



**Chichester City Council**

**REPORT to FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**STAIR CLIMBER PURCHASE REQUEST**

**BY**  
**PROPERTY & MAINTENANCE MANAGER**  
**ANDREW WATSON**  
**Date: 05/11/2024**

**Disabled access and the law:**

Public buildings are required under the [Equality Act 2010](#) (which incorporates the Disability Discrimination Act) to provide access for people with disabilities. Building regulations also require all new builds to be fully and easily accessible to everyone who needs to use them. One of the key statements in the regulations is that: "reasonable provision shall be made to enable disabled people to gain access to relevant premises".

**Background:**

There are three areas within The Council House that we need to address disability access and exit issues:

1. CAB office due to 3 steps up from the foyer
2. 1st floor when lift is non-operational (in the summer we experienced a 3 week outage of the lift and had to look at other ways of getting those with disabilities to the Chamber for a wedding service.
3. Emergency conditions we have sledges to get people out of the building down staircases but these are cumbersome.

**Solutions:**

1. CAB office – Installation of a platform lift to give access to those that require it. However, the cost are prohibitive for the level of usage and would require LBC granted by CDC. The costs were between £25,000-28,000+VAT from three suppliers
2. CAB Office and stairs to 1st Floor – Several Wheelchair Stair Climbers was considered but found not to be practical as it could not accommodate all types of chairs and that adapters would need to be bolted on to a chair before use.
3. CAB Office and stairs to 1st Floor – A Chair Stair Climber was considered and found to be the most practical and cost effective option. This method requires the person to transfer from their chair to the chair stair climber, then be relocated up or down the stair by CCC staff and then for them to transfer back to their wheelchair.  
Their chair would be carried by CCC.  
The climber was tested on all stairwells of the building, only one was not useable being the south stairwell beside the lift.

**Request to purchase:**

After assessment and testing we would like to purchase the following Chair Stair Climber which is rechargeable battery operated and would be stored either on the first floor or in the foyer area (TBD).

**S36 Scalacom Stair Climber with headrest**



(Includes - 2-year warranty, training for 4 persons and delivery)

**Total £ 5,895.00 + VAT**

**Ongoing costs:**

Annual service £ 350.00+VAT

Additional Operator Training (4 persons) £ 595.00 +VAT

Or after 6 months we could have 2 staff members that are certified operators to be trained to be a Trainer and perform inhouse training thereafter £795.00 +VAT