



Home Improvement Agency

FACTSHEET

MAJOR ADAPTATION PROGRAMME SHOWER ROOM FACILITY – Owner Occupier

Your Occupational Therapist has recommended we install a shower room facility in your property. Today we are here to carry out a survey with the contractor, complete the grant application and discuss the full extent of the works with you.

A Caseworker will visit you to complete an application for a Disabled Facilities Grant which will fund the cost of the adaptation.

If you receive certain qualifying benefits a grant will fund the work. If you do not receive these benefits you will need to complete a means test which is based on the money you (and your partner) receive each week as well as any savings or investments. We will let you know if you need to make a contribution and you will be asked whether you want to proceed.

Most people are happy for the Local Authority to manage the whole process for them. However, you may prefer to appoint a Private Agent to do this instead. Your Caseworker can give you more information. Please be aware that additional charges may apply if you choose to appoint a Private Agent.

Once we have received a price for the work from the contractor we will make arrangements for the grant to be approved. When the grant is approved the contractor will call you to arrange a start date.

If any problems occur during the first year following completion of the work the contractor will carry out the repair.

There are conditions to this grant:

1. The disabled person must intend to live in the property for 5 years.
2. If your home is disposed of by sale, assignment, transfer or otherwise within 10 years of completion of the adaptation, the Council will ask you to

pay back anything over the first £5,000 of the grant (to a maximum of £10,000). The repayment condition can be waived in certain specific circumstances and the Council must take into account:

- the financial hardship it would cause;
- whether the disposal is due to an employment related relocation;
- whether the disposal is connected with the physical or mental health or well-being of the grant recipient or of a disabled occupant of the premises: and
- whether the disposal will enable the recipient of the grant to provide care to a disabled person.

What we will do:

- Install a level access shower tray, nominal size 1200mm², if there is space available
- Provide half height carer screens with a shower curtain
- Provide adequate space for a wheelchair turning circle
- Provide 900mm clear opening doorways for wheelchair access
- Install an electric thermostatically controlled shower unit
- Install a non-pedestal wash hand basin with level taps
- Install a low level flush water closet unit
- Install grab rails/drop arm rails as per instructions from your Occupational Therapist
- Install Altro/Polysafe flooring – you will be given a choice of colours
- Install ceramic wall tiling, full height, to the area of the shower tray only – you will be given a choice of colours
- Install ceramic wall tiling (2 courses) as a splash back to the wash hand basin. Where the wash hand basin is adjacent to the shower area we will fully tile the wall
- Install a condensation proof light with pullcord
- Install an extractor fan
- We will decorate all woodwork
- We will emulsion all newly plastered walls and ceilings

What we won't do:

- We won't tile the remainder of the walls.

For more information about this adaptation, please contact Sandwell Enquiry on 0121 569 2266 or HomeImprovement_Agency@sandwell.gov.uk

