



Providing Telecare for your

Wellbeing

Independence

Safety

Choice

Supported by



Leeds

What is Telecare?

Telecare is an exciting new initiative which uses simple monitors to help people feel safer in their home.

Telecare aims to assist people who

- have difficulties maintaining safety in their home
- have some level of confusion or memory impairment
- are prone to falls

Telecare includes a range of equipment linked to a social alarm or to a carer in the same property. Should there be a danger an alert is automatically sent to a response centre who will assist accordingly.

Telecare equipment includes:

- Smoke Detectors • Flood Detectors • Fall Detectors
- Pressure Sensors • Medication Dispensers
- Wandering Alerts • Bogus Caller Buttons

They are discreetly placed on household appliances, doors or walls.

How does it work?

When a sensor is activated it alerts the Leeds Local response centre who can then make arrangements to help. Help may be contacting a family member, the emergency services or simply providing a voice prompt to inform the service user that an appliance has been left on. In Leeds these sensors are linked to the community alarm system provided through the Care Ring scheme. Some sensors can be linked to alert a carer in the same property for example when they have left the bed or room.



Falls Detection

Bed/Chair Sensor

The bed/chair sensor is a discreet mat placed under the mattress or cushion. It uses pressure sensors to recognise when a person is in the bed/chair. The sensor begins a countdown when someone has left the bed/chair and alerts the response centre if they do not return after a preset period (usually about half an hour). The sensor can provide early warning if a fall occurs during the night.

Fall Detector

The fall detector automatically alerts a carer or the response centre should the client fall. The fall detector alerts should the angle change by more than 90 degrees and an impact is felt. It is worn around the waist. The detector can be used for clients who would not be able to press a pendant. At night the detector is not worn and is kept in its own small stand.



Home Safety

Smoke Detector

Detects when there is smoke in the property and will automatically alert the response centre who will call the fire brigade if required.

Gas Detector

Warns the occupier and the response centre of dangerous levels of gas building up in the property - for example, if a gas cooker has been left on but is not ignited.

Heat Sensor

The heat sensor activates when a sudden rise in temperature is experienced - for example if something is on fire. It is often used in a kitchen where a smoke detector is not suitable. It also activates if the temperature is too hot, for example if the heating is set too high.



Flood Detector

This provides an early warning of flood situations - for example if taps have been left on.

Low Temperature Sensor

The sensor alerts the response centre if the temperature in the property has dropped too low. This can allow early intervention to reduce illness related to the cold.

Carbon Monoxide Detector

This alerts the response centre should there be a dangerous level of carbon monoxide. It is mainly used for people who sleep in the same room as a gas fire.

Memory Impairment

Medication Dispenser

The medication dispenser sounds an alarm at preset times, alerting the user that their medication can now be accessed and taken. The client has to turn the dispenser over to get their medication out of the dispenser. The dispenser is



lockable and can be used by itself and not linked to the response centre. It will alarm for an hour and is often sufficient enough to alert the user it is time for their medication. It can also be linked to the Care Ring alarm unit where it is followed up by a call to the response centre if the dispenser has not been turned over and the medication removed.

Door Contacts

These contacts detect when a door has been opened and can alert the response centre to an intruder or to a user who may be wandering. It can be set for selected times, for example just at night time.

Memo Minder

The memo minder works independently and is not linked to the response centre. It uses a PIR (passive infrared) to detect movement in a set area. It activates a voice recorder to play a message to prompt the user to do something. One example of its use is near a main door to give a voice prompt for the user to check the door is locked. It can also be put on a timer to alert at night time for example, to remind the user not to go outside.

How much will Telecare cost and how can it be accessed?

Firstly an assessment is needed. This assessment will take place at home and will look at whether the equipment can help to maintain safety and wellbeing. The assessment will be carried out by a professional from Social Services or Health, such as an Occupational Therapist, Social Worker or Nurse.

The assessment will identify the needs of the user but will not include a financial assessment. Telecare equipment will either be provided free of charge or a small rental fee for each piece of equipment will be charged. A decision on whether there will be a cost for the telecare equipment will be provided before the date of installation.

Any charges will be billed on a quarterly basis and can be paid by direct debit, cheque, postal order or in cash.

Telecare equipment will be installed to reduce any significant risks identified around the home. Equipment is fitted by Telecare Technical Advisors who will visit the home and explain how the service works.

To request an assessment for telecare equipment please telephone Leeds City Council Contact Centre on

0845 125 4113

Or speak to a Social Worker or Occupational Therapist. Alternatively visit a local One Stop Shop

For more information see

www.leeds.gov.uk

Email: telecare@leeds.gov.uk