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Do you have a formal referral route for assessing individuals for the provision of equipment, for example, mobility aids, riser recliners and communication aids?

We have a single point of access for adults via Social Care Direct, this routes requests for community equipment to the most appropriate team for the person and their needs. A Health and Social Care Member of staff, often an Occupational Therapist or Community Care Assistant will undertake an assessment of need and prescribe equipment if required.

The assessment and provision of communication aids is not part of the Edinburgh Health and Social Care remit.

If you do have a formal referral route, can you share a copy of this?

Information on Social Care direct and our eligibility criteria is available on the public website. <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/get-care-support/ask-social-care-direct-advice-2/2?documentId=12344&categoryId=20199>

Is there a formal process to fast-track applications for people with a terminal illness?

Referrals via Social Care Direct are screened/triaged and prioritised based on the needs of the person. We consider the level of risk and the urgency of response required when prioritising needs. The impact of a person's illness and risks they face would be considered during the screening/triage process.

Can you also outline any definition of the word 'equipment' which is used as part of the assessment process and a list of equipment which you can provide to individuals?

The Scottish Government's equipment and Adaptations: guidance on provision provides a definition of equipment. It is available publicly here: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/guidance-provision-equipment-adaptations-2/>

Where someone has been awarded a grant for a wet room, and this work is undertaken by the local authority, can you advise what materials this includes, as standard? For example, if someone requires to redecorate as part of this, for example retiling or painting the bathroom area, is this accounted for in the assessment and cost?

Note – Works to form a wet room in Council owned properties is not funded by a grant award to the tenant, it is managed by the Council directly. For works to Privately owned properties the grant funded works are not carried out by the Council or Council appointed contractors. It is the owner's responsibility to arrange for quotes and appoint the contractor themselves or to appoint an architect to manage this process for them. Decoration is not carried out or funded by grant, but remaining walls are prepared for decoration.

If the Client wishes to have extra work carried out that is not grant funded, then this must be agreed between both the Client and Contractor, and kept separate from quote and final invoice sent to the Council. The following items are not eligible for grant funding.

- Any existing damaged timbers, plasterwork, sanitary fittings, etc will not be repaired / replaced by grant funding.
- Replacement new for old is not typically covered by grant funding. Only items supported by the Occupational Therapist will attract grant funding. Existing w.c. and

w.h.b. to be reused unless the Occupational Therapist requests specific type for client needs.

- Decoration to the ceiling, remaining walls not highlighted to receive wall boarding, and any facings to doors / windows are not covered by grant funding.

The following notes are included in the letters issued by the Adaptations;

Our grant will not cover:

- Work you choose to carry out in addition to the adaptation;
- Provisional sums;
- Contingency sums.
- New Wash hand basin and WC for Wet Floor Shower unless confirmed required by OT
- Wall boarding to whole bathroom (only approved around shower area up to 10m2 is acceptable).

Unforeseen costs:

If unforeseen costs arise they may be considered for additional assistance if they are essential to the adaptation and supported by the Occupational Therapist (OT).

Is there a formal process to fast-track applications for people with a terminal illness?

Please refer to the answer above.

How many applications for a stairlift were received in the year from:

- I. April 2022-23
- II. April 2023-24
- III. April 2024-present

We do not have a record of this information as the need for a Stairlift is identified through an assessment of need, as described above. The assessment process and eligibility criteria is detailed on our public website, see link above.

How many of these applications were approved?

We do not hold this information.

How long did people wait for their stairlifts to be installed, following the approval?

We do not hold this information as there are multiple funding and provision routes for this type of adaptation and the responsibility for arranging installation does not always lie with the City of Edinburgh Council.

Is there a formal process to fast-track applications for people with a terminal illness?

Please refer to the answer above.

How many people, approved for a stairlift, had Motor Neuron Disease or any other terminal illness from:

- April 2022-23
- April 2023-24
- April 2024-present

We do not hold this information.

Can you provide a copy of the guidance used to assess applications for Stairlifts?

Attached is a copy of slides used in previous training sessions for Occupational Therapists who complete assessments of need and may recommend the installation of stairlifts. An assessment should cover all of the aspects in these slides to demonstrate that the person has an eligible need and that a stairlift would be the best means of meeting that need.

Do you provide Stairclimbers?

Yes

Can you outline the assessment process involved and the criteria for approving the provision of a Stairclimber?

Please see the link provided for Q2 for the assessment process and criteria for provision of any service or equipment. In addition, there is an expectation that the person and their families will participate in the trial of a stairclimber before it is issued as not everyone feels safe using this piece of equipment.

How many people were provided with a stair climber from:

April 2022-23

33

April 2023-24

27

April 2024-present

3

Is there a formal process to fast-track applications for Stairclimbers for people with a terminal illness?

Please refer to the answer above.