

Social Care, Health and Wellbeing

OP/PD and DC/LD/MH

Procedure for the Provision of Specialised Equipment for Service Users with Bariatric (Plus Size) and Enhanced Needs

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Date	Note
03/03/2017	This policy was originally Appendix 2 of the moving & handling policy

PROCEDURE FOR THE PROVISION OF SPECIALISED EQUIPMENT FOR SERVICE USERS WITH BARIATRIC (PLUS SIZE) AND ENHANCED NEEDS

1. Definition of the term “bariatric (plus size) and enhanced needs”

The term refers to service users whose moving and handling needs and personal needs cannot be met with standard equipment, because of their weight, size or shape.

2. Assessment process

- (i) Referrals from Case Managers to Service Managers of in-house services should identify if there are bariatric (plus size) or enhanced needs and this information should be shared with the provider service.
- (ii) The provider service will assess the service user using the normal assessment process. A trained assessor (usually the Team Leader) will carry out the assessment.
- (iii) The need for specialised equipment will be identified through the assessment process and agreement about funding made by the Unit Manager.
- (iv) The Moving and Handling Information, Advice and Guidance Service or the Specialist A&E Trained Trainers can be contacted for further advice on specialist equipment. The identified equipment should then be approved by the Unit Manager (see point three).
- (v) In the event of an out-of-hours emergency admission to a 24-hour service, where specialist equipment has been identified by a recognised trained assessor as being required, access to the equipment will be available as soon as is reasonably possible.
- (vi) A decision will need to be made about the admission of the service user until the equipment can be obtained. There may be a need to admit the person and use agreed methods of care - **following a thorough risk assessment.**

3. Access to equipment

Access to equipment is likely to be by hiring for emergency or short term need.

4. Review

Review of the needs of the user in relation to equipment should be carried out weekly and appropriate action taken if the situation changes by the Team Leader and Unit Manager.