

## What happens next?

If, at the end of the programme you need ongoing support, we will carefully consider your needs and calculate a sum of money that will cover the cost of your support.

This is your 'Personal Budget' which we will either arrange to pay you in cash so that you can arrange your own care with an agency of your choice or where that is not practical we will use this budget to commission your care on your behalf.

## Will I have to pay?

**HomeSafe Care** - This is a very short period of care generally no longer than 2-3 days and is provided to get you out of hospital as quickly as possible. There will be no charge for this service.

**Improvement Care** - This service is provided for a specific period as determined by our staff (**a period of up to 6 weeks**) and during this period there will be no charge for this service.

## Charging for ongoing care

West Berkshire Council has a Charging policy for Social Care services which means that Social Care services are chargeable and people may have to pay for some or all of the care they receive.

If an ongoing service is required, we will need to arrange for a financial assessment to be completed by the Council's Welfare Benefit Team to understand if you are eligible for a free or reduced cost service. This is a simple check on finances and benefits, in which we will also identify any additional benefits that could be applied for.

## Further Information

If you want to find out more about Adult Social Care services, HomeSafe service, financial assessment or eligibility for services please contact Adult Social Care on **01635 503050** or go to **[www.westberks.gov.uk/adultsocialcare](http://www.westberks.gov.uk/adultsocialcare)**

*West Berkshire Council is committed to equality of opportunity. We will treat everyone with respect, regardless of race, disability, gender, age, religion or sexual orientation. If you require this information in a different format, such as audio tape, or in another language, please ask an English speaker to contact the Home Care Service on 01635 503503, who will be able to help.*

# HomeSafe and Improvement Care Service



*Supporting people to regain their  
independence within their own home.*

Sometimes due to an accident, illness or following a stay in hospital people can struggle with daily activities or feel unsafe at home. We believe that for many of these people a short intensive period of help and support can make a huge difference to their quality of life.

Our HomeSafe and Improvement Care schemes support people to regain their independence so they can remain in their own home and community independently with the minimum level of support needed. The service is for a **period of up to 6 weeks**, for most people this will usually be a lot less.

## HomeSafe

Our HomeSafe scheme supports people coming home from hospital.

### Step 1

Before leaving hospital a member of our staff will have a discussion with you and any family you may wish to involve, to establish what your needs and concerns are and how these can be met on your immediate return home.

### Step 2

As soon as support has been arranged we will share this with you and agree a discharge date/time with the ward who will arrange your transport home, medication etc.

### Step 3

Your support will commence when agreed.

Within two working days of your discharge home you will be visited by a member of our Occupational Therapy team. Once you are back at home we can get a more accurate idea of what support you need and for how long.

### Step 4

Following our initial assessment we will agree with you which of the following three options is right for you:

1. If, once you are home, you are able to look after yourself and you do not need any care then your HomeSafe Care will be stopped
2. If, once you are home and need an extended period of care and support to regain your skills, safety and/or confidence, then we may offer you a period of **Improvement Care** and a care plan will be agreed with you.
3. If we visit you at home and it is clear that you are going to need long term support to remain safe and well, we will arrange for you to be assessed by a Personal Budget Support Worker who will work with you to determine how your needs will be met.

## Improvement Care

Improvement Care can be provided following HomeSafe OR via a referral from West Berkshire Adult Social Care.

This service allows us to work with you and those who care for you for a specific period of time to establish what ongoing care/support, if any, you need. You will be given every opportunity to regain your independence and confidence in any daily activities that you are struggling with.

We will agree what you can do for yourself and what assistance and support you may need. We will also look at tasks that you are finding difficult and support you through this period of care.

We may provide independent living equipment and adaptations to assist you and your carers, or to help you manage safely and independently, for example bath aids, alarms, hoists. We will also provide you with information about other services, resources and support networks.

## Your Improvement Programme

Your programme will be worked out with you with clear aims and purpose.

We will provide you with a written care plan that will be used by the carers who are supporting you through this period. This will be adjusted as you become more independent.

We hope that your participation in this process will help you to gain control and more importantly improve your well being.

## How long will this last?

For many people we anticipate that you will adjust back home very quickly, but for others this period of adjustment may take longer.

Our Improvement Care service is short term and is provided for a **period of up to 6 weeks**. At any point we may arrange for your ongoing care to be transferred to an agency.

