



New Housing Grants for People with Disabilities or Long Term Health Needs

As of May 2019 a range of new housing grants are available to help adults and children living in Havering who have disabilities and/or long term health needs. The new grants will help people to improve their housing conditions in order to:

- reduce the risk of injuries and ill health;
- help people maintain their health and wellbeing at home;
- enable people to remain independent for as long as possible;
- reduce the risk of hospital admission and/or the need for long term care.

The new grants can be used for many things such as essential home repairs as well as adaptations. The new grants include:

Grant name	Purpose of the grant
Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG).	A means tested mandatory grant to help people adapt their homes to improve access and mobility around their home. Grants can be small for things like a stair lift, level access shower or a ramp, or grants can be quite large (up to £30,000) if more complex building work is required.
DFG Top-Up.	Extra funds to top up a DFG for very complex home adaptations.
Discretionary Disabled Adaptation Assistance.	A discretionary grant similar to a DFG, but with lower financial thresholds for eligibility. This allows the Council to provide financial assistance to more disabled people on low incomes who have a low level of savings.
Moving On Assistance.	Financial assistance to help people move home if this is required to meet their needs.
Hospital Discharge Assistance.	To help people make small adaptations to their home and avoid delayed discharges from hospital.
Safe, Warm & Well.	For essential home repairs to help people make their homes safe and warm to promote health, wellbeing, and independence.
Dementia Aids, Adaptations, & Assistive Technology	To enable people with a diagnosis of dementia manage their surroundings and retain their independence.
Sanctuary Scheme.	To support people at risk of domestic abuse to improve their home security.

Grants conditions

A range of conditions are attached to different grants including means testing for mandatory DFGs and land charges for some grants.

The limits and conditions of the grants are outlined in the Council's **Private Housing Health Assistance Policy** which can be found on the Council's website at the following location: <https://www.havering.gov.uk/phapolicy>

Alternatively if you want to talk to someone about the grants available you can call the **Private Housing Improvements Team on 01708 432837**.

How to apply for a grant

To apply for a grant under this scheme you must have an Occupational Therapy Assessment that confirms your need for the grant you want to apply for.

To start your application and your assessment call the Havering Access Team on 01708 432000.