

Equipment

Caring for someone can be physically very demanding but, if you are able to obtain the right equipment, certain tasks can become much easier. Some equipment can enable a disabled person to regain some independence where previously they had relied on a carer for assistance.

Equipment for Short Term use:

Some items only required for a short time (usually 3 months) may be borrowed. The type of equipment available includes bed blocks, bed cradles, back rests, commodes, wheelchairs, bed pans, urinals, etc.

Contact:

Medical Loans Service, British Red Cross, 14 The Pines Business Estate,
Broad Street, Guildford

10.30 – 12.30 Monday to Friday

10.00 – 11.30 Saturday

Tel: **01483 532117** (messaging service)

Red Cross Godalming

Tel: **01483 416689**

Main Surrey British Red Cross

Tel: **0845 054 7222**

Equipment for Long Term use:

This may be small items such as special cutlery for those with arthritis, or large items such as special lifts, hoists, or beds.

It is important to get *independent* advice about what equipment will best suit the person you care for and your home situation.

Cost: Some equipment may be available free, for some there will be a charge, or there may be a grant available. Some equipment you may have to purchase yourself. If you are registered disabled, or in receipt of Disability Living Allowance or Attendance Allowance, you may be exempt from VAT on some items. For further advice see below.

Make sure you are clear about all charges before you agree to have the equipment.

Sources of advice and equipment:

1. Occupational Therapist - she can make an assessment of the needs of the person you care for and give advice on the equipment which could make your lives easier. She may be able to supply some equipment,

for which there may be a charge depending on your circumstances, or advise you where to obtain the equipment you need. She can also advise on any grants available

Contact: Waverley Social Care Team
Guildford Social Care Team

Tel: **03456 009 009**
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2. Community Nurse - she can be especially helpful with advice about nursing aids and incontinence management and may be able to supply some equipment for this, such as ripple mattresses, commodes and plastic pads.
Contact: through your GP surgery

3. Physiotherapist - she can give advice about mobility, recommend aids to help, such as frames, and sometimes supply these. If the person you care for attends sessions at one of the Day Hospitals in the area, the Physiotherapist can be seen there

Contact: your GP for a referral. For general advice -

Contact: Community Physiotherapy, Florence Desmond Day Hospital, Royal Surrey County Hospital, Egerton Road, Guildford GU2 5XX

Tel: **01483 571122 extn 4325**

4. Speech and Language Occupational Therapist -

Contact:

Tel: **01483 571122 extn 4769**

5. Wheelchair Service - they can provide advice, make assessments and help with the supply of wheelchairs and accessories such as cushions, etc. Home visits can be arranged. You will need a referral from your GP, Physiotherapist or Occupational Therapist. Voucher system to purchase more expensive chairs offering 'partnership' (shared ownership) or 'independent' option

Contact: Wheelchair Service, Jarvis Centre, Stoughton Road, Guildford GU1 1LJ

Tel: **01483 783131**

Other organisations who may help:

Deaf Plus - mobile unit visits various sites in the area (such as day centres, libraries, etc) with displays of aids and equipment for the hearing impaired.

Look in the local press for dates, or for more information -

Contact: Farnborough Centre, 67 Albert Road, Farnborough, Hants GU14 6SL.

Tel: **01252 510051**

Surrey Association of Visual Impairment - they have a resource centre with many items for the visually impaired which may be bought. Viewing by appointment or assessment at home

Contact: "Rentwood", School Lane, Fetcham, Leatherhead KT22 9JX
Tel: **01372 377701**

Local Council - they can advise on any grants available for adaptations to your home in order to make caring easier, such as stair lifts, showers, ramps, etc. You may have to contribute to the cost. For more information -

Contact:

Waverley Borough Council (Housing Department), Council Offices, The Burys, Godalming GU7 1HR
Tel: **01483 523333**

Guildford Borough Council, Millmead, Guildford GU2 5BB
Tel: **01483 505050**

Community Alarm Systems - Waverley Borough Council operates an emergency alarm system, linked to a central control, staffed 24 hours a day

Contact:

Waverley Careline, 49 The Meads, Haslemere GU27 1LA
Tel: **01428 661487**

Guildford Care Centre, c/o Park Barn Centre
Tel: **01483 502334**

DisCASS - they can provide advice on many practical aspects of encouraging independence, and can put you in touch with those who can help

Contact: Disabled Citizens Advice & Support Service, Wilfred Noyce Centre, Crown Court, Godalming GU7 1DY
Tel: **01483 860551**

Disabled Living Foundation - this independent organisation runs an information service and has a permanent exhibition of equipment by appointment. They have a booklet available, "*With a little Help*"

Contact: 380-384 Harrow Road, London W9 2HU
Tel: **020 7289 6111**

Voluntary Association of Surrey Disabled -

Contact: 10 Havenbury Estate, Station Road, Dorking RH4 1ES
Tel: **01306 741500**

REMAP - a group of professionally qualified technicians who work voluntarily to design, manufacture and supply technical aids where there is no commercial item

Contact: Mr Clive Stevens, Chairman of local panel, 56 Waverley Drive, Ash Vale, Aldershot GU12 5JW
Tel: **01252 311422**

Some Commercial Companies:

There are numerous companies selling equipment for the disabled and their carers.

Do not spend large sums of money without independent advice. When using mail order, or if asked to pay a deposit in advance, try to use a credit card to safeguard your payment.

The following is not a complete list and inclusion does not imply recommendation.

Boots Company Ltd - a catalogue is available in stores and equipment can be ordered for delivery to your local branch
Contact: your nearest branch

Lloyds Pharmacy - catalogue available. Ask at Chemist

Keep Able Centre - mail order catalogue and large display of equipment to try out

Contact: Keep Able Centre, 11 Kingston Road, Staines, Middlesex
TW18 4QX Tel: **01784 440044**

General Medical Supplies - provide continence aids such as pads, wipes, gloves, continence sheets

Contact: Union Street, Aldershot -
9.00 - 5.30 Monday to Friday
10.00 - 4.00 Saturday Tel: **0800 052 5685**

Bentley Mobility Services

Contact: 19 Highview Business Centre, High Street, Bordon, Hants
GU35 0AX Tel: **01420 470730**

Reflections at Unicorn Plumbers

Contact: Weydown Road, Haslemere Surrey **01428 645873**

Note: please photocopy if required. All information was believed to be correct at the time of production. Inclusion does not imply recommendation. Please advise us if you should find any errors, in order that we can update the information

Produced by Carers Support Guildford and Carers Support Waverley

For more information contact:

Carers Support (Guildford) Tel: 01483 458123, or

Carers Support (Waverley) Tel: 01252 718166