### 6. External ramps

**6.1** Is the ramp accompanied by steps where the rise is greater than 300mm?

**6.2** Is the ramp accompanied by an alternative means of access (e.g. a lift) where the total rise is greater than 2m?

**6.3** Is the ramp identifiable from the approach route or is it clearly signed?

**6.4** Is the ramp length and gradient suitable?
- Is the overall length of ramp and total rise acceptable?
- Is it of adequate width for the full length of ramp slope and landings?
- Is the surface width of ramp not less than 1,500mm clear?
- Are there wider ramps for two wheelchairs to pass, not less than 1,800mm?
- Are there supplementary handrails for wide ramps to divide them?

**6.5** Is the maximum crossfall gradient of the ramp slope and landings 1:50?

**6.6** Are the top and bottom landings of adequate size and clear of door swings?
- Are intermediate landings at regular intervals and of sufficient length?
- Are larger landings provided where it is not possible to see from one end of the ramp to another?

**6.7** Is there edge protection to any open side of ramp or landing?
- Is it visually contrasting with the ramp and landing surface?

**6.8** Is the surface suitable?
- Is there adequate slip resistance in all weather conditions?

**6.9** Is the slope surface visually contrasting with landings?

**6.10** Is there adequate and even level of illumination to the full length of the ramp?
- Are light fittings selected and positioned to avoid glare?
- Are shadows avoided along the ramp length?
6.11 Are portable ramps available in existing buildings where no alternative means of access is possible?  
• Are they of a suitable width?  
• Do they have upturned edges?  
• Do they have a slip-resistant surface?

See also *Handrails* (checklist 8)

**General observations:**