

West Berkshire Wheelchair Service: where to get help and support

Please find below information for various charities which may be able to provide you with funding and/or support. Please contact the charities directly to discuss your individual circumstances. Each charity has different criteria for the help they are able to provide.

Equipment information and guidance charities

Disabled Living Foundation: national charity providing independent advice on mobility aids, disability aids, and daily living equipment.

Telephone: 020 7289 6111 Helpline: 0300 999 0004 Website: www.dlf.org.uk

Going for Independence: specialises in providing information and advice on independent living and equipment, environmental assessments to enable people to live their lives to the full, and related training for organisations.

Telephone: 01287 204204 Website: www.goingforindependence.org

Ricability: a research charity dedicated to providing independent information of value about disability equipment and other topics to disabled and older consumers.

Telephone: 020 7247 2460 Website: www.ricability.org.uk

Bespoke Equipment Services

Remap: provides one-off technical aids and equipment designed to meet the individual needs of disabled people.

Telephone: 01732 760209 Website: www.remap.org.uk

Demand: Offers free design and manufacture of bespoke equipment for disabled people who cannot use any off-the-shelf product.

Telephone: 01923 681800 Website: www.demand.org.uk

Children's charities

Berkshire Give a Child a Chance: offers support to individual disadvantaged/disabled children in Berkshire. Referrals must be made by a GP/Social worker/School. Up to age 18.

Telephone: 0118 930 3021 Website: <http://localgiving.com/giveachildachance>

Action for Kids Charitable Trust: seek to assist children and young adults (up to age 26)

Telephone: 020 8347 8111 Helpline: 0845 300 0237 Website: www.actionforkids.org

Caudwell Children: help to fund power chairs, therapy tricycles, buggies and car seats; can also fund certain specific therapies (from 0 up until 19th birthday)

Telephone: 0345 300 1348 Website: www.caudwellchildren.com

Cerebra: charity for children with neurological conditions.

Telephone: 0800 328 1159 General enquiries: 01267 244 200 Website: www.cerebra.org.uk

Children Today: seeks to assist children and young adults (up to age 25).

Telephone: 01244 335622 Website: www.childrentoday.org.uk

Lifeline 4 Kids: provides a range of specialist equipment including electric wheelchairs, mobility aids and specialist computers.

Telephone: 020 7794 1661 Website: www.lifeline4kids.org

Newlife Foundation for Disabled Children: helps to fund equipment for children with special needs (aged 0-18).

Telephone: 01543 468 888 Nurse Services: 0800 902 0095

Website: www.newlifecharity.co.uk

Nihal Armstrong Trust: for children with cerebral palsy aged 0-18. Please check website for qualifying criteria. Will only consider mobility aids in unavailable from statutory sources.

Telephone: 020 8459 6527 Website: www.nihalarmstrongtrust.org.uk

Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity: supporting children with life-long neurological and blood conditions. Applications can be made by any professional working with the child. They seek to help children from 0 until the age of 18 (although will sometimes consider young adults aged under 25).

Telephone: 01494 890465 Website: www.roalddahlcharity.org

Variety Club Children's Charity: helps with the funding of equipment for children with special needs.

Telephone: 020 7428 8100 Website: www.varietyclub.org.uk

Whizz-Kidz Charity: provides funding for all types of mobility aids for children aged 0 to 18. The charity uses its own therapists to assess and prescribe equipment.

Telephone: 020 7233 6600 Website: www.whizz-kidz.org.uk

Charities for all ages

The Act Foundation: provides grants to individuals (and organisations) with the aim of improving quality of life for people in need (specifically with a physical or mental disability). Help includes provision of specialised wheelchairs and other mobility aids.

Telephone: 01753 753900 Website: www.theactfoundation.co.uk

Joseph Patrick Trust: is the welfare trust of the Muscular Dystrophy Campaign and provides part-funding towards the cost of equipment for children and adults with muscle disease.

Telephone: 0800 652 6352 Website: www.muscular-dystrophy.org

Mobility Trust: for disabled people in need of a powered wheelchair, or scooter, who cannot obtain one through statutory sources or afford to purchase it.

Telephone: 0118 984 2588 Website: www.mobilitytrust.org.uk

Assistance for Older Adults

Independent Age: for adults aged over 70. Applicants must become members of the charity before a grant application can be considered by the board of Trustees.

Telephone: 020 7605 4200 Website: www.independentage.org.uk

Local charities

The Earley Charity: while not specifically set up to help with wheelchair/mobility aid funding an application may be considered if the item is unavailable from statutory sources and there is professional support for the equipment need. Area of benefit extends beyond Earley – please see website for eligibility area.

Telephone: 0118 975 5663 Website: www.earleycharity.org.uk

Reading Dispensary Trust: covers a 7mile area of benefit radiating from Reading town centre. The charity provides grants and assistance for people with physical or mental disabilities.

Telephone: 0118 926 5698

Website: www.turn2us.org.uk/charities/r/reading_dispensary_trust.aspx

Shinfield United Charities: a small charity providing support to residents in the Shinfield area only. Possible grants are small and will be considered on a case by case basis. Please contact Shinfield Parish Council who will forward your details to the charity.

Telephone: 0118 988 8220 Website: www.shinfieldparish.gov.uk/local_charities.php

Woodley Poolsland: This charity gives small grants to residents of Woodley, Earley, Hurst, Sonning, Charvil, Twyford, Winnersh and Wargrave.

Contact Name: Evelyn Fidler

Telephone: 0118 969 0136

Advice regarding sources of funding and support

Living made easy for children: lists national charities that may be able to assist with funding equipment and/or adaptations for children which cannot be funded by statutory services.

Telephone: 0300 999 0004 Website: www.livingmadeeasy.org.uk/children

Turn2us: helps people access the money available to them – through welfare benefits, grants and other help. They offer a free, accessible website designed to help people find appropriate sources of financial support, quickly and easily, based on individual needs and circumstances.

Telephone: 0808 802 2000 Website: www.turn2us.org.uk

Scope: national charity supporting individuals with cerebral palsy, able to offer advice on possible sources of funding.

Telephone: 0808 800 3333 Website: www.scope.org.uk/help-and-information

West Berkshire Wheelchair Clinic
Battle Block Outpatients & Therapies,
Level 1, Battle Block,
Royal Berkshire Hospital, London Road
Reading, Berkshire RG1 5AN
Tel: 0118 3226706
Fax: 0118 3227972
www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk

Wheelchair Clinic, January 2019
Review due: January 2021