



# **Chain Bridge Forge**

## **Access Policy Statement**

Prepared By:	Geoff Taylor	
Business Name:	The Friends of Chain Bridge Forge	
Address:	Site Address: High Street Spalding Lincolnshire PE11 1TX	Postal Address: 107 Hawthorn Bank Spalding Lincolnshire PE11 1JQ
Tel. Number:	07960 587724	
E-mail	geofftaylor1946@googlemail.com	
Website	<a href="http://www.heritagesouthholland.co.uk">http://www.heritagesouthholland.co.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.chainbridgeforge.co.uk">www.chainbridgeforge.co.uk</a>	
Date for review	April 2023	

## **1. Vision**

Chain Bride Forge Museum is a living museum, which offers exciting and relevant experiences that move, teach and inspire our increasingly diverse audiences

## **2. Our definition of access**

We define access as something that is made possible when physical, cultural, social, financial, intellectual, psychological and emotional barriers are removed, reduced, or overcome.

## **3. Our commitment to accessibility**

The Friends of Chain Bridge Forge are committed to providing the widest possible access to their Museum, collections and services to enable audiences from all sections of the community to enjoy the use of the Museum. Our policy is to build accessibility into everything that we do to develop and improve our services. This commitment is long term and our aim is to make continuous improvements as our resources permit. This commitment extends to our workforce as well as visitors. We are committed to providing our workforce with ongoing training in access issues.

Our policy is to build accessibility into everything that we do to develop and improve the museum. In order to eliminate barriers to access we will consider the following forms of accessibility:

- Physical: to enable people with physical disabilities to reach the public areas of the Museum and appreciate every part of it. This includes the needs of the elderly and of people caring for young children.
- We will ensure sustainable access to collections and that any competing demands of access and long term care of collection items will be managed in accordance with the outcomes of a collection care risk assessment.
- Sensory: to enable those with impaired vision or hearing to enjoy and appreciate the museum's building, exhibitions and collections.
- Intellectual: to enable people with learning disabilities to engage with and enjoy the museum and its collections. We also recognise that people have different learning modes and will provide interpretation in a range of learning styles.
- Cultural: to enable those for whom English is not a first language, or whose knowledge of English history and culture may be limited.
- Emotional and attitudinal: to ensure that the museum environment and workforce are welcoming to visitors from all sections of the community.
- We will provide welcoming staff and learning opportunities for different audiences, different levels of ability and tailor our programmes to meet the needs of specific groups. We will promote all our activities and collections using accessible means of communication.

- Outreach: to connect with external groupings ie Schools other Heritage attractions to deliver an awareness of Blacksmithing remote from the Forge.
- Virtual: to make available online the catalogue of the forge and the collection of Forge artefacts, community documents, photos and oral histories
- Financial: the Friends of Chain Bridge Forge are committed to free admission for all its visitors.

3.3 We pay due regard to intergenerational equality. The rights of future generations to enjoy access to our present collection are safeguarded by high standards of collection care and where necessary by restrictions on handling, or exposure to light, moisture or other harmful environmental conditions.

CBF will adhere to all national and international statutes of law, including specifically in relation to access, but not exclusively the Equality Act 2010, Freedom of Information Act 2000, Data Protection Act 1998 and the Disability Discrimination Act 2005. This is detailed in our specific procedures.

#### Equality Definition

“An equal society protects and promotes equal, real freedom and substantive opportunity to live in the ways people value and would choose, so that everyone can flourish. An equal society recognises what people can do and can be.”

3.5 The museum’s website is fully accessible to disabled people including those who may be using it with the help of special equipment. We recognise is below the best standard and as time and money permits we will seek ADA & WCAG Compliance.

3.6 The museum is open to the public on regular basis as specified at <http://www.chainbridgeforge.co.uk> and a notice displayed on the door.

#### How we will deliver the policy

We will ensure delivery of our approach in a number of ways including but not limited to:

- Implement Equality Framework which includes Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Diversity Impact Assessment of services and sites
- Our community engagement activity in our programmes
- Display and present information to meet peoples learning style
- Ensure Blacksmith Tasters offer approaches which meet the varied needs of our audience needs and their learning styles
- Consideration of access issues, barriers and priorities at the Forge
- We will consult regularly with our audiences and non-users to ensure the broadest possible access to our facilities, services and collections both online and at the Forge