

## GRANT PAYMENT

Grant will only be paid when the Council are satisfied that the work has been completed in accordance with the grant approval. Please note that the applicant is responsible for ensuring that the contractor meets the standard they require.

Grant can only be paid on provision of an acceptable invoice, demand or receipt of payment for the works. Where the works are carried out by the applicant or a relative, only invoices for materials or services that are bought in will be acceptable.

The Council may pay the grant in full on completion or in some cases will pay interim payments as the work progresses.

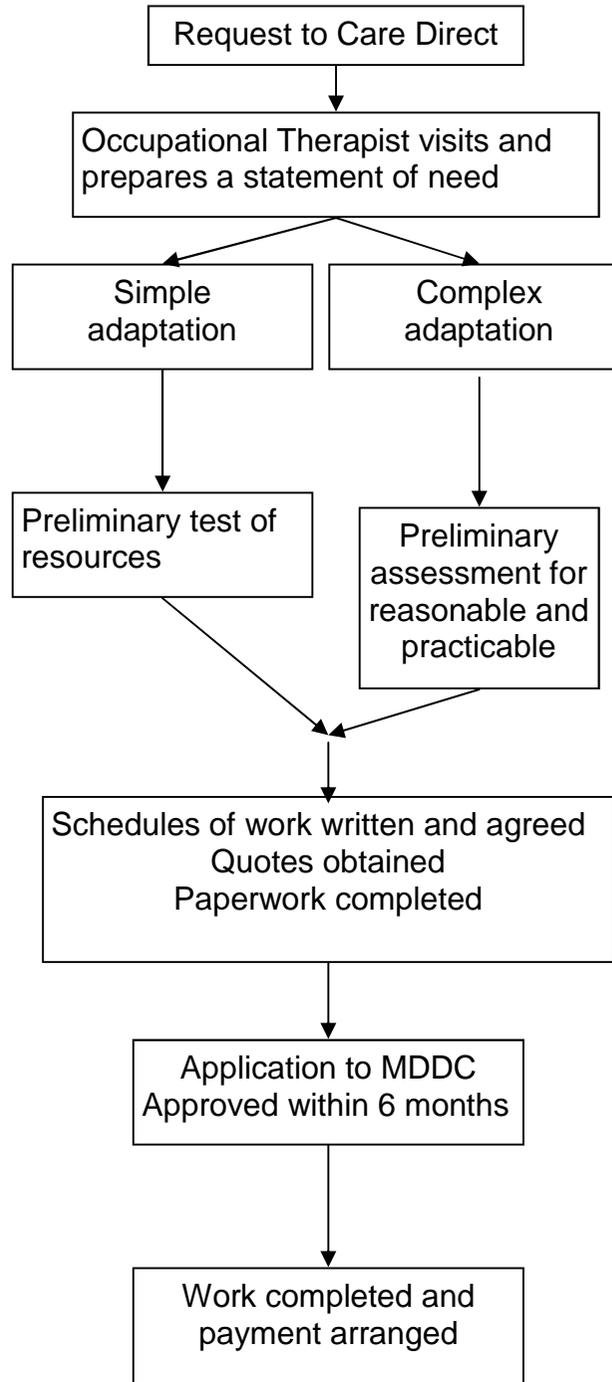
## CONDITIONS

### MANDATORY GRANTS

- ❖ The applicant has to sign a certificate stating that they will occupy the dwelling as their main residence for a period of 10 years
- ❖ If the grant is greater than £5000 it will be repayable if the disabled person moves within 10 years. The maximum amount that would be repayable is £10000.

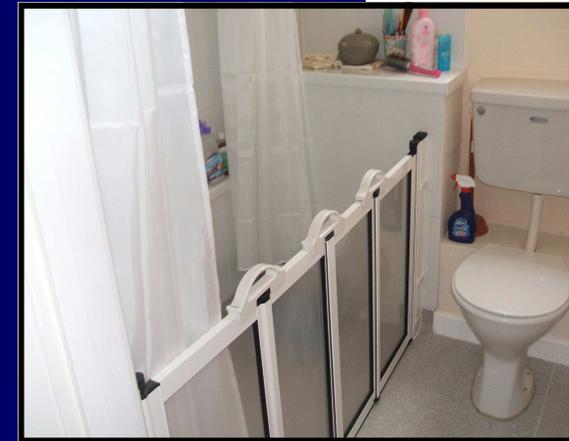
Where equipment such as a stairlift has been provided and no contribution has been made by the applicant, the Council may recover it.

