

# Supporting People

## What is Supporting People?

Supporting People is Government funding which Wakefield and District Housing (WDH) receive from Wakefield Council to help us provide housing related support services for older and vulnerable people (those people who are at particular risk of physical and / or mental harm), to help them live as independently as possible.

Supporting People is managed by Wakefield Council and they work with us, the Primary Care Trust, the Probation Service, housing associations, voluntary organisations and other support agencies across Wakefield. Together, we can make sure you get the best possible service to meet your needs.

## What kind of services are available?

Supporting People can help you pay for:

- Having a Care Link system (an alarm system which you can use to call for help) connected to our 24 hour emergency control centre.
- Your independent living accommodation support costs.
- Extra help while you live in extra care housing.

Supporting People does not pay for services such as home care workers, personal care, Meals on Wheels or health care.

## How can I arrange to receive funding from Supporting People?

You may be entitled to receive funding from Supporting People if you receive Housing or Council Tax Benefit from the Council and we have assessed you as needing support. If we assess you as needing support, you do not need to apply for funding from Supporting People as we will do this on your behalf.

If you are on low income and do not receive Housing or Council Tax Benefit, you can ask Wakefield Council to carry out a financial assessment. The outcome of the assessment will affect how much Supporting People will contribute towards your support costs and how much you will have to pay yourself.

## Useful contacts

For more information or to find out if you are eligible for funding from Supporting People, please contact our Supporting People Coordinator on 01977 788640.

## Wakefield Council's Supporting People Team

For more information on Supporting People and housing related support in Wakefield, contact the Wakefield Council's Supporting People Team on 01924 306293.

### What standards can you expect?

If you use our housing related support services you can expect us to:

- Assess you to find out which services you need and give you a support plan we have agreed with you (your support plan will set out these services and when you will receive them).
- Provide you with a service that makes sure you are safe and secure in your accommodation.
- Consult you and tell you about the services you receive and any changes to these services.
- Provide you with a service that promotes equal opportunities and valuing people's differences.

### Wakefield Council - Welfare rights and financial assessments

You can find out how much of your support costs you will have to pay yourself by taking part in a financial assessment by Wakefield Council's Family Services Department. For more information contact Wakefield Council's Financial Assessment Team on 01924 306090.

### Independent Living Team

Our Independent Living Team manage 53 independent living accommodation schemes (formerly known as Sheltered Housing) across the district, offering independent living with support in a safe and secure environment.

Independent living schemes are made up of groups of unfurnished homes specially designed for older people and vulnerable people. There are also a number of extra care schemes which offer extra services such as a three course midday meal seven days a week and domestic assistant support to help with things like cooking and cleaning.

If you or any of your family are aged over 50 and are interested in living in one of these schemes, contact our Independent Living Team on 01977 724449.

## Care Link

Care Link Telecare Services offer peace of mind 24 hours a day to older and vulnerable people. Care Link offer a variety of different alarm systems which are connected to a control centre with specially trained operators who will help you in an emergency. For more information about Care Link contact 01977 788000.

## Housing Benefit

If you are on a low income or are finding it hard to pay your rent, you might be able to get help to pay all or part of it by claiming Housing Benefit. For more information, contact 0845 8 504 504.

**We are committed to providing equal access to information. If you would like this information in another format, such as large print, please phone us on 0845 8 507 507.**

