the venue however, this must be included on the 'Do you have any accessibility requirements?' section of the registration form as the venue needs to be notified. Water bowls are provided by the venue and available at the welcome desk. Water bowls are also available on request in the Organisers' Office on the day of the event.. There is an outside space for dogs to use, but there are no dog waste bins outside, however there is a park located opposite the venue which provides dog waste bins.

Audio

There are induction loops in the Plenary room (Biosphere) that has a PA system, but not in public and catering areas. The loop system will be identified in the rooms by the recognised International Symbol of Access. Radios and other electronic items will not interfere with the induction loops.. If you are hard of hearing, please inform us by including this in the 'Do you have any accessibility requirements?' section of the registration form. We will do all we can to find another reasonable solution if none of the above options meet your needs.

Fixtures and Fittings

Space for wheelchairs will be available in the plenary room and we will place the recognised International Symbol of Access sticker on the floor in all rooms to ensure that wheelchair users have the designated clearance space. Standard conference chairs without arms will be used in all rooms, however we will work with individual delegates who make specific requests. Requests that are more specialised, i.e. medical needs, may require the individual to provide their own adjustment solution so as not to compromise their health further.

There is clear lighting for those who may need to lip read, or for those using interpreters on the day. We do not anticipate any lighting issues. Should any lights become faulty or are a concern for a delegate, we will inform the venue and do our best to rectify the situation.

As mentioned, there is venue signage that will be supplemented with our Space Investment Forum signs to help delegates identify the rooms. These wayfinding signs will be on white paper in black, bold arial font with text size no smaller than 70pt. These signs will be positioned at a suitable height for wheelchair users, where possible.

Wheelchair Hire

There are two wheelchairs available for guest use, these are free of charge to hire, and are subject to availability. Please let ben.robson@dods-events.com know if you will be requiring a wheelchair for the day.

Venue Information

Getting to the venue

Bus

The number 35 stops outside of the Scottish Parliament at the bottom of the Canongate (The Royal Mile) and is about a 5-minute walk away from Dynamic Earth. Both stops are called Scottish Parliament. Please note this walk is cobbled and uneven.

Tour Buses operated by Lothian Buses, and First Bus offer direct bus access to Dynamic Earth. The Edinburgh Tour, City Sightseeing Tour, and Bright Bus Tours all stop at Dynamic Earth. All Tour buses depart regularly from Waverley Bridge.

The closest bus stop on the 35 route from starting at Heriot-Watt University is at the Canongate Kirk. Exit the bus and turn right so that you are moving downwards on the Royal Mile. You will approach a zebra crossing-cross the road, here and continue towards Dynamic Earth following the instructions from Reid's Close.

Car

If you are arriving by car, Dynamic Earth has a car park accessed on Holyrood Gait and a drop-off/pick up location in the amphitheatre. The parking fee is on an hourly rate and the pricing structure can be found below. There is one pay machine located inside the car park. If you have any issue with the payment machine there is an 'assistance' button which will connect you to an onsite car park attendant. Additionally, a member of staff can be found in the Car Park Office.

Time	Day Rate
Up to 1 hour	£3.50
1 – 2 hours	£5.50
2 – 3 hours	£8.50
3 – 4 hours	£10.00
4 – 5 hours	£12.00
5 – 6 hours	£15.00
6 – 7 hours	£18.00
7 – 24 hours	£21.00

The Dynamic Earth Car Park is open 24 hours and access is available through the building during opening hours and pedestrian access from Holyrood Gait any time of the day.

The car park is one level, has 120 spaces, including 3 free-to-use electric vehicle charging points (car parking charges still apply), and has a height restriction of approximately 2.3 meters.

Accessible parking

There are 6 Accessible spaces located near the lifts in the Dynamic Earth Car Park.

Parking for Blue Badge Holders is free, please present your blue badge to a member of staff at the main entrance of Dynamic Earth, on level 3, before leaving to ensure your ticket is validated. Please note, lift access is only available during the Dynamic Earth Centre opening hours. There are two lifts available from the car park to the main entrance and the width of the lift doors are 88cm/34.5in. There is a disabled minibus parking area in the amphitheatre if the car park is full or Accessible bays are in use.

If you require assistance outside of the Dynamic Earth Centre opening hours, please use the assistance button at the pay station.

The surface of the car park is concrete and anti-slip paint covers the pedestrian walkways at the front of the access stairs.

On Foot

Dynamic Earth is approximately 20-minute walk from Edinburgh City Centre. Accessible from Holyrood Road, Holyrood Gait and a public footpath from Horse Wynd.

Taxi

The taxi drop-off point is located in the amphitheatre right outside of the building. If you require a taxi please ask a member of the venue staff and they will be able to assist in calling a taxi for you. If you do require a wheelchair accessible taxi please inform the venue staff when ordering a taxi if you require this feature.

Alternatively you can call City Cabs on 01312 281 211 or Central Taxis on 01312 292 468. All Central Taxis are wheelchair accessible and each of their cars are supplied with a wheelchair ramp, seatbelts and additional safety anchors. All Central Taxis drivers have completed courses in Wheelchair Access and Disability Awareness.

