

Quick Guide

Changes to the Private Sector Housing Assistance Policy

Helping people live safely and independently at home

What Is Changing?

The Council is updating its grants policy to:

- Help residents live safely and independently at home
- Support quicker hospital discharge
- Focus funding on people with the greatest need
- Use budgets fairly and responsibly

Policy wording has been refreshed to reflect current law, best practice, and local priorities.

Discretionary Grants – Reintroduced

Discretionary grants are back to help meet urgent or specific needs.

- Funding depends on available budget
- Updated eligibility rules
- No age limits (age-based rules removed)

Major Adaptations: DFG Top-Up Grant

Extra support where adaptations exceed standard limits.

- Applies when works cost more than £30,000
- Must first qualify for a mandatory Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)
- Separate financial assessment required

Dual Residency Grant

Support for families where a disabled child spends time in two homes.

- Parents must live separately within the city
- Care of a disabled child must be shared
- Need confirmed by a relevant professional

Targeted Grants

Support for specific circumstances:

- **Small Adaptations Grant** – up to £10,000, covering specialist works including:
 - Ceiling track hoists
 - Stair lifts and modular ramps
 - Routine removal of a bath and provision of Level access shower, and
 - Enhanced toilet systems
- **Relocation Grant** – up to £5,000 (to support a move to a more suitable home)
- **Home Not Hospital Grant** – up to £5,000 (requires referral)

Grants Supporting DFG Delivery

Making sure essential adaptations can proceed smoothly.

Professional Fees Grant – up to £2,500

- Helps cover surveys, plans, and professional costs

Unforeseen Works Grant – up to £10,000

- For urgent, unexpected works
- Only available while approved DFG work is already in progress

Other Discretionary Support

Healthy Homes Assistance Grant

- Up to £10,000
- Helps address serious health or safety hazards
- Eligibility rules clarified

More Information

Updated guidance and appendices explain:

- Who can apply
- Grant conditions
- Repayment rules (where applicable)