

# **Accessing Permaculture for people with chronic illness and/or disability and people who are neurodivergent**

## **National Permaculture Convergence 2020**

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**NOTE:** This document remains a work in progress with more information to be added as it becomes known.

### **General Accessibility Information**

Most of the site used for the Convergence at Hill End is accessible by wheelchair and is a level ground with only short distances between workshop spaces, dining area, social areas, accessible toilets, wheelchair accessible dormitory plus several single rooms. At this time the route to the camping space is not wheelchair accessible, its also quite an uneven walk to the camping area.

There will be a designated quiet, rest area where there will be space to lie down, though you will need to provide your own mat to lie down on etc

There are reduced ticket rates for Carers/personal assistants of people who are awarded the higher mobility rate of Personal Independence Payment. For information and applications for these, please email [events@permaculture.org.uk](mailto:events@permaculture.org.uk)

Further information about distances between venues and activities at Hill End will follow.

### **Participation in the Convergence**

Each talk or workshop on the programme will include a brief summary of the activities involved so that people can know in advance whether it will be something they are able to participate in. Lineup Ninja, our programming tool, will include details of which sessions are suitable for those requiring wheelchair access; those requiring a degree of mobility; those which are child-friendly and those likely to be noisy or difficult for those with sensory needs and challenges.

There will be "hidden illness/disability" lanyards available for people who wish to wear these with the aim of creating a wider culture of support and understanding. Information about the meaning of the lanyards will be made available to all attending the convergence.

Sadly, we are not in a position to offer British Sign Language services for this event. If you are interested in this service, please get in touch to discuss your needs and suggestions.

### **Accommodation**

Onsite there is one dormitory that is accessible by wheelchair users. It has wheelchair friendly showers and toilets. There is ample space between beds for access by and storing of wheelchairs and other mobility equipment.

The camping area is not set-up for wheelchair access. Though it is feasible to get in and out, support will be needed. There will be a wheelchair accessible toilet in this area. The distance from campsite to main event areas is about 50m.

We are awaiting details of whether we can park campervans onsite for those with mobility issues and other hidden illnesses/disabilities. **Details TBC.**

We are awaiting further information about suitably accessible local accommodation away from Hill End.

## **Transport**

Buses - The frequent (every 15 mins) bus to the minibus pickup point is wheelchair accessible see [this link](#) for more details.

The Permaculture Association will provide a wheelchair accessible minibus from the collection point to the event venue.

Please get in touch to discuss your own accessibility requirements if needed and we will do our best to provide you with the right support.

## **Service Dogs**

Registered assistance dogs are allowed, however we must be informed about this in advance. Please [contact us](#) if you require this service.

## **Refrigeration for Medicines**

We are able to provide refrigeration for medicines if needed. Please [contact us](#) if you require this service.