

Award Winning Accessible Media Solutions

Created by Disabled People





## Content

What We Do	1
Our Services & Products	2
Braille & Large Format Documents	3
Accessible Menus	4
Tactile & Sensory Maps	5
Tactile Map Boards	6
3D Printed Tactile Models	7
Access & Sensory Guides	8
Audio Description & Transcription	9
BSL (British Sign Language) Content	10
Website Accessibility Audits	11
Our Accessible Media Champions	12
Want To Know More?	13



A DOBE<sup>™</sup> certified Disability Owned and Operated Business Enterprise, we provide accessibility consultancy based on our team's real lived experience of disability.

What We Do From our humble roots in accessibility consultancy, our ambition to change the lives of disabled people for the better, led to the creation of the Accessible Media department, a subdivision of the Direct Access group responsible for innovating inclusive, boundary-pushing accessible media products.

Today, Direct Access produces accessible and inclusive media in a variety of formats, crafting everything from large print and Braille menus for family-owned restaurants, to bespoke sign language videos for major universities, to Easy Read documents for some of Europe's busiest rail services. Our recording studios and tactile production facilities are stationed within the Accessible Media and Innovation Centre, managed by a dedicated team of disabled people with a mission to empower others like them through equity of information.



#### Our Services & Products

Whether you require a Braille map of your site, an accessible "social" guide, or a comprehensive analysis of your website's accessibility, the Direct Access media division is here to help your service become inclusive and accessible to all.





Using the latest Index Embossers, we can produce Braille and Large Print prints in A4 and A3 formats ranging from healthcare or financial letters to legal documents and company brochures. They are bound according to preference and checked by our proofreaders.

We transcribe most standard documents or text into Braille and Large Print in accordance with the standards set by the UK Association of Accessible Formats. When we receive your documents, we reformat the content and layout into a way that is understandable by the reader. Tables and images are produced in tactile format as appropriate.

We deal with confidential information and operate within a secure environment, with our offices in our own secure compound with CCTV and security doors. Staff are subject to DBS checks, sign a confidentiality agreement and Direct Access is Cyber Essentials certified.

### Braille & Large Format Documents



#### Accessible Menus

Designed primarily for neurodiverse, visually impaired, and dyslexic customers, Direct Access Large Print and Braille menus allow restaurant and bar owners to provide vital information about their food and drink products in a more simplified, accessible format – removing the requirement for a family member or member of staff to read out the selection to customers, who may feel uncomfortable or embarrassed.

Encouraging independence and increased customer satisfaction through the power of accessibility, our Large Print and Braille menus ensure an equal and inclusive experience for disabled people within an establishment, directly translating the selection of food and drinks with increased font sizes, colour contrast, simplification of information, and improved formatting.

#### Tactile & Sensory Maps

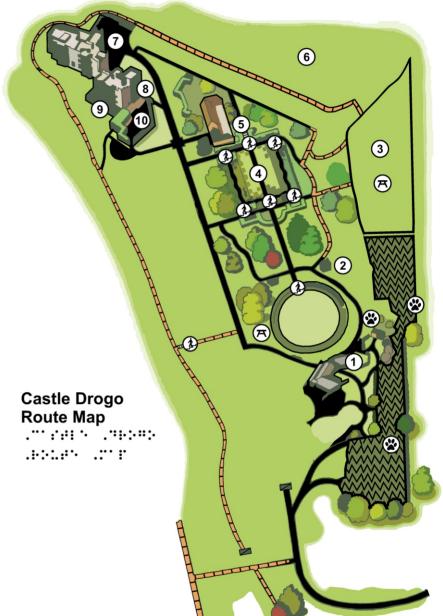


Our A4 and A3 sized tactile maps give blind and partially sighted people access to information which improves spatial awareness, empowering them to engage with an environment independently.

Sensory maps can not only help visitors to identify sensory friendly spaces within your site but can be used as a guide for finding areas that are quieter and less crowded, spaces that have seating, and spaces with tactile engagement and accessible activities.

