

Woodland Walk Construction

As part of the new strategic direction being developed by the RBG Kew teams our main focus is the provision of new learning opportunities as well as the enhancement of the existing offering.

As part of this forward strategy it has been proposed that a new Boardwalk be installed within the conservation area of the gardens to showcase the English native trees within an authentic woodland setting. The proposal is for a 300m long walkway through the area, this will be 1500mm wide through the route and will incorporate several staging areas all as the outline drawing indicates. These areas will act as both passing places and viewing areas with the relevant interpretation and informative displays.

The Walkway will be accessible from either end with the fencing/footpath being adapted to direct the visitors as necessary, with an accessible ramp to DDA standard as a minimum. The walkway itself will have an edging board of approximately 100mm to prevent falls off, no handrail will be required along the length due to this low level provision. At this stage a concept design has been entered as part of this tender package along with the preferred supplier of the materials to be utilised i.e. Millboard, Their Enhanced Grain system has been selected however colour is as yet not determined. The sub-structure and posts are all to be as detailed by Millboard utilising their bespoke offering along with dimensional construction methodology.

It is the Employers intention to commence the installation and erection of this structure during June of this year ready for full use prior to the August holiday period. This new offering will form one section of the works to this general area to entice visitors to spend further time within this general area of the gardens.

The location for the Woodland Walk is remote to other properties within the gardens and as such has no power or water services available again as this work is to be carried out within the gardens site security will be key, full fencing will be required to be installed and maintained at all times around the work areas, this is a quiet section of the gardens with restricted access and therefore less policed than central areas. Vehicles will generally not be permitted within the works areas other than delivery vehicles under strict control. Local provision for welfare facilities along with material storage will be provided within the Stable Yard complex nearby, these will be shared with the horticultural teams.

Taking into account the above details access will be granted to the contractors on each day subject to the standard requirements implied by RBG Kew, the general opening hours will be discussed at the site visit however these may be 10am through 10pm, it is advisable therefore that deliveries to the workface be made before 8-30 with any vehicle being off the garden before 9 each day.