

Further data on [Disabled Facilities Grant](#) uptake and usage in Hackney? *What is the value of grants available locally - is this a fixed annual pot? The report suggests that the Disabled Facilities Grant is being updated - can officers set out what changes are being implemented? Are families of children with SEND utilising this grant?*

Types of Adaptations available

Adaptations are split between major and minor, and the process varies depending on the tenure of the property. Adaptations are agreed an OT panel as detailed below.

Private Sector Housing

- Hackney's budget for Disabled Facilities Grants is provided through the Better Care Fund, currently set at £1.7m. There is a complex way of determining the allocation nationally - and is based on need. This is for both adults and children living in private sector housing. Grants are not means tested for children. **Major works via the Disabled Facilities Grant** can include but are not limited to hoists, ramps, through floor lifts, showering facilities and garden fencing. The lower limit is £1000, and the upper limit of the grant is £30,000.
- **Minor works** typically below £1,000 are the responsibility of the housing provider to fund and install, and include works such as window restrictors, front door locks, recessed lighting.

Hackney Council

- Adaptations to Hackney Council properties both major and minor are managed internally and funded by centralised LBH budget, a Disabled Facilities Grant is not required to be used for tenants of Hackney Properties.

Adaptations panel

Following an OT assessment, cases are presented and discussed at the weekly Children's Social Care OT adaptations panel chaired by service leads and senior staff. Most cases are for major adaptation requests, and high-risk cases that require fire safety risk assessments, however, staff can also present cases to the panel when they are seeking for wider discussion on complex adaptation cases outside supervision. The aim of the panel is to provide a standardised approval process for all the adaptations in the borough as this process is mirrored in Adult Social Care OT. This ensures the delivery of the best value and optimum adaptation to enable people to remain safely in their homes and access the essential facilities where it is

reasonably possible. The panel allows service leads to understand risks that require further escalation and ensure equity in decision making across the borough and is part of a robust governance process. Works are agreed against the [Disabled Facilities Grants criteria which supports access to the home across key domains.](#)

Adaptations Activity per tenure 2024/25 for Children's OT Service

- Council Adaptations both major and minor: 64
- Disabled Facilities Grants (major works): 12
- Minor adaptations via housing associations: 72
- Minor adaptations via private landlords: 19
- Minor adaptations for owner occupiers (via HIA): 1
- Tech Enabled Living alarms: 154 (subject to confirmation)

Changes to Disabled Facilities Grant

A national consultation took place in 2025 seeking to propose changes to the way government allocates DFG grant funding to local authorities, the outcome of the consultation is yet to be announced. The consultation will focus on the funding formula, with the aims of better reflecting local demand to create more equitable systems across England, as well as supporting councils to meet their legal duties under the Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act.