

APPENDIX B

PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING

Home Improvements & Disabled Adaptions 2023

Summary of Assistance Available



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The Redbridge [Home Improvement and Disabled Adaptations Policy](#) details the financial assistance available from the Council to qualifying homeowners, private tenants, and tenants of Registered Providers (housing associations) to improve their living conditions and enable independent living. The amend 2023 policy under the Regulatory Reform (Housing Assistance) England and Wales Order 2002 (RRO) introduce a more focused range of discretionary grants to cover a range of situations. The aim of the policy is to outline how the Council will target grant assistance for residents and landlords in the private housing sector.

As part of our Redbridge plan commitment to improving our homes and neighbourhoods we want to ensure that people are treated fairly, and we are working to improve the quality of housing for everyone.

As well as using its own resources, central Government makes capital funding available for mandatory Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) as part of the Department of Health's Better Care Fund. The grant is for the provision of essential adaptations to disabled people's homes to help them to live independently in their own homes for longer.

Assistance	Funding Maximum	Financial Eligibility	Objective
Mandatory Disability Grant	Up to £30,000	Means tested for adults Non-means test for children	To assist disabled people to remain independent in their own home
Disabled Facilities Top up Grant (Discretionary)	Up to £30,000	Means tested	To be used when the DFG doesn't cover the whole of the works.
Independent Living Grant (Discretionary)	Up to £19,000	Non-means tested Strict criteria for referral process.	To provide a speedier process where there is a risk to health and safety due to the need for adaptations within the home. To facilitate disabled people to remain living at home using assistive technology provision.
Relocation Grant (Discretionary)	Up to £10,000	Non-means tested	To assist disabled people to move more quickly where their current home is unsuitable or too costly for work to be carried out.
Home Renovation Grant (Discretionary)	Up to £15,000	Means tested	To offer financial support for essential repairs for household where the property is considered to pose a serious risk to the health and safety of occupants.
Safe and Secure Grant (Discretionary)	Up to £5,000	Non-means tested Additional terms and conditions apply.	To help victims of crime to feel safe and be able to remain in their home by carrying out any recommended improvements to the security in their home.



Empty Property Grant (Discretionary)	Up to 50% of the cost of eligible works with the maximum limit dependent on the number of bedrooms	Property must be empty for more than 6 months. Additional terms and conditions apply.	To help renovate properties and bring them back into use.
Handy Person Scheme (Discretionary)	A maximum of 4 visits in a 12 month rolling period.	Dependent on qualifying benefit a £10 or £20 charge applies for the Service. Additional eligibility criteria applies.	To provide a speedy process for minor works to support independence in the home
Energy Efficiency Grants (Discretionary)	Up to £4,500	Have a household income of £30,000 or less. Additional eligibility criteria applies.	To provide energy efficiency in privately owned homes in the borough with an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating of D, E, F, or G, through the installation of low-carbon heating improvements.

Applying for Assistance

Before applying for a DFG or Independent Living Grant an Occupational Therapist will need to assess what adaptations you need. You should contact them on 0208 708 7333 respectively to arrange for an assessment of your needs. Alternatively, you can use on the [online form](#) to request an assessment of your needs.



Information on the referral criteria and process for assessments of needs for children and young people can be made through [NELFT](#).

If you think that you, or someone that you know may qualify for an empty home grant, preliminary enquiries on assistance can be made by email empty.homes@redbridge.gov.uk



Enquiries in relation to energy efficiency grants can be made by calling 020 8708 6841/6811 or contact us by email housing.standards@redbridge.gov.uk



All other financial assistance enquiries can be made by email HomeImprovementTeam@redbridge.gov.uk
 Someone will contact you within 5 working days about your enquiry, and to guide you through the process.



