

Equipment to help you do everyday things

If you are older or have a disability, we can help you get equipment to make your life easier. We talked to lots of you to find out what you wanted – the services described below are the result



There's a lot of equipment around to help you live in your own home. We – Cheshire social care and health services – have set up a new service to provide it. It is **simple, quick** – and **free**. Best of all, **you choose** what you want and where to get it. If you need unbiased help and information you will get this too.

In this leaflet:

- Equipment through the social care and health services –
- Buying equipment for yourself –
- Information and help

Equipment through the social care and health services

- 1 If you are getting medical treatment and need equipment the health service will arrange an assessment for you. Otherwise ask social care services for an assessment. Assessors know what equipment there is, and will advise you about how to do things in the easiest way. Assessments are friendly, thorough and aim to solve problems! They are free.
- 2 If the assessment shows you need equipment, and if you meet the criteria, the assessor will give you a *prescription* for it.
- 3 You take the prescription to an accredited shop to get the equipment.

That's it!

What people say about this service

"It gave me more choice"

"I was able to look at what was available, and it was quicker to get"

"We were able to go to the store, look at what was available and talk to staff about using the equipment"

Larger equipment. If you need something big such as a bed or hoist the prescription will be sent to the supplier and the equipment will be *loaned* to you. The council or health service take care of repairs and maintenance too.

Q & A

Who can get a prescription?

Anyone. There is no medical test and the Council won't ask for financial details. If the assessment shows you need equipment you will get a prescription whatever your circumstances.

How much is the prescription for?

The prescription covers the cost of a basic product that will do the job. However a big plus is that you can top up the prescription if you want a model with more features or a design you like better.

What is special about accredited shops?

They all have signed up to provide a quality service. They have knowledgeable staff who will not put pressure on you to buy. They will let you look at the equipment for as long as you like, show you how to use it and, if practical, try it out in the shop. If you have a prescription they will fit equipment free.

Will the prescription affect my benefits or tax?

No

Buying equipment for yourself

1 Find out what's available

- You can see a wide range of equipment at an Independent Living Centre (ILC) – see back page. Experienced staff there will be happy to discuss what's available.



- Look through manufacturers' free catalogues. The ILCs have copies.
- Go browsing at an accredited shop – see list, back page.

- 2 **Get expert advice** Arrange a free assessment with at an ILC. This is really worth having – they know about what equipment or services may help.

- 3 **Go shopping!**

Community Equipment Prescription

0850011

Exchange Code: 00 00 0000 000000

Issue To: Cheshire County Council, Payments Section, County Hall, Chester, CH1 1PL

Product Description: 3" RIMMED TOWEL

Signature: W. Smith

Name: W. Smith

Specific Instructions:

17/12/08

01626 34344

6 Months from Prescription Date



Information and help

Ask the helpline – call if you have difficulty managing everyday things such as cooking, getting up stairs, using the toilet or getting out and about. Whatever the problem the team will take time to listen and give information. They can put you in touch with any council services that might help. They're open from 8.30am to 5pm every weekday except bank holidays.

East Cheshire

Tel 01625 374028 Fax 01625 374951
Email eastiroteam@cheshire.gov.uk

West Cheshire

Tel 0151 337 6400 Fax 0151 356 8253
Email westiroteam@cheshire.gov.uk

Go to an Independent Living Centre

If you are getting a prescription or buying equipment for yourself an ILC is worth a visit. ILCs are not tied in with anybody and give unbiased information. They have a wide range of equipment on show and information about a lot more. You can try things out with expert advice on hand. ILCs also sell equipment, so you may come away with your problem solved.

Redesmere Independent Living Centre

Redesmere Road, Handforth
Cheshire SK9 3RX
Tel 01625 374080

Accredited retailers

ABLEWORLD Birkenhead

0151 650 2200 **Chester** 01244 675608

Crewe 01270 255725 **Flint**

01352 761113 **Stoke on Trent**

01782 205901 **Nantwich** 01270 626971

Newport 01952 820772 **Oswestry**

01691 680180 **Winsford** 01606 554591

Wrexham 01978 358588

EXPRESS HEARING AND MOBILITY

Macclesfield 01625 427558

MILLERCARE Stockport 0800 652 6595

Warrington 0800 298 6713 **ROSS CARE**

Ellesmere Port 0151 355 9919

THE HELPFUL HAND Macclesfield

01625 424438

More information

Getting the equipment you need.

Get a free copy of this 32 page guide from any of the addresses below.



Hartford Independent Living Centre

5 Hartford Business Centre
Chester Road, Hartford, CW8 2AB
Tel 01606 881980

Poolle Independent Living Centre

New Grosvenor Road,
Ellesmere Port, CH65 2HB
Tel 0151 337 6399