



The Highland
Council
Comhairle na
Gàidhealtachd



Assistance with
Adaptations to your Home

Cuideachadh le bhith a'
Dèanamh **Atharrachaidhean**
air do Dhachaigh

Introduction

This leaflet is for people living in **privately owned housing**. It tells you about The Highland Council's **Scheme of Assistance**, and explains what we can do to help with **adapting** your home to suit the needs of somebody with mobility problems or a disability.



If you rent your home from the Council or a Housing Association you should ask your Landlord about the help they offer.

The Scheme also offers assistance with **Repairs and Improvements**, and details on how we can help can be found in our "Assistance with Repairing and Improving your Home" leaflet.

What is an Adaptation?

"Adaptation" is a word that covers a range of changes that can help with the day to day living of someone who has been adversely affected by age, impairment, ill health, or traumatic injury.

Highland Council Social Work or NHS Occupational Therapy Practitioners make assessments for Equipment, Small or Major Adaptations depending on need.

Each assessment is given a priority rating– for example, urgent works which are preventing a hospital discharge will be given greater priority.

I need a small adaptation or piece of equipment to help me with day to day living

Initially, we will assess your needs and, once assessed, the **Handyperson Service** will deliver the equipment or install the recommended adaptation.

Items of equipment such as shower stools and small adaptations such as grab rails are available to help you manage more easily at home.

Some items do not need a full assessment. Often people with no other more complex needs simply want a hand or grab rail to help them get about. In these cases you can request assistance from the Handyperson Service directly. If, when the Handyperson visits they feel that you might benefit from a more detailed assessment, then they will refer you to Social Work or NHS Occupational Therapy Practitioners.

Some items attract a charge and this will be explained to you.

Contact details for your local Social Work Office to request an assessment, or for your Local Handyperson Service, can be found at the end of this booklet.

Highland Handyperson Service Seirbheis Neach-goireis na Gàidhealtachd

The Handyperson Service is for people aged 65 or over who have difficulties with carrying out small jobs around the house, and for people of any age with a disability.

They will deliver and install equipment and small adaptations, and are also responsible for the installation of Telecare equipment.

They can also take on small repairs and maintenance jobs for you.

You can contact your local agent directly using the contact information at the back of this booklet or through their leaflet which can be found online at www.highland.gov.uk or at various places including your Local Service Point.

Clients can also be referred if they have been visited by a Technical Officer, Social Work or NHS Occupational Therapy Practitioner.

My home needs a major adaptation to make it suitable for me

We can offer more significant adaptations through the Scheme of Assistance which can include works to improve safety and access inside or outside the building such as stair lifts; and works to improve personal care/health needs such as level access showers.

Your needs will be assessed by a Social Work or NHS Occupational Therapy Practitioner and their recommendations will form the basis of the package of works we can offer to you.

Certain works, such as level access showers and changing a heating system from solid fuel for mobility reasons, can be “Fast Tracked” by your local **Care and Repair Service**. This means that they can be processed without an assessment if the client presents with an accepted need (based on age or receipt of certain benefits) and this will be explained to you.

Help with Major Adaptations

Care & Repair Service Seirbheis Cùrain & Càraidh

The **Care and Repair Service** is for people aged 65 or over, and for people of any age with a disability.

The service is in place to help you make applications for grant assistance, find your contractor for you, obtain quotes for the work, and to manage the works on your behalf.

You can contact your local agent directly using the contact information at the back of this booklet or through their leaflet which can be found online at www.highland.gov.uk or at various places including your Local Service Point.

Financial assistance for Major Adaptations

The Scheme of Assistance can help with the cost of major adaptations. Once assessed, we can usually offer a minimum of 80% of the approved cost of the recommended eligible works.

We will assess the financial circumstances of the applicant to find the remainder, however, applicants in receipt of Income Support and the Guarantee Element of Pension Credit are automatically "passported" to 100% grant.

We would also not normally fund works in excess of a total cost of £20,000.

How do I apply?

If you need to be assessed you should contact your local Social Work or NHS Occupational Therapy Practitioner the first instance. Once they have visited you and made their recommendations, they will refer you to Care and Repair if your home needs to be adapted.

Care and Repair will then help you make your application for financial assistance, and for assistance with finding a contractor and managing the works.

All contact details for your area can be found at the end of this booklet.

Housing Options

The Highland Council needs to ensure that works to property are sustainable, as well as being cost effective. There is a resistance to implementing reactive "quick fix" solutions where a longer term solution might be more appropriate.

