

City of
SUNDERLAND

Palliative Care

Equipment
to help you at home.



New Opportunities Fund
funded

Sunderland
Teaching Primary Care Trust



Feeling unwell can affect how you carry out normal, everyday tasks such as getting washed and dressed. To help with those things, equipment can be provided. This leaflet tells you how to get this type of equipment.

Equipment can also be provided for any nursing care needs you may have.

Who can provide equipment?

Usually, either a Nurse or Care Manager from the Specialist Social Care Team will discuss with you what help you may need.

If you are at home you can ask your Doctor to get in touch with a Nurse or Care Manager. They will talk to you about things that cause you difficulty. Together, you can decide what support is best to help you in your daily routine.

When you have decided which equipment will best suit you, the Nurse or Care Manager will usually be able to order it there and then. Some types of equipment, however, need to be ordered by a 'specialist'. This can be arranged, and the 'specialist' can visit you to talk about this type of equipment.

If you are in hospice or hospital you may also discuss your equipment needs with an occupational therapist. This is especially helpful if your needs are more complicated.

Where walking is difficult, a physiotherapist can talk to you about using a walking stick or walking frame to steady you and make you feel more confident. If you are at home, your own doctor can organise assessment by a physiotherapist.

No-one wants unnecessary visitors when they are feeling unwell. Wherever possible only one person will be responsible for obtaining equipment.

Is there a charge for any equipment?

No – all equipment is available for loan, free of charge.

How is equipment delivered?

We have a central store for equipment – called the Community Equipment Service. Usually, equipment will be delivered and fitted in your home within a few days.

Your Nurse, Care Manager or staff from the equipment service will show you how to use it safely.

What if it breaks down?

All of our equipment is regularly maintained. In the unlikely event that your equipment does break down, you can contact the Community Equipment Service. They are open –

Monday – Thursday 8.30am – 5.15pm,

Friday 8.30am – 4.45pm.

Telephone (0191) 521 9730

If your equipment needs attention outside these times, you can get help by calling (0191) 553 1991. The operator will contact the Equipment Service Out of Hours Team.

Emergency contact numbers

Overnight Palliative Care Service

Telephone – 07798 925 128

Social Services (0191) 553 1991

Community Wardens (0191) 553 1700

We like to hear from you

We like to hear from people who use our equipment. This helps us make improvements to our service. Your comments are welcome, and can be made to any member of the Specialist Social Care Team –

Monkwearmouth Hospital
Newcastle Road
Sunderland
SR5 1NB
Telephone (0191) 569 9197

Bed cradle



Hand rails



Bed raisers



Back rests



Bath seats



Raised toilet seat