

Accessibility statement

What is an accessibility statement?

SCIE has produced this accessibility statement to give staff and visitors to our office important accessibility information about the building and how we work.

Why SCIE has an accessibility statement

SCIE is committed to co-producing our work with people who use services and carers.

This statement is about how SCIE makes its work and services accessible and inclusive. The statement enables people with access requirements to make informed decisions about coming to SCIE's office. It also says what adjustments we will make to ensure we do not exclude people from working with us.

SCIE has written this statement with people who use services and carers.

If you have any questions or queries about any aspect of the statement or require further information or clarification please call SCIE on 020 7766 7400 or email copro@scie.org.uk

Watson House

SCIE moved to Watson House, 54 Baker Street, London W1U 7EX in March 2018 because of the end of our lease at our old office, Kinnaird House.

Choices were severely restricted because of the very challenging London property market and also the limited resources that SCIE has available.

Access to the office is limited by the size of the lifts in the building.

Note: W1U 7EX is a new postcode for SCIE's offices. Google Maps and other systems will not recognise this postcode immediately. Please use W1U 7BU if you are searching for directions.

How SCIE will make sure our work is accessible to everyone

If someone is not able to take part in a meeting or event in the office, SCIE will make alternative arrangements. This is in line with SCIE's values and principles and meets our duty to make reasonable adjustments under the Equality Act 2010.

Alternative arrangements will include holding meetings and events at other venues.

We are also installing equipment to give the option to join meetings by telephone and Skype where this is appropriate.

Access to Watson House

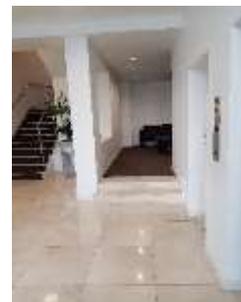


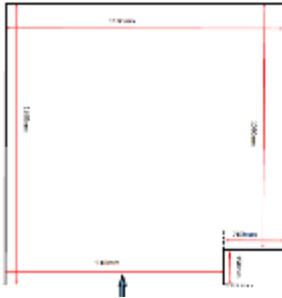
Main entrance

There is level access from the street into the reception area. There will be an assistance request button outside the entrance. Reception staff are happy to assist people into the lift.

Reception area

The waiting area in the main reception area is not accessible to wheelchair users as there are two small steps. However, visitors will usually be able to go directly up to SCIE's waiting areas on the 3rd and 4th floors.





Lifts

SCIE is based on the 3rd and 4th floors. There are two lifts which are 1,180mm wide and 1,200mm deep.

This means they are big enough for some wheelchair users or mobility scooter users. Wheelchair users who are able to use the lifts may not be able to travel in the lift with their personal assistants.

Car park

There is a car park in the basement with a height restriction of 6 feet 9 inches

However, the access from the car park into Watson House is through a heavy door and up some stairs that only have a handrail part of the way. Please let us know if you do want to use the car park.



Toilets

There are four accessible toilets – two on the 3rd floor and two 4th floor.

Meeting rooms

SCIE has five meeting rooms, which all have:

- door widths of 1 metre
- induction loops for people who use hearing aids
- individual temperature and light controls

If meeting participants require a quiet room, this will be made available.

Access in the area around Watson House

Taxis

Taxis can stop right outside the entrance.

Cars and minicabs

Cars and minicabs can drop people almost outside the entrance (they do need to be careful not to enter the bus stop area). They can only wait for a short time when picking up.

There is a steep curb on the pavement outside Watson House. There are dropped curbs on the corner of Baker Street and Dorset Street (just before the office) and the corner of Baker Street and Blandford Street.



Blue Badge parking

The nearest Blue Badge parking spaces are:

- Dorset Street – one space
- Crawford Street – two spaces

You can only park in these bays for up to four hours. These are public spaces and SCIE has no control over their use.

Baker Street is in the City of Westminster which means you cannot use the Badge to park on single yellow lines and you have to pay at meters and pay and display machines (though Badge holders do get an extra hour free of charge).

Nearest accessible underground station

Bond Street is the nearest Underground station with step-free access from the Jubilee line. It takes under 15 minutes to walk from the station to Watson House. SCIE will always pay for a taxi for this journey or from mainline rail stations.

Baker Street Station is a five-minute walk but has limited access.

Bus stops

There is a bus stop immediately outside the building for buses travelling south bound.

Baker Street has one-way traffic so the nearest bus stop for north-bound buses is on Gloucester Place.