



Accessible Housing Policy: Key Points



	<p>The Council has a legal duty to meet the assessed needs of a person who has a permanent and substantial disability.</p> <p>Assessed needs means your needs have been checked.</p> <p>Permanent and substantial disability is defined under the Equality Act. This means that your disability is long lasting and has a big impact on your life.</p>
	<p>The Council's legal duty is under the Care Act, the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act and housing laws.</p>
	<p>This policy tells you about having major changes done in your home. These are called housing adaptations.</p>
	<p>This policy aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer everyone the same services whatever type of home they live in.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer support to meet the needs of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - people with physical disabilities - people with learning disabilities - people with mental health issues and dementia.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer more services and financial help by using powers under the Regulatory Reform Order 2002 (Housing Assistance, England and Wales).
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet people's needs in a timely and professional way.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make best use of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - existing housing, including adapted/accessible accommodation - and fund delivery of wheelchair accommodation.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To support health, social care and housing providers to work well together.



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This new policy gives more financial help:



- **Mandatory Disabled Facilities Grant (which can fund up to £30,000 worth of adaptations):** To fund major adaptations to allow people to enter their home and live within their home.



Examples are: building ramps, level access showers and through floor lifts.



This grant will now cover the cost of:

- Longer warranties on lifts.



- Adaptations to meet the needs of those with dementia and learning disabilities.



- Professional fees linked with the adaptation.



- Necessary repairs to allow for adaptations to go ahead.



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- Furniture storage at a secure depot if the temporary removal of furniture is necessary. This will allow for adaptations to go ahead.

- **Discretionary Disabled Facilities Grant:**

To fund:



- Storage within the home for large pieces of medical/care equipment.



- To help Social Landlord's fund work which costs more than the Mandatory Disabled Facilities Grant, which has a limit of £30,000.



- Reinstatement work for private landlords. For example, to put back a bath that may have been removed to allow for a shower.



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- Adaptations to a child's secondary home.



- Wheelchair risers.



- Fast track adaptations and repairs costing up to £7,000 where patients need adaptations to return home from hospital.



- Emergency adaptations to help with discharge to remove or reduce barriers to independence for those with learning disabilities.



- **Relocation Support Grant:**
 - To help meet the costs of moving to a new home where an Occupational Therapist recommends rehousing because the existing home cannot be adapted.



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- **Stairlift Grant:**
To allow the quick fitting of stairlifts and the payment of work to Tremorvah.



- **Interest Free Loan:**
To support homeowners and private landlords to fund work greater than the £30,000 mandatory Disabled Facilities Grant.



- **Home Safety Grant:**
For help to make the home safer.



- **Handyperson Service:** For help with minor improvements and repairs in the home.



Easy read made by the CHAMPs Team,

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