- ❖ If, following the receipt of a grant, the applicant is successful in an insurance claim, which relates to the disability the applicant shall repay the grant monies. This is dependant on the value of the claim.



Mid Devon District Council

## Disabled Facilities Grants



**Private Sector Housing Team  
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**This leaflet is available in large print and other formats**

## INTRODUCTION

If you or someone living in your property is disabled you may qualify for a Disabled Facilities Grant towards the cost of providing adaptations and provision of facilities to enable the disabled person to continue living there.

- ❖ The applicant will be registered disabled or eligible to be registered;
- ❖ owner/occupiers and tenants can apply but in the case of tenants you will need the permission of your landlord to carry out works.

## WHAT IS THE GRANT FOR?

Disabled facilities grant is available for a range of works needed to help a disabled person to remain living more independently in their home.

There are two types of grant - mandatory and discretionary depending on the nature of the works.

### 1. MANDATORY GRANT (Up to £30,000)

Grant is mandatory for essential adaptations to give you better freedom of movement, into and around your home and to access essential facilities within it.

Where necessary it can also provide the essential facilities themselves. The types of work are:

- ❖ to make it easier to get into and out of the dwelling by, for example widening doors, installing ramps;
- ❖ to provide or improve access to the living room, bedroom, kitchen, toilet, washbasin, washing facilities and garden for example, by widening doors or installing a stair lift

- ❖ to provide washing facilities that are suitable for the needs of the disabled person for example the provision of a level access shower (wet room)
- ❖ to improve or provide a heating system in your home which is suitable to the needs of the disabled person;
- ❖ to adapt heating or lighting controls to make them easier to use and to improve access and movement around the home to enable the disabled person to care for another person who lives in the property.

### 2. DISCRETIONARY GRANT (Up to £5,000)

The Council has discretion to give grants for a wide range of other works to make a home suitable for a disabled occupant's welfare, accommodation or employment needs. Such works can include providing a safe play area for a disabled child or adapting an existing room to enable a housebound disabled person to work from home.

The Council also has the discretion to give grant aid to works which are mandatory where the cost of the work exceeds the mandatory grant limit of £30,000.

Applications for discretionary grant will only be agreed in exceptional circumstances. Occupants from privately owned and local authority housing will be treated in the same way in accordance with the statutory guidance and Council Policy.

The Council will reach a decision within one month of the date of submission, unless further information is required.

### HOW IS THE GRANT CALCULATED?

All grant applicants, except children, will be subject to the test of resources of the disabled person and their spouse or partners. This will assess how much, if anything they have to pay towards the cost of the works. The amount of grant is what is needed to meet

## HOW DO I APPLY?

An Occupational Therapist needs to carry out an assessment of the needs of the disabled applicant. You can contact them through Care Direct on 0845 1551 007.

An Occupational Therapist will provide a Statement of Need and forward it to the Private Sector Housing Team.

The procedure and assessments followed are the same for all applicants.

If the works are more complicated or may require planning and building regulation approval, you will be visited by a private sector housing officer who will carry out an initial inspection.

**NB.** You must not start work until a grant approval has been received as you will not receive any money for works already carried out. If works are urgent you should contact the Council before any work is done and let them know the circumstances. You should ensure that you separately secure any approval for building regulations or planning purposes.

## DO THE COUNCIL HAVE TO GIVE A GRANT?

Before the Council can give a grant they need to determine that the proposed works are:

- ❖ necessary and appropriate to meet the needs of the disabled person. The Occupational Therapist will visit to make this assessment;
- ❖ reasonable and practicable depending on the age and condition of the property.

The Council can refuse the grant if they believe the scheme is not practicable.

The Council may advise a move to a more appropriate dwelling and assistance may be available to achieve this. See Removal Grant Leaflet.