

Mandatory Disabled Facilities Grant

The Disabled Facilities Grant may be available for help with funding a range of eligible adaptations that will enable people to live as independently as possible at home.

Types of work include:

- Stair lifts.
- Level access shower rooms.
- Widening doors.
- Installing ramps.
- Adapting living areas.
- Specialist baths.
- Ceiling track hoists.



What is the role of the Council?

The role of the Council is to administer the grant. We determine whether the proposed works are reasonable and practicable. We will also consult with East Sussex County Council Social Services on whether the works are necessary and appropriate to meet the needs of the disabled person.

You can apply for a grant if you are:

- a tenant or owner of a property,
- a landlord on behalf of a disabled tenant,
- the parent of a disabled child age 19 or under.

How is the grant calculated?

The rules regarding Mandatory Disabled Facilities Grants are set by the government and not Rother District Council. The maximum amount is £30,000 and the grant is subject to a test of resources to determine if you are required to make a **contribution**. Parents applying on behalf of a disabled child for adaptations are not means tested. A local land charge will be placed on owner occupied properties. The grant amount above £5,000 will need to be repaid if the property is disposed of within ten years (maximum repayment £10,000).

The test of resources will be determined by the income and capital of the disabled person and the disabled persons spouse or partner. The means test also will take into account average weekly income and savings above a set amount.



If you have to pay a contribution?

Where the cost of the works is less than the maximum grant limit of £30,000 the grant will be the cost of the works less the assessed contribution. .Where the cost of the works exceeds £30,000 the grant will be the maximum grant limit less the assessed contribution.



How do you apply for the grant?

Before applying for a Mandatory Disabled Facilities Grant, you will need to be assessed by an Occupational Therapist. They may arrange a home visit, offer advice and assist you in choosing an adaptation that will help you to be independent or help others to care for you in your home.

Your Occupational Therapist will forward their recommendations on to Rother District Council who will send you an enquiry form and arrange a visit to your home.



Who can help me with the process?

The *Adaptations Support Service* is operated by **Peabody**. They provide advice, support and assistance to elderly, disabled and vulnerable people. They can act as your agent throughout the grant process including:

- Visit the property to assess the suitability of the proposed scheme.
- Provide advice and assistance in completing the grant application forms.
- Prepare any necessary plans to be drawn and specification.
- Invite approved contractors to tender for works required.
- Supervise the works on site, ensuring that they meet suitable standards.
- Liaise on your behalf with all external agencies involved in adapting your home including planning and building control.
- Keep you informed of the progress of your application.
- Ensure that you are satisfied with the adaptation.

Limited fees associated with agency/surveyor assistance can be included as part of the grant but must be approved by the Council.

What happens next?

If you would like further information,
please contact the Housing Team:

Rother District Council
Town Hall
Bexhill on Sea
East Sussex
TN39 3JX

01424 787565

housing@rother.gov.uk
www.rother.gov.uk



Other contact details:

East Sussex County Council
Social Care Direct (Adult Assessment)

tel: 0345 6080191

East Sussex County Council
Child Integrated Therapy Service

tel: 0300 1232650

***(Use the above numbers to discuss an Occupational
Therapist assessment)***

Peabody South East Ltd

tel: 08456 008697

Further information on disability support can be found on East Sussex
County Council's website:

<http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/socialcare/adults/disability/>