



## Community Occupational Therapy

### Who are Community Occupational Therapists?

The Community Occupational Therapy team is part of Wakefield Adult Integrated Care Services and works closely with Social Workers and other Health professionals to maximise someone's abilities.

It serves the needs of the Wakefield population aged 18 years and upwards that need support with their day to day living activities. The goal is for individuals to be as independent as possible in their homes, wherever they may be and whatever tenure they live in, and to maintain their skills for as long as possible. The type of people seen varies from people with complex health needs, such as transitioning children or those funded by Continuing Health Care, Palliative Care, Elderly Frail people, and people with Learning Disabilities. The Service is not time limited and while some individuals are dealt with quickly, others may be ongoing cases for some time.

### What is Community Occupational Therapy?

The Community Occupational Therapy team assesses Wakefield residents at home. The team look at how someone manages with daily living activities such as washing, bathing and generally how they manage at home. The team will try to suggest ways or techniques to manage problems encountered. They may also supply equipment and arrange for adaptations to make life easier to support living at home.

The team will also liaise with other professionals involved with the individual, or refer to other agencies, to ensure individuals achieve their potential e.g. Adaptations Team, Age UK, WDH or Continuing Health Care. The team also support carers who look after individuals in the Community, whether they are family or paid care staff.

### Access & Support

The Community Occupational Therapy team has an eligibility criteria based on someone's needs as required by The Care Act 2014. Referrals to the team come through either Social Care Direct, where someone is not known to the service and only needs an Occupational Therapist assessment, or via the Connecting care+ Hubs, where the person is known and active to Adult Integrated Care services. Residents of Wakefield can self-refer via Social Care Direct.

The eligibility criteria for alterations to property is based on the Adaptations Team criteria, for both minor and major works. All equipment is logged using the internal CEQUIP system.

The Community Occupational Therapy team has its own satellite store for immediate issue of smaller pieces of equipment.

The highest priority worked to is “urgent”. This encompasses referrals for Palliative or End of Life situations, out of area hospital discharges and Safeguarding. The next priority is “critical”; where there is potentially a serious situation but it does not need to be dealt with within a few days. Substantial requests tend to cover issues such as bathing assessments and requests for equipment which is part of the Prevention Agenda.

## Locations & Opening Hours

Currently the Team is based at Civic Centre, Castleford on the First Floor and works:

Monday to Thursday 8.30am to 5.00pm

Friday 8.30am to 4.30pm

Telephone: 01977 723922 (team direct number)

Social Care Direct : 01924 303456