

# Fact sheet

Review Date: 26 August 2022

Next Review Date: 1 April 2023

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## Occupational Therapy (OT) Assessment

Occupational Therapy will assess you with daily living activities to help identify issues that need adapting to enable you to live confidently, safely and as independently as possible. This assessment may take place at home or at our Independent Living Centre.

Your Occupational Therapist or Occupational Therapy Assistant will work with you to maximise your independence, using various techniques and offering equipment on loan, however if your needs are more complex and long term, adaptations to your property will be considered. This is where you may be able to access funding by an application for a Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG).

### Occupational Therapy equipment

Equipment may help you to manage everyday activities around your home, such as showering or getting on and off the toilet. We can assess for equipment that may support you and provide this on loan for you. We always look for equipment solutions before we consider adapting the environment.

There is a wide variety of products available to purchase both on the high street and online. You may wish to consider this before requesting a referral for an assessment; you can visit the Independent Living Centre for advice before purchasing or utilise our Virtual House.

**Visit** the Independent Living Centre, 3A Hazeldine House, Telford Town Centre, Telford, TF3 4JL ([Independent Living Centre \(Telford\) - Google Maps](#)).

**View** more information on the Independent Living Centre and the Virtual House on [www.telford.gov.uk/independentliving](http://www.telford.gov.uk/independentliving).

### Requesting an Occupational Therapy Assessment

You can contact Wellbeing Independence Partnership on telephone: 01952 385385 (option 2) to discuss an Occupational Therapy Assessment and Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG).

Wellbeing Independence Partnership may be able to offer an assessment and provision of some of the low-level equipment available. If a more in-depth assessment is required due to your circumstances, Wellbeing Independence Partnership will refer you to Family Connect.

Family Connect will gather information to determine your specific needs and pass this onto the Occupational Therapy Team who will assess priority. There may be a waiting list for an Occupational Therapy Assessment. Appointments at the Independent Living Centre can be offered if suitable, this may mean that you are seen quicker.

### Broken equipment, repairs and replacements

If you have a broken piece of equipment and would like it repaired or require a replacement, please contact Family Connect on telephone: 01952 385385 option 3. Alternatively, if you feel that the equipment you were

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issued on loan is no longer meeting your needs and would like a reassessment, please contact Wellbeing Independence Partnership on telephone: 01952 385385 option 2.

## Returning equipment on loan

If you or someone you know has had equipment on loan from Telford & Wrekin Council following an Occupational Therapy Assessment and would like to return it, you can contact the Community Equipment Stores on 01952 603838 to arrange the return.

## Moving and handling

If you are caring for a family member and are having difficulties moving the person you care for you can refer to the Occupational Therapy Team for an assessment. We will assess you as the carer and give you advice or loan equipment to help you continue with this role. For all other moving and handling needs you will need to talk to your health care professional for a referral to the Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust Moving and Handling Team.

If you are self-funding your own care package, we can also assist you by identifying exactly what your needs are, whether the care requires one person and to limit the cost of the care to you.

View more information about the Moving and Handling team including how to contact them on the Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust website - [www.shropscommunityhealth.nhs.uk](http://www.shropscommunityhealth.nhs.uk).

## Occupational Therapy Adaptations

Adaptations to your home may include:

- Minor adaptations such as grab rails or stair rails - this covers works up to £1,000 but this is at no cost to you. We will seek the consent of your landlord if you are in rented accommodation. If you live in a Wrekin Housing Trust property you do not require an Occupational Therapy Assessment to request this and you can contact them directly on 01952 217100. You can view more information about their Adaptations and Handy Person Service by visiting the Wrekin Housing Trust website - [www.wrekin.com](http://www.wrekin.com).
- Major adaptations such as showering facilities or access to upstairs - is completed under the Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG). You will require an Occupational Therapy recommendation for an adaptation. The DFG is means tested and determined by the Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996. As part of the grant guidelines retrospective funding for adaptations already started or completed is not provided, therefore if you have begun work to your home already, you will not be able to claim funding back. You can view information on the DFG eligibility criteria on the [www.gov.uk/disabled-facilities-grants](http://www.gov.uk/disabled-facilities-grants) website.

If you are considering making alterations to your home independently you can find local traders on our Trading Standards Accredited website - [www.tsaccredited.co.uk](http://www.tsaccredited.co.uk).

If you have had an Occupational Therapy Assessment that resulted in you having an adaptation to your home, we would like to hear your feedback. Complete our occupational therapy feedback form online by visiting [www.telford.gov.uk/otfeedback](http://www.telford.gov.uk/otfeedback) or ask your allocated Occupational Therapist or Occupational Therapy Assistant for a paper copy of the feedback form.



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