

## Other help available

A Disabled Facilities Grant is not the solution for everyone's needs.

If you need help but you think a grant may not be what you need, Staffordshire County Council may be able to provide you with equipment or may be able to carry out minor adaptations to your home. (See telephone numbers on p3)

Alternatively, moving house may be an option that you may prefer. Orbit Care & Repair will be able to advise you on this and your Occupational Therapist could support a housing application and advise you on suitable properties.

## Useful addresses

For an application form and information pack contact

**East Staffordshire Borough Council**

**Telephone: 01283 508825**

Housing Standards  
Town Hall  
Burton upon Trent  
Staffordshire  
DE14 2EB

[www.eaststaffsbc.gov.uk](http://www.eaststaffsbc.gov.uk)

Email: [housing@eaststaffsbc.gov.uk](mailto:housing@eaststaffsbc.gov.uk)

**Orbit Care & Repair**

**Telephone: 01283 497414**

37/38 Borough Road  
Burton upon Trent  
Staffordshire  
DE14 2DA

Email: [burtoncareandrepairadmin@orbit.org.uk](mailto:burtoncareandrepairadmin@orbit.org.uk)



Help for people  
with disabilities  
to stay in their  
own home



## Disabled Facilities Grants

A Disabled Facilities Grant is a local council grant to help towards the cost of adapting someone's home to enable them to continue to live there. A grant is paid when the council considers that work is necessary and appropriate to meet the needs of a household member with a disability, and that it is reasonable and practical.

### What can a grant be used for?

A grant can be used for essential adaptations to give a person better freedom of movement into and around their home and/or to provide essential facilities within it. Work could include:

- Changing the bathroom and toilet facilities
- Making it easier to get into and out of the home
- Making it easier to get up and down stairs
- Providing access into the main parts of the home

### Who can apply?

You can apply if you, or someone living in your property, has a disability and:

- You, or the person on whose behalf you are applying, are either the owner or tenant (including licensees) of the property
- You can certify that you, or the person on whose behalf you are applying, intend to occupy the property as your/their only or main residence throughout the grant period - currently five years

A landlord may apply on behalf of a tenant with a disability.

### Will I have to pay for anything?

The amount you pay is usually based on an assessment of your average weekly income. However no payment is needed for children under 19 with a disability. A Disabled Facilities Grant will not affect any benefits you are currently receiving.

## Is a Disabled Facilities Grant right for you?

Before approving grant the Borough Council will need an Occupational Therapist's (OT) assessment of the person with a disability's needs to confirm that the proposed work is necessary and appropriate.

- You can ask Staffordshire County Council for a free Occupational Therapist assessment before applying for grant by calling 01283 239888 (Adults) or 01283 239666 (Children). However you may have to wait some time.
- You can apply for grant before having an assessment, and the Borough Council will then obtain the assessment. However the risk to you is that the proposed work may not be assessed as necessary and appropriate.
- You may decide to pay a private Occupational Therapist for an assessment before applying for grant. You can claim the cost of the assessment back *if* you then apply for and receive a grant. However you will have to fund the cost yourself to start with, and the risk to you is that you will not be reimbursed if you do not receive a grant. To find a private Occupational Therapist you could telephone the College of Occupational Therapists who keep a register on 0800 389 4873.

### How to apply

To apply for a Disabled Facilities Grant you need to complete and submit the application form to the Borough Council with full details of the proposed work and two estimates (unless the work is of a particularly specialist nature). You can do this on your own or ask an agency to help you fill in the forms, draw plans, find a reputable builder and apply for planning and building control approval. Most people in East Staffordshire use the Orbit Care & Repair agency who can help you if you have already had an Occupational Therapist assessment. There is usually no charge for using the agency because the cost is included in the grant. The phone number for Orbit is on the back of this leaflet.

Once you have made an application the Council has six months to reach its decision on approving the grant.