



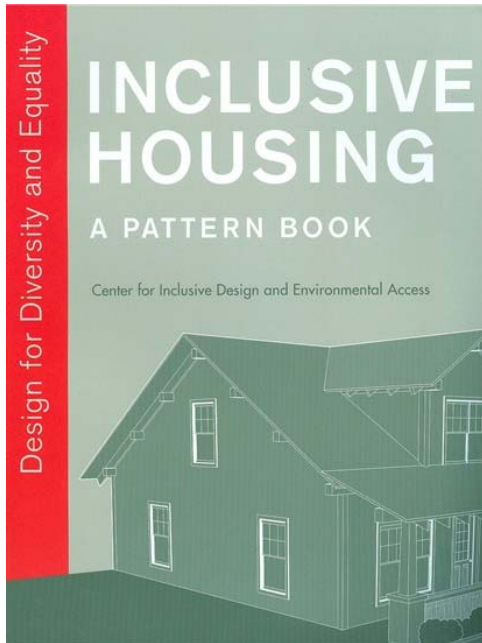
“The right to inclusion, to the dignity and maximisation of independence that an adaptation can bring is just that: a right, not a privilege”

Communities, Equality and Local Government
Committee Inquiry into Home Adaptations July 2013



“The evidence we received suggested overwhelmingly that the adaptation system is over complicated”

- Disabled Facilities Grants
- Physical Adaptations Grants
- Direct Social Services Provisions
- Minor Adaptations
- Fast Track Adaptations
- Stock Transfer Organisations Solutions
- Independent Living Grants



“Living in an accessible home is known to improve a person’s independence, reduce adult social care and housing adaptation costs and reduce admissions to residential care facilities.”

Wise (2012) - Access point: Improving housing choice for disabled people:
http://www.housinglin.org.uk/_library/Resources/Housing/Support_materials/Viewpoints/HLIN_Viewpoint_35_Accessible_Housing_Registers.pdf
(accessed 5.8.13)



Unsuitable housing is often the reason why an older person must go into expensive residential care or must stay in hospital; suitable housing means independence for longer and a good quality of life in older age.



Editor: Jeremy Postle, APPG Inquiry Secretary

JULY 2011





- Reduce the level (cost)of care packages:
 - £60,000 over 8 weeks (Hill 2007)
 - £1,200 - £29,000 a year (Heywood et al 2007)

- Postpone entry to residential care by just one year:
£28,080 (Laing and Buisson 2008)



- one year delay = average of £7,000 in home care costs: every year
- Average DFG in Wales =£7,000 once
- 3.06 million population
- 1.32 million homes (Welsh Government 2011),
2011=
£35million on Disabled Facilities Grants;
£8.5million on Physical Adaptation Grants and
£1.5million in Independent Living Grant



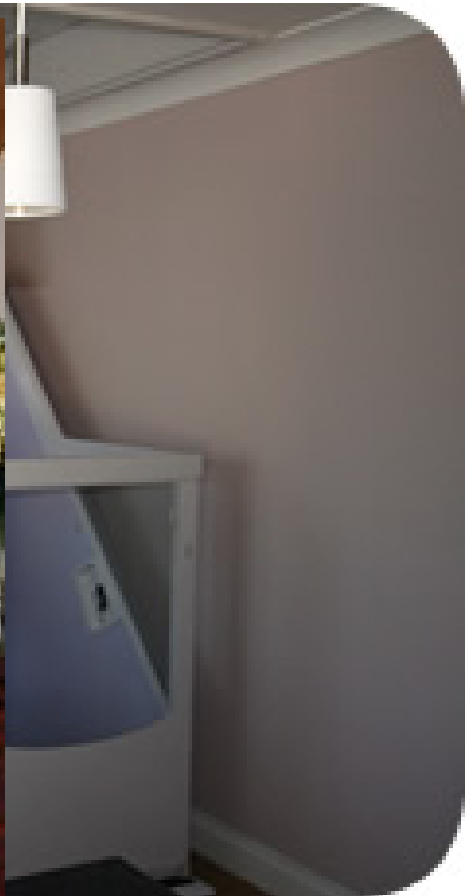
Summary of recommendations (1)

- fast track small scale adaptations outside the DFG (6)
- making RRAP available across tenure (7)
- Remove minor adaptations from the DFG (8)
- Explore the appropriateness of contributions from health and social care budgets (17)
- LSTVs to provide for adaptations in business plans (20)
- make accessible housing registers statutory(22)
- extending recycling of equipment(23)



Summary of recommendations (2)

- Set standards and delivery times for different types of adaptations (2)
- introduce performance monitoring for all adaptation types across all tenures (14,15)
- LAs to have a corporate lead on adaptations (11) and scrutinise adaptations at least once a term (12)
- examine customer satisfaction (9,16,) the achievement of outcomes, delivery & quality (16)
- identify best practice (13)
- Analyse the cost benefit of the means test (18)





Getting Minor Adaptations right

- Responsive; timely delivery service
- Never in DFG
- Respond to the request: assessment must consider safe installation
- Use direct payments
- Create access to safe installers
- Minor Adaptations without Delay



Mid range adaptations

- Equipment budget where possible
- Remove age, tenure, title and contributions and other process barriers so we can deliver quickly
- Ensure access to professional, timely assessment where needed
- Ensure part of an integrated response with the person at the centre



major complex adaptations

- Ensuring multi professional team work and integrated services = the right solution for the situation
- No blanket policies:
 - “we won’t put in an adaptation because the access isn’t right”
 - “ We don’t do extensions/ that type of adaptation”
 - “That is only for under/ over 65s”
- effective occupational therapy assessment
- Speed up: remove high volume simpler adaptations from this process



Developing Quality Services Together

- To practically improve services for people who need adaptations
- Working together to get it right first time
- Recognising each other's skills
- 'Minor Adaptations without Delay'
- Only Major Adaptations in major bureaucracy
- Tenure blind, person centred; non means tested