



Adaptation, Equipment and Safety Equipment Assessment

REVISED MARCH 2013

Adaptations and Equipment

Care home name: The Wellbeing Residential Group

Policy Statement

The Wellbeing Residential Group believes that its service users should expect their quality of life to be enhanced by the provision of a safe, well maintained and comfortable environment that is suited to their individually assessed needs and promotes their independence.

The Wellbeing Residential Group fully adheres to the new outcomes Essential Standards of Quality and Safety which consist of 28 regulations and its associated outcomes. They are set out by the Health and Social Corporation Act 20089 for regulated activities. The Wellbeing Residential Group also fully adheres to the Health and Safety at Work, etc Act 1974, the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER) and the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998.

Adaptation, Modifications and Equipment Policy

It is the policy of the Wellbeing Residential Group is that its residents should be provided by the home with the appropriate aids, modifications and equipment necessary to facilitate their independence and address their assessed needs wherever practical and reasonable.

The Wellbeing Residential Group will:

- arrange an annual inspection from a qualified occupational therapist to advise the home on any modifications, adaptations or equipment that the Wellbeing Residential Group should provide to enhance the comfort, health and independence of its residents
- arrange for all modifications or adaptations to be carried out by a qualified and approved contractor
- arrange that all equipment should be assessed for safety before use in the home
- arrange for all electrical devices to be checked and approved by a qualified electrical engineer before use in the home
- provide grab rails and other aids in corridors, bathrooms, toilets, communal rooms and, where necessary, in service users own accommodation
- provide aids, hoists and assisted toilets and baths which are capable of meeting the assessed needs of service users as appropriate
- provide ramps, slopes, flat surfaces and handrails to enable service users to have access to all parts of the communal spaces provided, to the gardens and to their own private space wherever necessary
- provide a call system with an accessible alarm facility in every room
- provide storage areas for aids and equipment, including wheelchairs
- ensure that all doorways into communal areas, service users rooms, bathing and toilet facilities have a clear opening width of 800 mm so as to render them accessible for wheelchair users.

All electrical fittings and appliances should be checked by a qualified electrician prior to use in the home. The electrician who has an annual service agreement with the Wellbeing Residential Group and should be contacted to check appliances or in case of emergencies; the number is available from the office.

Hoists

All hoists in the home should comply with the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998. On no account should any member of staff should use a hoist to move a service user until first trained in the use of the hoist and secondly having their practice supervised.

Lifts

The passenger lift installed in the Wellbeing Residential Group should comply with current Building Regulations and fire safety requirements. The lift should have a fail-safe mechanism to prevent the door from closing in the event of someone falling in the entrance and an emergency call system.

The lift should be inspected for safety on a weekly basis and should be routinely serviced as recommended by the supplier.

The service agreement on the lift (including 24 hour breakdown cover): contact number available from the office.

Advanced Assistive Technology and Telecare

The Wellbeing Residential Group understands ~~%~~ advanced assistive technology+or ~~%~~ telecare+to refer to advanced electronic devices which can be deployed to remotely monitor people and/or call for assistance where required. Examples include alarm call systems and pressure sensor systems that automatically call for assistance if not triggered by someone moving about, predictive monitoring systems and bed sensors which can be used to help prevent falls at night.

The Wellbeing Residential Group will consider investing in and deploying such technologies wherever it is clear that their use can increase the safety, quality of life and independence of residents.

Where advanced assistive technology or telecare is considered for use, the care home manager will do a full impact assessment prior to its use to ensure that:

- it is used in the best interests of residents
- it is used with their full knowledge and co-operation
- it is used only to meet the identified needs of the service user as specified in their needs assessment and plan of care
- it is used in such as way as to not compromise the privacy or dignity of the service user.

Where assistive technology is used, it will be specified in the Statement of Purpose of the home.

Guidance for Inspectors: The Use of Assistive Technology in Regulated Services, has been published by CSCI in April 2008.

Training

All staff who are required to operate equipment in the home should be fully trained in its operation and given written instructions to follow before they are expected to use the equipment.

All staff are responsible for reporting any health and safety hazards or faults in equipment or aids which might cause them to present a danger to service users, contractors, relatives or staff. All new staff should be given basic hazard identification and risk assessment training during their induction and foundation training.

Safety Equipment Assessment

The Wellbeing Residential Group

Policy Statement

Wellbeing Residential Group believes that safety equipment and furniture which may restrict a service user's movement, such as bed rails and wheelchair harnesses, should only be used in line with best practice guidance (*The Assessment Process for Use of Safety Equipment and Furniture*, CSCI, 2006). The home recognises that the inappropriate use of such equipment has been criticised in the past for infringing the human rights of individuals and for placing them at risk. Wellbeing Residential Group is determined to provide the highest standard of care at all times for its residents and to safeguard them from such risks.

Procedures

- all residents will be cared for in the least restrictive environment at all times
- bed rails, cocoons, reclining or special chairs, wheelchair harnesses, lap belts and beanbags are all considered to be forms of restraint and should only ever be used appropriately to ensure the safety of residents and never inappropriately in a dangerous or abusive manner
- equipment and furniture which restricts movement should only be used as a last resort and only considered following a multidisciplinary risk assessment
- other healthcare professionals should be included in the risk assessment wherever possible to ensure that appropriate advice is obtained
- the decision to use equipment and furniture must be based on the individual's safety and not for the convenience of the home

- monitoring and supervision should be in place to ensure that staff use equipment or furniture within the boundaries agreed at the assessment
- equipment used should be appropriate to the individual's needs, current furnishings and environment
- where bed rails are in use they must be appropriate for the type of bed and mattress used and properly fitted
- any alert or hazard notices in relation to any particular furniture or equipment will be actioned within the home and staff made aware of any implications for practice
- staff will receive necessary training on the use of the equipment or furniture and in appropriate moving and handling techniques
- individual residents or their representatives must always be involved in the decision making process wherever possible (If they have impaired or fluctuating mental capacity then the Mental Capacity Act 2005 must be considered and a wider consultation process will be necessary)
- records of the assessment and consultation must be kept, along with details of any risk reduction strategies necessary
- Where an assessment indicates that equipment or furniture is necessary to ensure safety, consideration should also be given to whether additional resources, support or training is required
- All safety equipment/furniture should be maintained and serviced according to the manufacturers instructions
- Staff should be aware of the national system for notifying the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) of equipment failure or potential to fail
- Staff should be aware of procurement and supply agencies roles in evaluating products and equipment, and reporting on suitability for use.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Policy review date: _____