

# Through floor lift

**Following a recent visit from your Occupational (OT) Therapist, a through floor lift has been recommended for you.**

## Useful Information

- A through floor lift is designed for two storey accommodation. It will help you to enjoy living in every area of your home.
- Structural alterations to your home will be required in order to install the lift. The installation must also comply with Building and Fire Regulations. This is likely to make it necessary to fit additional measures to protect you in the event of a fire. Eg fire doors, re-inforcement of the ceiling in the ground floor room where the lift will be. This will be explained to you by our surveyor before any work is actioned.
- We will arrange for the building work to be done in conjunction with the installation of the lift.
- A specialist survey may be needed to establish if there is any asbestos in the area the contractor will be working. This is a legal requirement for the protection of the contractor. It is rare to find any asbestos but if any is found, the contractor will arrange for it to be removed before the lift is fitted.
- Through floor lifts are installed in a downstairs room and move up through an opening in the ceiling to the room above (usually your bedroom). When the lift is not in use it can be parked at either level to maximise the living space.
- The floor covering in the first floor room will need to be cut to the size of the top of the lift, and will be fitted on top of the lift canopy. If you have laminate flooring in this room, you will need to arrange for it to be removed before the lift is installed and re-laid afterwards. You will have to pay for this.
- You should keep all areas where the lift will operate clear of furniture and belongings and this may mean it is necessary for you to move or remove some furniture to make space for the lift.
- Through floor lifts have easy access controls.
- The installation will create some disruption and dust. The contractor will be as tidy as possible but you should expect to have to do some cleaning once work is finished.



- A dedicated power supply will be installed for the lift. This means that if there is ever a problem with the wiring in your home the lift will still work.
- A through floor lift is designed to carry a person in a wheelchair at a time and is capable of carrying combined weights of wheelchair and user, of up to 325Kg (51 stones).

## Average waiting time

- If you are applying for a Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) the Order for the adaptation cannot be placed until you have received a grant approval which takes approximately eight weeks. Once the Order has been placed the average waiting time is then ten- twelve weeks. The installer will contact you to arrange a mutually convenient installation date.

## Installation time

- It takes approximately two days to fit the lift. This is in addition to any preparatory structural work which will also take approximately two days.
- If you refuse the installer access to your property of the day you have agreed for installation, you may have to pay a fee for their wasted journey and time.

## After installation

- A through floor lift is fitted with a number of safety features. The engineer who installs it will explain these, and how to use the lift safely. You will be asked to sign a certificate to confirm that you have been shown how to use the lift and that you are satisfied with it. The engineer will leave a user manual with you.
- It will be your responsibility to ensure that the lift is used correctly and that all

preparatory safety/fire precaution work is well maintained and used correctly at all times.

- A surveyor from Stockport Homes will contact you to check that you are happy with the lift and that it is working properly. Please tell them if you have any concerns.
- Your OT will be informed that the through floor lift has been fitted. They may visit you to ensure that you are using it correctly and that it meets your needs.
- In the future, if you no longer need the lift, please contact us on 0161 474 4291 to see if we can re-use it. If the lift cannot be re-used, you may dispose of it as you wish.

## Reporting faults

- The lift has a 12 month guarantee. Any faults occurring during this period should be reported to Stannah Stairlifts Ltd. Their contact details are on the lift.
- When the warranty expires you may be eligible to join the Council's scheme for servicing and maintenance. Your OT will write to you about this.

## More information

- For more information about this adaptation please contact the Home Improvement Agency Team on **0161 474 4291** or **hia@stockporthomes.org**
- (If you would like a copy of this factsheet in large print, Braille, on audio tape or CD, or in any other language, please contact the Social Inclusion team on **0161 474 2860** or email **inclusion@stockporthomes**).