In some cases the proposals may not be sustainable, in that assessed needs may be likely to change, or the property is likely to deteriorate further despite the recommended works, in which case we may suggest an alternative to undertaking the work; for example revising the scope or focus of the work; referral for a more detailed assessment; or support for the applicant to leave an unsuitable property and live elsewhere.

For more information visit www.highland.gov.uk/housingoptions

Contact Details

Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch and Strathspey



Highland Council Technical Officer

Inverness: Tel: 01463 703968

Nairn: Tel: 01667 703632

Badenoch and Strathspey: Tel: 01540 664911

Email: env.health@highland.gov.uk



Handyperson Agents

Cairn Housing Association: Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch and Strathspey

Tel: 01463 220666 Web: www.cairnha.com

Care In Strathnairn: Strathnairn

Mobile: 07936 738930

Email: info@careinstrathnairn.org.uk

Volunteering Highland: Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch and Strathspey

Tel: 01463 711393 Mobile: 07834 753766

Email: Inverness@volunteeringhighland.org



Care and Repair Agent

Cairn Housing Association:

Tel: 01463 220666 Web: www.cairnha.com



Highland Council Social Work Services

Inverness: Tel: 01463 798337

Nairn: Tel: 01667 453591

Badenoch and Strathspey: Tel: 01479 812618

Contact Details

Ross and Cromarty



Highland Council Technical Officer

Tel: 01349 868440

Email: env.health@highland.gov.uk



Handyperson Agent

ILM Highland

Ross and Cromarty: Tel: 01349 884774

Email: ilm@ilmhighland.co.uk

Wester Ross: Tel: 01445 781312

Email: westrosscare@ilmhighland.co.uk



Care and Repair Agent

ILM Highland

Ross and Cromarty: Tel: 01349 884565

Email: rosscare@ilmhighland.co.uk

Wester Ross: Tel: 01445 781312

Email: westrosscare@ilmhighland.co.uk



Highland Council Social Work Services

Alness: Tel: 01349 880904 or 01349 867915

Dingwall: Tel: 01349 868700 or 01349 867915

Contact Details

Sutherland



Highland Council Technical Officer

Tel: 01408 635325

Email: env.health@highland.gov.uk



Handyperson Agent

ILM Highland

Tel: 01549 402798

Email: suthcare@ilmhighland.co.uk



Care and Repair Agent

ILM Highland

Tel: 01549 402679

Email: suthcare@ilmhighland.co.uk



Highland Council Social Work Services

Tel: 01408 635360

Contact Details

Caithness



Highland Council Technical Officer

Tel: 01955 607737

Email: env.health@highland.gov.uk



Handyperson Agent

Pentland Housing Association

Tel: 01847 892507

Email: pha@pentlandhousing.co.uk



Care and Repair Agent

Pentland Housing Association

Tel: 01847 892507

Email: pha@pentlandhousing.co.uk



Highland Council Social Work Services

Wick: Tel: 01955 605040

Thurso: Tel: 01847 893835

Contact Details

Skye



Highland Council Technical Officer

Tel: 01478 612727

Email: env.health@highland.gov.uk



Handyperson Agent

Lochalsh and Skye Housing Association

Tel: 01478 612035

Email: info@LSHA.co.uk



Care and Repair Agent

Lochalsh and Skye Housing Association

Tel: 01478 612035

Email: info@LSHA.co.uk



Highland Council Social Work Services

Tel: 01471 820174 or 01478 612943

Contact Details

Lochaber



Highland Council Technical Officer

Tel: 01397 707006

Email: env.health@highland.gov.uk



Handyperson Agent

Lochaber Housing Association

Tel: 01397 706333

Email: info@lcr.org.uk



Care and Repair Agent

Lochaber Housing Association

Tel: 01397 706444

Email: info@lcr.org.uk



Highland Council Social Work Services

Tel: 01397 703397

Other advice and information leaflets



Repairs

Details on how we can assist with Repairs and Improvements.

Maintenance

Advice on the care and maintenance of your home.



Handyperson Services



Care and Repair Services



Housing Options

Information on what alternative housing options are available in the Highlands.

All our leaflets are available locally through our Service Points and online at www.highland.gov.uk

To request this booklet in an alternative format e.g. large print, braille, computer disk, audio tape, or suitable language please contact:

Housing & Property Services,
The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road,
Inverness IV3 5NX.

Telephone: 01463 702772

Email: housingandproperty@highland.gov.uk