

# External Storage Equipment for a Mobility Vehicle



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This fact sheet outlines the various methods of obtaining external storage equipment that are available to residents in HFI managed properties.

### Community Mobility Schemes/Vehicle Rental Schemes

If you are a member of a community mobility scheme such as Scootability they may pay for minor home adaptations for you. We recommend that you speak to the relevant person at the scheme you are a member of if this applies to you.

For more information or an application form phone 020 7974 2039/2420 or visit [www.camden.gov.uk/scootability](http://www.camden.gov.uk/scootability)

### Occupational Therapy

The responsibility for carrying out Adaptations assessments is with Occupational Therapy. To contact Occupational Therapy to find out if they can help you obtain adaptations, such as external storage equipment for a mobility vehicle, phone the Information and Access team on 020 7527 2299

- When you phone this number you will have a Contact Assessment over the phone.
- This is forwarded to the Occupational Therapy team who will contact you to discuss and arrange an appointment to visit you. The assessment is carried out under the Fair Access to Care Services eligibility criteria.
- This assessment will determine whether or not an adaptation should be recommended. If an adaptation is recommended it will be commissioned and, subject to appropriate checks, will be installed. There may be a waiting time for the works due to the high demand for adaptations.

If Occupational Therapy do not recommend an adaptation you can still acquire external storage equipment for a mobility vehicle. However:-

- You will be expected to pay for the equipment and installation
- An application for the installation made to the relevant Area Housing Office is required
- HFI will only allow installations where the vehicle cannot reasonably be stored within the applicant's property
- An assessment that considers factors such as Health and Safety, Building regulations, Electrical safety, the impact of the installation on other tenants, turning space, tenancy checks and any other relevant factors will be made
- An application can only proceed if these checks are met

**It is therefore in your interests to consider carefully:**

- Whether or not external storage is the right option for you, bearing in mind the costs of installation and the other options that are available to you (please see the fact sheet 'Mobility in Islington')
- Where the most suitable site for an installation is. This will help to minimise the chances of refusal. For instance, the site should not obstruct any doors, entrances and exits, or any other walkways
- That non-communal areas e.g. gardens, are preferable to communal areas
- Void areas, e.g. pram sheds, coal stores, may be able to accommodate a mobility vehicle. These are preferable to storing the vehicle on communal space

If you decide you wish to pay for external storage equipment contact your Tenancy Management Advisor (TMA). They will be able to provide you with further information.

- You will need to obtain permission for the proposed installation. To do this you will need to complete an Application Form. Your Tenancy Management Advisor can send you a copy of this.

HFI will assess this application on the following grounds:

- The applicant does not have sufficient room inside their property to reasonably store the vehicle
- There is no void area or non-communal area where the installation would be suitable
- Health and Safety, Electrical, Fire and Building Regulations are met
- That if necessary a power source can be created safely at the site of the installation
- The impact the installation will have on other tenants and residents
- That the applicant is a tenant or leaseholder or member of the tenant or leaseholder's household and that there is no outstanding possession order
- The proposed contractor is suitable to carry out the work

If the application is approved the work can go ahead. You will be notified of the decision and advised about what happens next.

You will be required to sign a 'conditions of use' agreement that states that HFI accept no liability for; your mobility vehicle, the storage equipment, personal injury incurred through use of the vehicle or storage equipment.

The agreement will also state that where the equipment has been installed on a communal area that the land remains the property of LBI, and that the land is only used for the purposes of storing a mobility vehicle. HFI will not be responsible for maintenance of the installation.

If the installation requires connection to a communal supply of electricity you will be expected to pay an annual fee for this usage. In 2008/09 the fee is £36.50, or £18.25 if you are a client of a mobility vehicle rental scheme.

For more information about any aspect of this, please contact your Tenancy Management Advisor. You can contact via the Area Housing Office, details below:

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| <b>Central Street Area Housing Office</b><br>Tel: 020 7527 6524 | <b>Lyon Street Area Housing Office</b><br>Tel: 020 7527 6834  |
| <b>Holland Walk Area Housing Office</b><br>Tel: 020 7527 7497   | <b>Upper Street Area Housing Office</b><br>Tel: 020 7527 5323 |

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