

## **Funding of Community Equipment Aids – a Guide**<sup>1</sup>

This guide is drawn from the Care Act 2014. It has been written in relation only to Neater Solutions products<sup>2</sup> in order to help gain funding through Local Authorities in England.<sup>3</sup>

Under the Care Act 2014, the key duties of Local Authorities (LAs) with respect to providing Neater Solutions products for adults are:

- To provide Community Equipment Aids to meet individuals' needs.<sup>4</sup> (s.18 Care Act 2014).
- To carry out assessments of individuals' needs and make them aware of what equipment is available to meet those needs. (s.9(1) Care Act 2014) and (s.4 Care Act 2014).
- To pay for care and support (s.3 Care and Support (Charging and Assessment of Resources) Regulations 2014).<sup>5</sup>
- To coordinate with relevant partners including Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) to ensure efficient provision of care and equipment for their clients. (s.6 Care Act 2014)

### **Funding Neater Products**

LAs are obliged under the Care Act 2014 to fund Community Equipment aids. (s.14(6) of the Care Act 2014 and s.3(2) of the Care and Support (Charging and Assessment of Resources) Regulations 2014).

Some LAs will fund equipment directly up to the value of £1000 and coordinate with CCGs and others to fund equipment over £1000<sup>6</sup>. To be clear, it is the responsibility of LAs to ensure the provision of Community Equipment aids of any cost that are needed to meet their clients' needs for independence.

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<sup>1</sup> This is our understanding of the legislation and not a guarantee of funding in every instance. It does not create a legal relationship between Neater Solutions and the recipient. For extra information please see our supplementary guide.

<sup>2</sup> For a more general overview of the whole care act we suggest you read [The Care Act: easy read version - Gov.UK](#)

<sup>3</sup> This guide is based on England-only legislation. Similar legislation exists in Wales but is not yet in force.

<sup>4</sup> There is a list of criteria. Those who require Neater products generally fit these criteria. (s.13 Care Act 2014 and s.2 Care and Support (Eligibility Criteria) Regulations 2015).

<sup>5</sup> There is a financial assessment however this should not affect funding for relevant Neater Products (S.14 Care Act 2014 and S.17 Care Act 2014)

<sup>6</sup> This LA/CCG approach is based on our past experience.

For more detail please see our **Supplementary Guide to The Care Act 2014 in Relation to Neater Solutions Products.**