



Aids & Adaptations Policy

This booklet has been produced by Racing Homes

If you require any help you can contact us at the following address:

Racing Homes, Robin McAlpine House, 20b Park Lane,
Newmarket, Suffolk, CB8 8QD

Telephone: 01638 560763 www.racingwelfare.co.uk

Racing Homes aids & adaptations policy is designed to help tenants get work carried out to their property where a member of the household has a long term disability or infirmity. The work will also increase their ability to live independently or prevent them from going into hospital or residential care.

Who can apply for work to be done under the aids & adaptations policy?

Any Racing Homes tenant can apply if they, or a dependant living in their home, has a long term disability or infirmity that affects their ability to carry out normal day to day activities.

Long term means that the disability or infirmity must fit into one of the following:

- Have lasted at least 12 months
- Be likely to last at least 12 months
- Be permanent

In all cases Racing Homes will work with tenants to secure statutory funding for adaptations. We can help with the process of applying to the Local Authority for a Disabled Facilities Grant. There is normally a waiting list but the Local Authority has a legal obligation to pay for works in some circumstances although tenants may be asked to contribute to the cost. Racing Homes can help apply for this service and offer advice and guidance at any point during the application process.

Racing Homes will only consider paying for works itself where statutory funding is not available and will also take into account whether the tenant is able to contribute. Racing Homes generally has a limit of £500.00 on the cost of any work that will be carried out at its cost.

All applications will usually be processed on a first come first served basis and whilst work on aids and adaptations will be progressed as quickly as possible, priorities will apply:



First Priority

- Having the work done will mean that you don't have to go into hospital or residential care
- The work needs to be done before you can be discharged from hospital

Second Priority

- The work needs to be done so that you can get in and out of your home or to essential areas in the property such as the bathroom
- The work is necessary to allow you to bathe or use the wc
- The work will significantly reduce the risk of falling

Third Priority

- Any other applications

What works can be carried out under the aids & adaptations policy?

Any works that will make it easier for a disabled or infirm tenant or their dependent to carry out day to day activities will be considered. Some typical examples include:

- Fitting grab/hand rails in the bathroom
- Fitting grab/hand rails at the front door
- Providing a ramp to the front or back doors
- Fitting lever taps to replace standard taps
- Fitting an over bath shower for tenants that have difficulty in getting in or out of the bath



What happens if the work that I need costs more than £500.00?

Quite often the adaptations that are needed are more extensive and cost more than £500.00. In this case, there are two further ways that Racing Homes can help:

- We can share the cost with you. Racing Homes will pay up to £500.00 and you pay for anything over this amount. If you are interested in this option, we will assist you in obtaining quotations for the work and will carry out an inspection on completion.
- If you have made a successful application for a Disabled Facilities Grant but are informed that there is a long waiting time, we will discuss your case with Racing Welfare. It may be possible for the Charity (Racing Welfare) to offer financial assistance to enable the works to be completed prior to the grant being received. They will also progress discussions with the Local Authority and/or other bodies to see whether or not they too are able to make a contribution. In these circumstances, Racing Homes will contribute the first £500.00.

Examples of larger jobs that can be done that could make life easier for you:

- Fitting a level access shower to enable a wheelchair user to wash independently
- Adapting a kitchen to enable someone in a wheelchair to prepare food
- Installing a stairlift or through floor lift (subject to the property being suitable)

Who decides what work needs to be done?

This will depend on the cost. If work will cost under £500.00 to complete, then a member of Racing Homes' staff or a Welfare Officer will discuss it with you and agree what should be done.

If the cost of work is over £500.00, you will be asked to arrange an assessment by an Occupational Therapist. They will arrange to visit you at home and decide what work is needed to help you with day to day activities.

Further information

If you are a Racing Homes tenant and would like to talk to a member of staff about aids & adaptations please call 01638 560763

