

## **Do You Have a Medical Requirement?**

### **A Guide to Medical Adaptations**

Subject to funding, the Association is able to carry out Medical Adaptations to ease your daily life and help you stay in your home for as long as possible. All we ask is that you contact your local Occupational Therapist (OT) via your doctor or social worker. They will recommend what alteration or equipment is required to meet your particular requirements, and apply to the Association on your behalf.

An assessment will be carried out by the OT on your ability to carry out everyday tasks in your own home. This may include: preparing a meal or drink for yourself; washing; dressing and bathing etc.

If the Occupational Therapist feels an adaptation is required to the property, they will make a request to the Association. This report will give brief details of what works are required and a priority grading that they consider the work to be. These gradings are:

**P1 VERY HIGH PRIORITY.** Circumstances such as:

- Service user unable to be discharged from hospital
- Service user/carer at risk (of injury and/or deterioration in health) in carrying out activities of daily living
- Service user is terminally ill and requiring minor adaptations
- Immediate risk of home situation breaking down

**P2 HIGH PRIORITY.** Circumstances such as:

- Service user unable to meet personal care needs
- Facilitate discharge from hospital
- Reduce burden of care for formal/informal carers and maintain situation on an ongoing basis
- Intervention required to facilitate rehab/development needs

**P3 MEDIUM PRIORITY.** Circumstances such as:

- To reduce risk and/or improve quality of life for service user/carer in activities of daily living – alternative not available

**P4 LOW PRIORITY.** Circumstances such as:

- To reduce risk and/or improve quality of life for service user/carer in activities of daily living – alternative available

These recommendations could include minor medical adaptations such as grab rails, additional door entry handsets, installation of lever style taps in the kitchen or bathroom. They may also include for major works such as the installation of ramps to avoid steps, the installation of an over-bath shower or the removal of the bath altogether and the installation of a wet floor shower.

### **Minor Medical Adaptations**

The installation of grab rails, changes to taps, additional door entry handsets etc. are carried out under the Association's normal repair system from the general repair budget and should be completed within 20 working days.

### **Major Medical Adaptation**

The Association is able to access funding to carry out works within your home such as removal of baths and the installation of showers. We receive a limited grant each year from City of Edinburgh Council to allow us to carry out such works. We operate a waiting list based upon the priority of the works given by the Occupational Therapist, and the date when the request for adaptation is received by the Association.

When we receive your Occupational Therapist's report, we will contact both yourself and the OT to inform them where you are placed on the list and an approximate timescale in which we would hope to carry out the works.

The Property Officer for your area will then visit you to inspect the property, explain the process of carrying out the works, and discuss any special requirements you may have regarding access. The appointed contractor will then visit you to provide the Association with a full estimate of the cost of the works and discuss any installation issues there may be. After authorisation, the contractor then arranges a suitable date to carry out the works.

Once the works have been completed the Property Officer will carry out a post-works inspection to ensure that the works have been carried out correctly. The Property Officer will contact the Occupational Therapist to inform them that they can close their file.

A brief outline of the process is given in the diagram on the following page.

If you have any queries or require clarification on any of the points raised above, please do not hesitate to contact the Association's Property Management Department on 0808 100 0403.

## The Adaptation Process