A taxi from Edinburgh Waverley train station should cost approximately £8-£10. A taxi from the airport should cost approximately £34-£37.

If you are intending to come to the event by taxi and require assistance when alighting, please send an email to ben.robson@dods-events.com ahead of the event day, to let the team know when you will be arriving.

Train

The nearest train station to Dynamic Earth is Edinburgh Waverley and is a 15–20 minute walk from Dynamic Earth or 5 minutes by taxi.

Tram

The nearest tram stop is on Princes Street and is a 20-25 minute walk away or 5-10 minutes by taxi. Please note that the walk is uneven from the tram to the Dynamic Earth Venue.

Uber

Uber Assist is available in Edinburgh and is an option for those who need additional assistance from a standard UberX vehicle, such as riders travelling with assistance animals, those who have visual or hearing impairments, or riders with foldable wheelchairs. Ubers from the train station should cost approximately £7.

If you are intending to come to the event by Uber and require assistance when alighting, please send an email to ben.robson@dods-events.com ahead of the event day to let the team know when you will be arriving.

Access into the venue

The main entrance is a double pill glass door, and if both doors are opened the width is 246cm/97in. A guide will be situated at the Welcome Desk on entry, and can assist with opening the doors if necessary.

If you need a ramp for your entry, you can access the entrance by using the ramp which extends from the bottom of the amphitheatre to the main entrance and has a handrail lining the ramp. You will find the ramp on the right side of the building as if you were looking at it straight on. Please note that the floor is flat however it is paving slabs which might be uneven in some areas.

If you have mobility impairments that means queuing is difficult for you, please speak to one of the Dods-Events Team and they will be happy to take you to the fast track queue.

Access around the venue

Dynamic Earth is fully accessible for wheelchair users. There is venue signage that will be supplemented with our Space Investment Forum signs to help delegates identify for the best way to navigate their way around the venue. The venue signage is white writing on an orange, purple, blue or green coloured background. Some of the venue signage will also be black writing on a white background. The supplemented wayfinding signs will be on white paper in black, bold arial font with text size no smaller than 70pt. These signs will be positioned at a suitable height for wheelchair users, where possible.

Lifts

There are two lifts which are located on both ends of the venue. These go to every floor and have a capacity of 11 people or 860kg. The lift will announce which floor you will arrive at and when the doors will be opening.

Rooms and locations

All areas and levels are accessible by stairwell or lift. All stairwells have a handrail on either side and more information can be found under the lift section on page 7.

Level 3 | The Ozone and Stratosphere; this is where the 1-2-1 meetings, catering and Drinks Reception will take place

Level 2 | Mezzanine; this is where the toilets are located

Level 1 | The Biosphere; this is where the main plenary room is located

Amenities

Multipurpose Room

Dynamic Earth has a prayer/multipurpose room during the event, it is located on Level 1, at the back of the Biosphere Plenary Room and will be sign posted.

Toilets

The toilets are located on level 2 and are on both ends of the venue alongside an accessible and gender-neutral toilet.

Handrails and a red emergency pull cord are both attached in the accessible toilets. The toilets in the Accessible bathroom are at a height of 46cm or 18in. The sink is at a height of 69cm or 27in.

Additional Information

Programme

If you do require any presentation to be sent to you before the event for accessibility needs please email ben.robson@dods-events.com, who will ensure that you receive them two working days before the event. However, please note that these presentations will be subject to changes.

A showguide will be given to all delegates on the day. This will include details about the Space Investment Forum as well as an agenda and other important information.

Should a delegate require the event programme in an accessible format such as large print, when registering we advise that you do include your request on the 'Do you have any accessibility requirements?' section of the registration form.

Catering

Should you have any dietary requirements or allergies please specify these in the registration form under the dietary requirements question. Straws are available from the Organisers' Office should delegates require one.

Emergencies

Evacuation of delegates in an emergency

In the event of an emergency where evacuation is necessary, the audible and visual fire alarm system will be activated, and a message will be broadcasted via the PA system. Delegates should follow instructions from the staff and fire marshals who will lead guests to the nearest fire exits. Delegates will be lead to the assembly points and asked to wait until it is safe to re-enter the venue. The two available assembly points are located in the following areas:

- On Holyrood Gait outside the staff entrance
- Outside the main entrance of the building to the right-hand side

Both of which a member of our team or the venue will direct you to the closest one.

The venue has two evacuation chairs located each end of the property for those those who have mobility issues and need assistance during an emergency evacuation. These are located on Level 2 on the East and West side of the building. The venue has staffed trained in using the chairs and these staff members will assist guests using the equipment in the event of an emergency. Passenger lifts will not operate during a fire alarm activation.

The venues evacuation procedures features a complete 'sweep/check' of the whole building to ensure that all guests have been evacuated.

First Aid

There will be a first aider on call. If you require first aid, please speak to a member of the organisation team, or a staff member of the venue. There is a dedicated first aid room, located on level 2 which can only be accessed by the venue staff.

If you have any other queries or concerns about Space Forum Investment and the accessibility of the venue, please do not hesitate to contact us by emailing the team at ben.robson@dods-events.com.