

# Adaptations to your Home

Increase your Independence



Tenants' guide to the  
Home Adaptation service

As you get older your medical and mobility needs may change. Difficulty with everyday tasks such as moving around your home, going up and down stairs or getting in and out of the bath can be made easier with special equipment or adaptations to your home. Helping you maintain or increase your independence.

## Funding

You can apply to have an adaptation fitted in your home at no extra cost to you. Every year local authorities allocate funds to each of their local areas. When funds are available we will carry out adaptations in priority order.



Each applicant will be given a priority rating based on need as assessed by the Council's Occupational Therapy Department. Where there are identical assessments and priority ratings the earliest application will be done first.

## Applying for Funding

Please ask your Scheme Manager or Housing Officer for further information about special equipment or adaptations which can be made to your home to help daily activities more manageable.

They will be able to provide information about an Occupational Therapist (OT) assessment.

# Adaptations Available

Many works qualify for funding, and require an Occupational Therapy Assessment to be carried out. Here are some examples:

## Getting into your home

- Automatic Door Entry systems
- Widening of paths, steps, doors and entrances
- Handrails, grab rail and balustrading
- Access ramps, modification of steps
- Stair-lifts

## In your bathroom

- Level access showers to replace baths
- Bath/shower seats
- Bath lifts
- Raised toilet seats
- Automatic WC's
- Support and grab rails
- Lever taps

## Electrical and heating

- Thermostatic controls to taps and radiators
- Relocation of sockets to convenient heights
- Warning bells/lights for the hard of hearing

## Equipment

- Personal or ceiling lifts and hoists
- Letter cages to letter boxes
- Video or phone entry systems to increase security
- Remote control window and door openers
- Widening of doors to ease wheelchair access
- Telecare services such as flood detectors, falls monitor, smoke detector, movement sensors - all linked to call centre and trigger a response when activated

## How long does the process take?

You may need to wait for the Occupational Therapy Services to assess your needs. They will tell us how urgently you need the adaptation. As we rely on grant funding we have a waiting list that your name will be added to. You can phone to enquire on your waiting list status at any time.

The time taken to carry out the adaptation depends on the type of work involved. Our specialist contractors carry out the works and Bield are responsible for future maintenance or repair to the adaptation.

The main adaptations Bield carry out are the replacement of baths with level access showers and installing automatic door entry systems to improve safety.



*“Contractors were fantastic and explained every step to me. Thank you for my new bathroom – a shower is so much safer than a bath.”* Bield Tenant, 2015.

**Please contact your Scheme Manager in the first instance or Bield’s Property Services Department – Tel: 0141 270 7200**