By taking an existing map and processing it through our advanced design software, our Accessible Media team can create tactile swell paper maps. These maps feature raised outlines, symbols, and text, making them accessible and easily interpreted by individuals with visual impairments.

Tactile swell paper maps, which are considered the industry standard for accessible information, are distinct from regular paper maps. They are not printed on traditional paper, but rather on a special material that allows features to be felt by touch.





### Tactile Map Boards

The Direct Access Tactile Map Board is an inclusive new wayfinding device developed by the award-winning team at Direct Access. The board features tactile, pictorial and Braille information as well as QR codes which when scanned allow users access to directional information in audio description and sign language formats.

Envisioned to accommodate the accessibility requirements of various types of disabled people who may otherwise struggle to navigate public spaces, the Board's accessibility features place a particular emphasis on individuals who are Blind or Deaf/Hard of Hearing.

The Tactile Map Board is designed with a high-contrast aesthetic palette to enhance visibility, making it especially suitable for both elderly individuals and children.

The map can also be used by nondisabled people as any other static map.





### 3D Printed Tactile Models

Harnessing the power of 3D technology, our Accessible Media department produces tactile and Braille models enabling blind people to explore the dimensions and flow of buildings, objects, or animals that may not easily be described.

Designed by the Accessible Media team in partnership with registered blind staff members, our tactile models can be printed with Braille interpretation alongside the model itself upon request, further enhancing interpretation of the bust, appealing to the user's imagination, creating vivid depictions of everything from natural wonders to architectural marvels.







#### Access & Sensory Guides

Disabled people can find new places overwhelming. They want to know what facilities are in place and plan journeys in advance. Everyone's accessibility needs are different; therefore, we develop and provide guides in a range of formats including large print, different contrasting backgrounds, easy read, Braille, sign language and audio description. Designed to cater to multiple types of disabilities, they provide vital information about what people can expect when they visit your site. From sights, sounds, smells, and who they will meet, our Access guides are written by our consultant team in partnership with you.



### Audio Description & Transcription

Our audio description services provide a narrative description of key visual elements in videos for viewers with a visual impairment.

Transcription of correspondence services enables blind and visually impaired people to access information. From healthcare letters and financial statements to corporate magazines and brochures.

Using our modern studio facilities, we can adapt your script into an audio suitable format with suitable background music to support understanding. We can undertake both live readings and text to speech technology, the latter is a quicker and costeffective solution for documents without complex terms.



#### BSL (British Sign Language) Content

As an organisation founded by Deaf people, we understand the need for BSL content better than most. That's why Direct Access provides a bespoke BSL service so that you can communicate crucial information to Deaf people, while also providing people with the tools they need to learn the fundamentals of BSL.

Whether you require a translation of an instruction manual for Deaf staff members or a landing page on a website, Direct Access' sign language videos will enable access for Deaf people.



#### Website Accessibility Audits

We all know about website compliance, but is your website truly accessible? How complex is your text? How comprehensible is your websites layout and navigation? Do you promote inclusion using sign language and subtitled videos? Are disabled people included within your organisation's iconography? What message does your social media portray? Do you use capital letters when creating hashtags?

Technology, including websites and apps must provide barrier-free access for disabled people. Using a combination of web accessibility testing and hands-on reviews by our consultant team, we can check your website for compatibility with WCAG 2.2 web standards.

#### Our Accessible Media Champions



Direct Access is an inclusive and tight-knit group of people with unique skill sets, perspectives, and a shared experience of disability uniting each of us.





**Steven Mifsud MBE** CEO and Founder

Keir Welch Manager, Accessible Media/Innovation Suite



**Craig Acton** Accessible Media Consultant



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**Raymond Okon** Map/Product Design



Mathew Wilson Accessible Media Consultant/ Installation Engineer



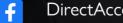
**Lee Wilson** Accessible Media Consultant/ CAD Engineer



#### Want To Know More?



For further information about any of our accessible media products, please feel free to contact us at info@directaccess.group, or check out the Accessible Media section on the Direct Access website. Alternatively, follow us on all your favourite social media platforms and channels:



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