

# Grants for Disabled People to adapt their homes



## **DISABLED FACILITIES GRANT**

## What is a Disabled facilities Grant?

Disabled Facilities Grants are available for work that is needed to support a disabled person to live more independently in their own home.

You get a grant for essential adaptations to give you better freedom of movement into and around your home. It is also available for essential facilities in your home.

This could include work to:

- Make it easier to get into and out of your home, for example by widening doors or putting in ramps;
- Make access easier to the living room, bedroom, kitchen and bathroom for example by putting in a stair lift or a floor lift;
- Provide suitable bathroom and kitchen facilities such as over bath showers or replacing a bath with a level access shower;
- Provide suitable kitchen facilities at wheelchair height so that you can use the facilities independently, including building new facilities if necessary;
- Provide or improve a heating system in your home;
- Adapt heating or lighting controls to make them easier for you to use; or
- Improve access and movement around your home so that you can care for someone who lives with you.

## Who can apply for a Disabled Facilities Grant?

- A disabled person can apply if they are an owner occupier (they live in and occupy their own home) or a tenant, including a housing association tenant
- Anyone who is an owner occupier or a tenant, and who has a disabled person living in their home can apply on behalf of the disabled person
- A parent or guardian of a child with a disability can apply, if the child is under 18 years old
- A landlord can apply on behalf of a disabled tenant
- In all cases the disabled person should be registered, or eligible to be registered, as disabled with Social Services through a Care Manager

## What are the first steps in applying for a grant?

You should contact a social services care manager or social worker (for young people under 18) who will arrange for an Occupational Therapist (OT) to assess what work is necessary and appropriate for your individual needs. The care managers can be contacted on 020 8891 7971.

There is more information on support and advice available on our website: [www.richmond.gov.uk](http://www.richmond.gov.uk)

If your Occupational Therapist thinks that you are eligible for a Disabled Facilities Grant to help you pay for the adaptations to your home, they will refer your case to the Home Improvement Agency.

The Home Improvement Agency caseworker will contact you to arrange a home visit and help you complete a financial resources test which will decide if you are eligible for a grant.

If you are eligible for a grant, we will tell you in writing. You then decide if you want the Home Improvement Agency to carry out the adaptations to your home, or whether you want to appoint your own Architect or Surveyor. We can also provide lists of contractors and architects who can help you if you do not want to use the Home Improvement Agency, along with a Grants Officer if you want.

## How much grant will I receive?

The aim of the grant is to help people who cannot afford to pay for work to adapt their homes. So, in all cases, the amount of the grant is determined by a test of your financial resources. This test is in line with government rules and is carried out by you and your caseworker using information about your income, savings and so on.

Using this information you can assess whether you qualify for a grant, or if you can get a full grant or a partial grant where you would need to make a contribution.

Where applicants who own their own homes are unable to afford their contributions, they may be referred to the Home Improvement Trust for consideration under the Houseproud Equity Release scheme. The Home Improvement Agency caseworker will also be able to give advice on seeking other funding sources for example charities.

## Translation advice

If you have difficulty understanding this booklet, please visit Housing Services at the address below where we can arrange a telephone interpreting service.

- Albanian Nese keni veshtersi per te kuptuar kete botim, ju lutemi ejani ne recepcionin ne adresen e shenuar me poshte ku ne mund te organizojme perkthime nepermjet telefonit.
- Arabic إذا كانت لديك صعوبة في فهم هذا المنشور، فنرجو زيارة الإستقبال في العنوان المعطى أدناه حيث بإمكاننا أن نرتب لخدمة ترجمة شفوية هاتفية.
- Bengali এই প্রকাশনার অর্থ বুঝতে পারায় যদি আপনার কোন সমস্যা হয়, নিচে দেওয়া ঠিকানায় রিসেপশন-এ চলে আসুন যেখানে আমরা আপনাকে টেলিফোনে দোভাষীর সেবা প্রদানের ব্যবস্থা করতে পারবো।
- Farsi اگر در فهمیدن این نشریه مشکل دارید، لطفاً به مین پذیرش در آدرس قید شده در زیر رجوع فرمایید تا سرویس ترجمه تلفنی برایتان فراهم آورده شود.
- Gujarati જો તમને આ પુસ્તિકાની વિગતો સમજવામાં મુશ્કેલી પડતી હોય તો, કૃપયા નીચે જણાવેલ સ્થળના રિસેપ્શન પર આવો, જ્યાં અમે ટેલિફોન પર ગુજરાતીમાં ઇન્ટરપ્રિટિંગ સેવાની ગોઠવણ કરી આપીશું.
- Punjabi ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਪਰਚੇ ਨੂੰ ਸਮਝਣ ਵਿਚ ਮੁਸ਼ਕਲ ਪੇਸ਼ ਆਉਂਦੀ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਗਏ ਪਤੇ ਉੱਪਰ ਰਿਸੈਪਸ਼ਨ 'ਤੇ ਆਓ ਜਿੱਥੇ ਅਸੀਂ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਤੇ ਗੱਲਬਾਤ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਇੰਟਰਪ੍ਰਿਟਰ ਦਾ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੇ ਹਾਂ।
- Urdu اگر آپ کو اس اشاعت کو سمجھنے میں کوئی مشکل ہے تو، براہ کرم نیچے دیئے ہوئے ایڈریس کے استقبالیے پر جا کر ملیئے، جہاں ہم آپ کیلئے ٹیلیفون انٹرپرائیٹنگ سروس (ٹیلیفون پرتربجانی کی سروس) کا انتظام کر سکتے ہیں۔

**If you would like a copy of this leaflet in Braille, in large print, on audio tape or in a community language, please contact us on 020 8891 7892 (Minicom number: 020 8891 7404).**

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